



U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board

OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL

Memorandum

To: Board Members

From: Christopher M. Lyon *Christopher M. Lyon*
Acting General Counsel

Cc: Amanda Johnson
Adam Henson
Leadership Team

Subject: Board Action Report – Notation Item 2024-82

Date: June 20, 2024

On June 19, 2024, the Board approved Notation Item 2024-82, thereby designating Recommendation 2011-06-I-HI-R8, to the National Fire Protection Association, from the Donaldson Enterprises, Inc. (DEI) Fatal Fireworks Disassembly Explosion and Fire investigation (2011-06-I-HI), with the status of Closed – Acceptable Action.

Voting Summary – Notation Item 2024-82

Disposition: APPROVED

Disposition date: June 19, 2024

	Approve	Disapprove	Calendar	Not Participating	Date
S. Johnson	X				6/17/2024
S. Owens	X				6/19/2024
C. Sandoval	X				6/17/2024



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

Report:	Donaldson Enterprises, Inc. (DEI) Fatal Fireworks Disassembly Explosion and Fire
Recommendation Number:	2011-06-I-HI-R8
Date Issued:	January 17, 2013
Recipient:	National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)
New Status:	Closed – Acceptable Action
Date of Status Change:	June 19, 2024

Recommendation Text:

Once fireworks disposal best practices under recommendation 2011-06-I-HI-R7 is completed, develop and implement an outreach plan to promptly communicate the new NFPA practices to relevant government agencies and private entities that dispose of waste fireworks.

Board Status Change Decision:

A. Rationale for Recommendation

On April 8, 2011, an explosion and fire occurred at Waikele Self Storage located in Waipahu, Hawaii. At this facility, a leased magazine was being used by Donaldson Enterprises, Inc. (DEI) for seized fireworks storage and disposal-related activities. As a result of the explosion and fire, five DEI personnel inside the magazine were fatally injured and a sixth sustained minor injuries.

As a part of its investigation, the U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board (CSB) reviewed the National Fire Protection Association's (NFPA) standards related to explosives and fireworks (e.g., 495, 1123 and 1124) and determined that there were no standards or guidance for the safe disposal of fireworks.

Based on the findings of the investigation, the Board voted to issue two recommendations to the NFPA related to disposal of fireworks. This status change summary addresses CSB Recommendation No. 2011-06-I-HI-R8.

B. Response to the Recommendation

In response to CSB Recommendation No. 2011-06-I-HI-R7, the NFPA issued NFPA 401, *Recommended Practice for the Prevention of Fires and Uncontrolled Chemical Reactions Associated with the Handling of Hazardous Waste*¹. The NFPA notified the CSB that stakeholders, including the investigation's other recommendation recipients, have been notified

¹ Available at www.nfpa.org/401 (Accessed February 9, 2024).

of the issuance of the document and provided a copy for their reference. The NFPA also posted a release on their website addressing the new document².

C. Board Analysis and Decision

The Board appreciates the cooperation and professionalism demonstrated by the NFPA’s leadership and staff throughout the recommendation closure process. Based upon the information above, the Board voted to change CSB Recommendation No. 2011-06-I-HI-R8 to “Closed – Acceptable Action.”

² Available at <https://www.nfpa.org/news-blogs-and-articles/news/nfpa-401-brings-new-guidance-to-hazardous-waste-disposal> (Accessed May 17, 2024).