



U. S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board

RECOMMENDATION STATUS CHANGE

SUMMARY

Report:	Givaudan Sense Colour Explosion
Recommendation Number:	2024-06-I-KY-R6
Date Issued:	May 27, 2026
Recipient:	Givaudan Facilities that Manufacture Caramel Coloring Products
New Status:	Open – Awaiting Response or Evaluation/Approval of Response
Date of Status Change:	Not Applicable – Initial Status

Recommendation Text:

For each caramel coloring facility, establish automatic alerts, such as alarms or control screen indications, to notify operators when a safe operating limit has been reached. Follow industry guidance, such as the guidance presented in the Center for Chemical Process Safety Book Guidelines for Engineering Design for Process Safety (2nd Edition), Chapter 5 General Design. Provide initial and refresher training for operations personnel on the established safe operating limits including the actions to take if these limits are exceeded.

Board Status Change Decision:

A. Rationale for Recommendation

On November 12, 2024, a pressure vessel exploded at the Givaudan caramel coloring manufacturing facility in Louisville, KY. The explosion fatally injured two workers, seriously injured three others, and scattered debris offsite. The facility has ceased operations.

The U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board (CSB) investigated the incident and found several safety issues including deficiencies in managing reactive hazards, sizing pressure relief systems, and others indicative of a faulty safety management system.

As a result of these findings, the CSB issued seven recommendations to Givaudan Facilities that Manufacture Caramel Coloring Products. This status change summary addresses CSB Recommendation No. 2024-06-I-KY-R6.