



Clark Seif Clark Environmental Newsletter

www.csceng.com 800.807.1118

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Clark Seif Clark is pleased to bring environmental, health & safety and information about building sciences to thousands of professionals each month. We hope you enjoy the newsletter.

Phoenix Industrial Dust Explosion Sends Workers to the Hospital

Last month, two workers were rushed to a Phoenix hospital after suffering second and third degree burns following a combustible dust fire at their place of employment. The explosion occurred while the employees were cleaning a loft area of the business that had accumulated significant wood dust.

Combustible dust explosions happen all too often in the work environment and they can often be caused by wood dust. Wood dust is made up of fine particles that can present an explosion hazard when they are suspended in air and come into contact with an ignition source. Wood dust hazards are a potential threat to any business that saws, cuts, drills, grinds, and sands wood materials to either prepare lumber or to use it to manufacture products.

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) offer a list of recommendations for businesses that are at risk. They include:

- Implement a hazardous dust inspection, testing, housekeeping, and control program;
- Use proper dust collection systems and filters;
- Minimize the escape of dust from process equipment or ventilation systems;
- Use surfaces that minimize dust accumulation and facilitate cleaning;
- Provide access to all hidden areas to permit inspection;
- Inspect for dust residues in open and hidden areas at regular intervals;
- If ignition sources are present, use cleaning methods that do not generate dust clouds;
- Use only vacuum cleaners approved for dust collection; and

In This Issue

[Phoenix Industrial Dust Explosion Sends Workers to the Hospital](#)

[Just Released - New California Guidance Document for Leaking Underground Fuel Tanks](#)



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[Site Assessments](#)

[Energy Efficiency](#)

- Locate relief valves away from dust deposits.

Throughout the Southwest and West Coast, one of the leading combustible dust consulting firms is Clark Seif Clark (CSC). "Anytime there is a sufficient quantity and concentration of any combustible material, when in a finely divided form, it can rapidly become combustible," reported Franco Seif, President of Clark Seif Clark. "If such dust is suspended in air in the right concentration, under certain conditions, such as in the building in Phoenix, it can become explosive. These types of explosions are preventable. At CSC, our indoor air quality and health & safety experts offer testing and consulting services to prevent these dangerous and costly tragedies."

CSC supports an educational video about combustible dust hazards that can be seen at:



Combustible Dust Hazards

To learn more about combustible dust testing services, or other indoor air quality (IAQ), industrial hygiene, and health and safety issues, please visit www.csceng.com, email csc@csceng.com or call (800) 807-1118.

Just Released - New California Guidance Document for Leaking Underground Fuel Tanks

Last month, the California State Water Resources Control Board released the "Leaking Underground Fuel Tank Guidance Manual." This important document, known as the CA LUFT Manual, is the latest version of a document originally released over 20 years ago

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Is It Safe?

called the "1989 LUFT Field Manual." It has been highly anticipated by companies who own and operate underground storage tanks and companies such as CSC Targhee who help owners of LUSTs with closure of their contaminated sites.

According to the document, "The CA LUFT Manual is intended to assist stakeholders involved in the California State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) UST Cleanup Program to meet the Program's main objective of protecting human health, safety, and the environment from petroleum products and/or petroleum additives which have leaked from USTs and/or their associated systems. Potential risks to human health and the environment posed by these unauthorized releases of petroleum into the subsurface may include impacts to drinking-water wells, intrusion of vapors into utility lines or buildings, time and costs associated with management of contaminated soil and groundwater during future construction projects, and impacts to nearby surface-water bodies."

CSC Targhee has extensive experience helping companies across California comply with UST regulations and developing mitigation plans for contaminated sites. The company offers subsurface investigations, remediation design and implementation, and ongoing monitoring, oversight and closure of LUST projects.

"The CA LUFT Manual provides the UST monitoring and remediation industry with important information to help protect the public and the environment from potentially hazardous petroleum products and additives," stated David Broadbent, CSC Targhee's Technical Director. "CSC Targhee is well versed in the new manual and has the expertise to quickly and efficiently help companies across the State with the management of LUST and any actions necessary to comply with regulations."

To learn more about how CSC Targhee can help with UST programs, please visit www.targheeinc.com or www.csceng.com, email dbroadbent@targheeinc.com or call David Broadbent at (562) 435-8080.

About Clark Seif Clark: CSC was established in 1989 to help clients in both the public and private sectors address environmental issues. CSC is a leading provider of these services with multiple offices along the western seaboard and southwest. The company believes in science-based protocols and has a strong background in engineering making them the preferred environmental consultants to healthcare facilities, architects, schools, builders, contractors, developers and real estate professionals.

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