



## U. S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board

# RECOMMENDATION STATUS CHANGE SUMMARY

<b>Report:</b>	Honeywell Geismar Chlorine and Hydrogen Fluoride Releases
<b>Recommendation Number:</b>	2023-02-I-LA-R3
<b>Date Issued:</b>	May 23, 2025
<b>Recipient:</b>	Honeywell International Inc.
<b>New Status:</b>	Open – Awaiting Response or Evaluation/Approval of Response
<b>Date of Status Change:</b>	Not Applicable – Initial Status

### Recommendation Text:

*Perform a Safer Technologies and Alternatives Analysis (STAA) for the Honeywell Geismar HFC-245fa unit. The STAA shall meet the requirements outlined in paragraphs (a) and (b) of Appendix F of this report.*

### Board Status Change Decision:

#### A. Rationale for Recommendation

Three separate chemical incidents occurred from October 2021 to June 2024, involving the release of anhydrous hydrogen fluoride (HF) from the HFC-245fa unit at the Honeywell Performance Materials and Technologies facility in Geismar, Louisiana. The first two incidents occurred during reactor startup and the third during planned maintenance work.

One worker was fatally injured as the result of the first incident, and another was seriously injured as the result of the third. The second incident resulted in substantial property damage and a release of over 800 lbs. of HF and over 1,600 lbs. of chlorine gas when a reboiler within the unit exploded.

The U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board (CSB) investigated these incidents and found several safety issues including those associated with safe work practices, management of change, and mechanical integrity. One factor common to all these incidents was the lack of an effectively implemented safety management system. As a result of these findings, the CSB issued three recommendations to Honeywell International Inc. This status change summary addresses CSB Recommendation No. 2023-02-I-LA-R3.