



January 27, 2014 – North Andover, MA Incident

An internal investigation into the October 9, 2013, incident at the Rohm and Haas Electronic Materials LLC, North Andover site has been completed.

The investigation concluded:

- An employee sustained injuries as a result of the overpressure of a small stainless steel manufacturing vessel during an operation associated with a Trimethylindium (TMI) manufacturing batch.
- An undesired and unexpected reactive chemical event occurred within the vessel as the employee was transporting the vessel from the glove box to the next manufacturing unit for further processing.
- The overpressure resulted in a release of reacted and unreacted materials and a fire.

The most highly probable cause of the unplanned event was the ingress of cleaning liquid from the cavity space of the ball valve into the crude TMI. Due to the nature of the event, it is impossible to completely validate this conclusion.

Carlos Amaral, who worked for the past 13 years at the North Andover site as a production operator, passed away on October 9, following injuries sustained during this incident. The fire was extinguished quickly by the building fire suppression system and employees were evacuated from the building. No other employees were injured.

The safety of all employees and contractors is a priority. The decision regarding the start-up of TMI manufacturing operations is pending completion of the site's action plan.

Our thoughts and support continue to be with Carlos Amaral's family, friends and co-workers.

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