

**SIGNIFICANT INCIDENT FAILURE POTENTIAL (SIF<sub>p</sub>)**

# COMBUSTIBLE DUST



**SIGNIFICANT INCIDENT FAILURE POTENTIAL (SIF<sub>p</sub>) INCIDENTS ARE NEAR-MISS EVENTS CONNECTED WITH HIGH RISK ACTIVITY THAT HAVE POTENTIAL FOR SERIOUS INJURIES AND FATALITIES. SOME OF THESE NEAR MISSES ARE NOT REPORTED BECAUSE NO ONE WAS INJURED.**

REPORTING THESE INCIDENTS ALLOWS THE OPERATION TO FULLY INVESTIGATE THE CAUSES AND DEVELOP CONTROLS TO AVOID THE INCIDENT IN THE FUTURE. COMBUSTIBLE DUST IS CONSIDERED A SIF<sub>p</sub> CATEGORY FOR HIGH RISK ACTIVITY. COMBUSTIBLE DUST NEAR-MISS EVENTS MAY INCLUDE:

- EXPLOSION OR FIRE
- EXCESSIVE ACCUMULATIONS OF WOOD DUST



**BC Forest Safety**

Safety is **good** business

# SIGNIFICANT INCIDENT FAILURE POTENTIAL (SIF<sub>p</sub>) COMBUSTIBLE DUST



**DISCUSS THE FOLLOWING EXAMPLES TO RAISE AWARENESS OF SIF<sub>p</sub> EVENTS AND THE POTENTIAL OUTCOME IF THESE NEAR-MISS EVENTS ARE NOT REPORTED.**

1) A worker was performing hot work and failed to clean up all the combustibles in his basement work area. Some slag from his cutting flew behind an MCC panel and ignited some fine dry wood dust.

- What are the potential outcomes?
- Is this a SIF<sub>p</sub> event?

2) A supervisor performed a dust inspection at 5:00am when he started his shift. Everything looked great and the graveyard crew finished their clean-up of the required areas. Towards the end of the day shift, a worker noticed a conveyor leaking out fine dry wood dust onto a drive unit. He made a mental note to clean it before he left but got called away. Towards the end of afternoon shift, the supervisor noticed the drive unit had significant accumulations of fine dry wood dust on the drive unit.

- What are the potential outcomes?
- Is this a SIF<sub>p</sub> event?