



### 11th Chemical Process Safety Sharing (CPSS)

## **Topic: Safety Moment**

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# Safety Moment: FCC Unit Explosion and Asphalt Fire at Husky Superior Refinery, 2018



April 26, 2018, at ~9:58 a.m., an explosion and subsequent fire occurred at Husky Superior Refinery. The incident occurred during a planned turnaround event, with ~800-900 people on site. The fires were extinguished before midnight.





Safety VDO: Transient Hazards: Explosion at the Huskey Superior Refinery

Reference: U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation

Board (CSB)

### As a result of the explosion and fire:

- The incident injured 36 workers
- Caused roughly \$550 million in property damage
- Released 39,000 pounds of flammable hydrocarbon vapor into the air
- Evacuated 2,507 residents based on the potential risk of a release of HF, which was stored and used at Refinery. Although the HF storage tank was not damaged, and no release of HF occurred
- A shelter-in-place and evacuation advisory at 8:00 p.m. and orders were lifted at 6:00 a.m. the next day

#### Safety issues:

- Transient Operation Safeguards
- Process Knowledge
- Process Safety Management Systems
- Industry Knowledge and Guidance
- Brittle Fracture During Extreme Events
- Emergency Preparedness

































