



## U. S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board RECOMMENDATIONS STATUS CHANGE SUMMARY

<b>Report:</b>	MFG Chemical
<b>Recommendation Number:</b>	2004-9-I-GA-R13
<b>Date Issued:</b>	April 19, 2006
<b>Recipient:</b>	Governor of Georgia
<b>New Status:</b>	Closed – Acceptable Action
<b>Date of Status Change:</b>	December 30, 2015

### Recommendation Text:

*Designate a responsible agency and develop a system that will encourage and assist local authorities to obtain and use Risk Management Plans for those facilities that are required to develop this information to aid in the development of the site-specific emergency response plans.*

### Board Status Change Decision:

#### A. Rationale for Recommendation

On April 12, 2004, MFG Chemical (MFG), a small chemical manufacturing company, was attempting to make a first full-scale production batch of triallyl cyanurate (TAC) at its Callahan Road Plant in Dalton, Georgia. Shortly thereafter, a runaway chemical reaction over-pressurized the 4000-gallon reactor and caused the release of highly toxic, flammable allyl alcohol and toxic allyl chloride into the nearby community. More than two hundred families were evacuated, one employee received chemical burns, and 154 people, including 15 police and ambulance personnel, required decontamination and treatment for chemical exposure at the local hospital.

The investigation found that “local emergency response all-hazard preparedness was not adequate for this event,” and that “the state emergency planning agencies could have assisted the local emergency response agencies in specific planning for hazardous chemical incidents.” In addition, the investigation reported stated that “the facility-specific hazard information contained in Risk Management Plans (RMPs) enables local governments and the public to understand what each company is doing to minimize the likelihood of a release. Furthermore, the information helps fire, police, and emergency personnel, with assistance from LEPC to develop a comprehensive emergency response plan to minimize the impact of a chemical release on the community.” The CSB therefore issued a recommendation to the Governor of Georgia to develop a system to help local authorities use RMPs to inform site-specific emergency response plans.

#### B. Response to the Recommendation

The Governor of Georgia designated the Georgia Emergency Management Agency (GEMA) as the agency responsible for encouraging and assisting local authorities to obtain and use RMPs and Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know information. GEMA incorporated information on obtaining and using RMPs in two training courses for County Emergency Managers. Both courses discuss the importance of obtaining RMPs in emergency response planning, as well as how to obtain RMPs for individual facilities.

#### C. Board Analysis and Decision

As the Governor of Georgia has designated GEMA as the responsible agency, and GEMA has developed training courses that encourages and assists local authorities to obtain and use RMPs to inform site-specific emergency response plans, the Board voted to change the status of CSB Recommendation No. 2004-9-I-GA-R13 to **“Closed-Acceptable Action.”**