

The Bureau for Analysis of Industrial Risks and Pollutions (**BARPI**) of the French Ministry of Sustainable Development has the pleasure to release its third English newsletter. This newsletter aiming at experience feedback on technological accidents will come out twice a year. Do not hesitate to forward this message to any person you think might be interested. **Registration is free at the following address:** <http://www.aria.developpement-durable.gouv.fr/newsletter>

Video and Synthesis: Hazards of remote operated process



Remote operated process is a major lever for productivity in industry. Unfortunately, automation also introduces new sources of hazards, as illustrated by [the video](#) "Processing function: hazards in the control room". This 15 mn film shows that, behind human error, organisational failure is the main root cause of these accidents. Through the description of a real chemical plant's accident to illustrate how latent organisational failure may lead control room operators to take the wrong decision in critical situations.

[More](#)

Flash ARIA: Heat waves, intense heat: risk alerts, and not just for fire !



Heat waves cause many fires. But they can also give rise to phenomena like: solvent evaporation within warehouses containing sensitive substances, or the uncontrolled heating of stored chemical waste. Major pollutions have also been recorded. Watercourses, when experiencing very lowwater levels, are sensitive to the accumulation of oxygen-consuming substances.

To prevent accidents, organisational measures must be prepared and strictly followed.

[More](#)

Fact sheet and Accident reports: Technological incidents triggered by flooding



Many scientific studies show that the rise in average temperature is modifying hydraulic systems at the global scale. Flood events already make up the greatest share of Europe's most widespread natural disasters, accounting for 30% to 40% depending on the source. Anthropic factors, including land use, layout of water courses and the confinement of overflow zones, all heavily contribute to the occurrence of these sudden phenomena that directly impact industrial sites.

[More](#)



Floods should be considered as intense natural events that contribute to triggering technological accidents. Nonetheless, this disruptive element does not, in the majority of cases, constitute the sole origin of accidents. The establishment of emergency plans can significantly reduce impacts:

ARIA 46144, 46146, 46149, 46151 - 2013/12/5 and 6 - [East coast, United Kingdom](#) - Flooding of process industry sites

ARIA 43784 - 2013/05/07 - [Buchères \(10\)](#) - Flooding strikes a solvent recycling factory

11th IMPEL seminar "Lessons learnt from industrial accidents"



Once every 2 years, the French Ministry of Sustainable Development organises a seminar on Lessons Learnt from Industrial Accidents on the behalf of the IMPEL network. The last edition took place in June 2015 in Lille. 300 participants, inspectors of the environment for the greater part, including 60 representing about 30 countries, discussed 10 recent accidents.

Various issues has been covered, as NaTech events, pyrotechnic... The Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents has also been talked over and illustrated.

[Seminar proceedings](#) are on-line and European inspectors will be warmly welcome to join the next edition in 2017.

MAHB Lessons Learnt Bulletin



The Major Hazard Bureau (MAHB) of the Institute for the Protection and Security of the Citizen of the European Commission issued a "[Lessons Learned Bulletin](#)" for chemical accident prevention and preparedness, whose aim is to provide insights on lessons learned from accidents reported in the European Major Accident Reporting System (eMARS) and other accident sources. The theme of this 6th issue is NaTech accidents.

ARIA Website: <http://www.aria.developpement-durable.gouv.fr/?lang=en>

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