

Carbon dioxide and ammonia pipelines research

Simon Gant, Strategic Science Adviser for Net Zero, HSE

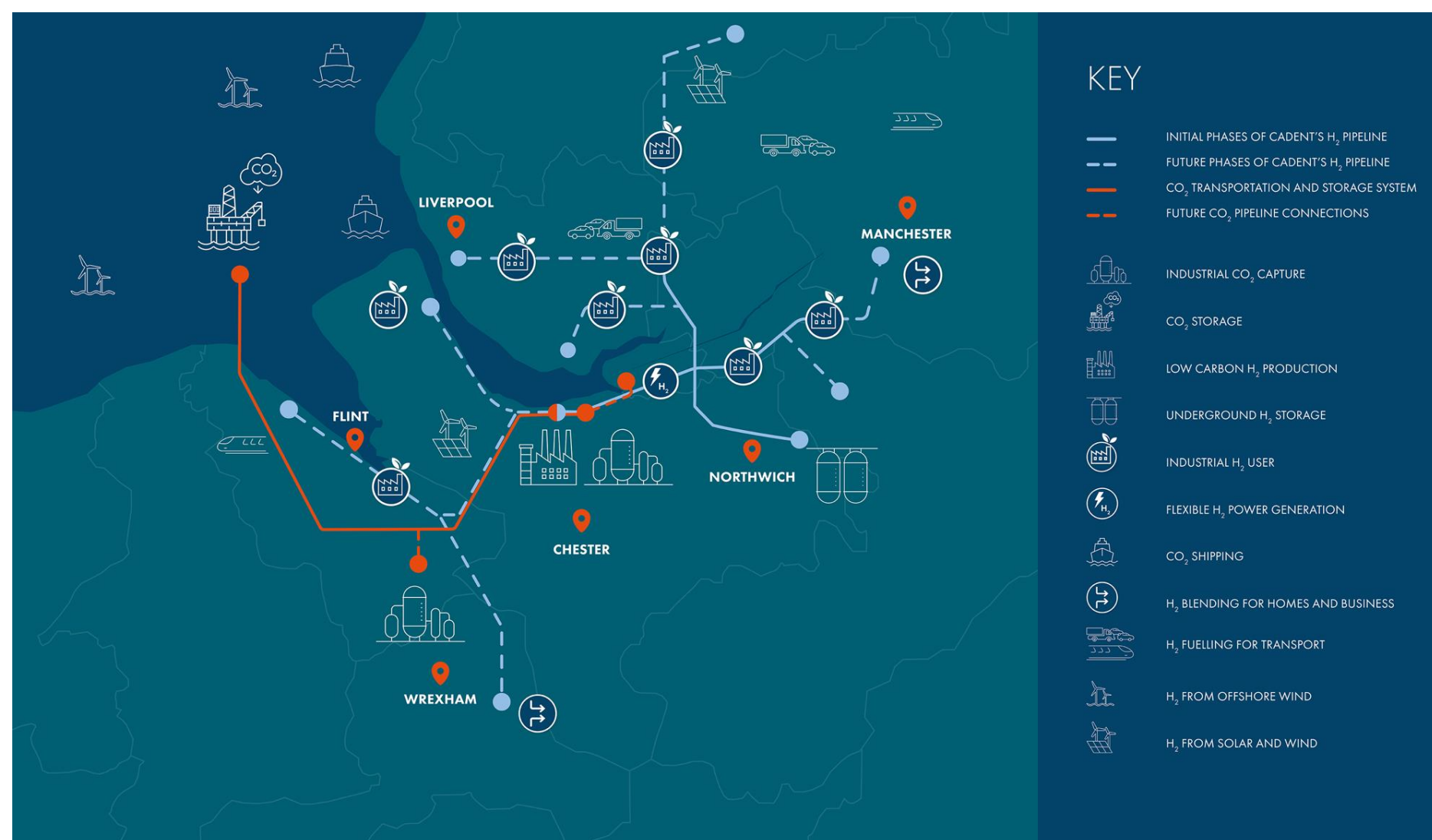
European Pipeline Authorities Meeting, Bergen, Norway, 21-22 May 2025



Outline

- Carbon dioxide pipelines
 - Planned CO₂ pipelines in the UK
 - Satartia incident
 - PHMSA public workshop and R&D forum
 - PHMSA draft rules
 - HSE research
 - Joint industry projects (Skylark, IntoCloud, PRCI etc.)
- Ammonia pipelines
 - Incidents
 - RIVM-HSE proposed project
 - Recent RIVM research
 - Other recent ammonia research activities

Planned CO₂ pipelines in the UK



HyNet project <https://hynet.co.uk>

- Initially, gas-phase onshore/offshore CO₂ pipelines with sequestration in depleted natural gas field
- 40 miles of onshore pipeline, MAOP approx. 42 bar
- Later, transition to dense-phase CO₂ pipelines offshore – compression at the coast
- Pipelines: 20", 24" and 36" diameter, mixture of repurposed and new
- New ENI offshore platform connected to several repurposed normally unmanned installations
- Capture plants: cement, refinery, blue hydrogen
- Planned to store 10 MtCO₂/yr by 2030

- Development Consent Order (planning permission) granted for HyNet CO₂ pipeline in March 2024
<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/Wales/HyNet-Carbon-Dioxide-Pipeline/>

Planned CO₂ pipelines in the UK



East Coast Cluster project <https://eastcoastcluster.co.uk>

- Northern Endurance Partnership: BP, Equinor and TotalEnergies <https://northernendurancepartnership.co.uk/>
- March 2023: DESNZ Track 1 funding awarded
- Sept 2023: NSTA awarded further licenses to BP and Equinor for 1 GTe CO₂ storage
- March 2024: Development Consent Order granted for Teesside Carbon Capture Pipeline <https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN010103>
- 22" diameter onshore CO₂ gas-phase gathering pipelines for NZT Power, BOC and H2T capture plants
- Compression and 145 km 28" diameter offshore dense-phase CO₂ pipeline

- Humber pipeline: public consultation in Summer 2024, FEED and DCO application ongoing
- FID taken on Teesside pipeline in Dec 2024. Due to be operational by 2028

Planned CO₂ pipelines in the UK

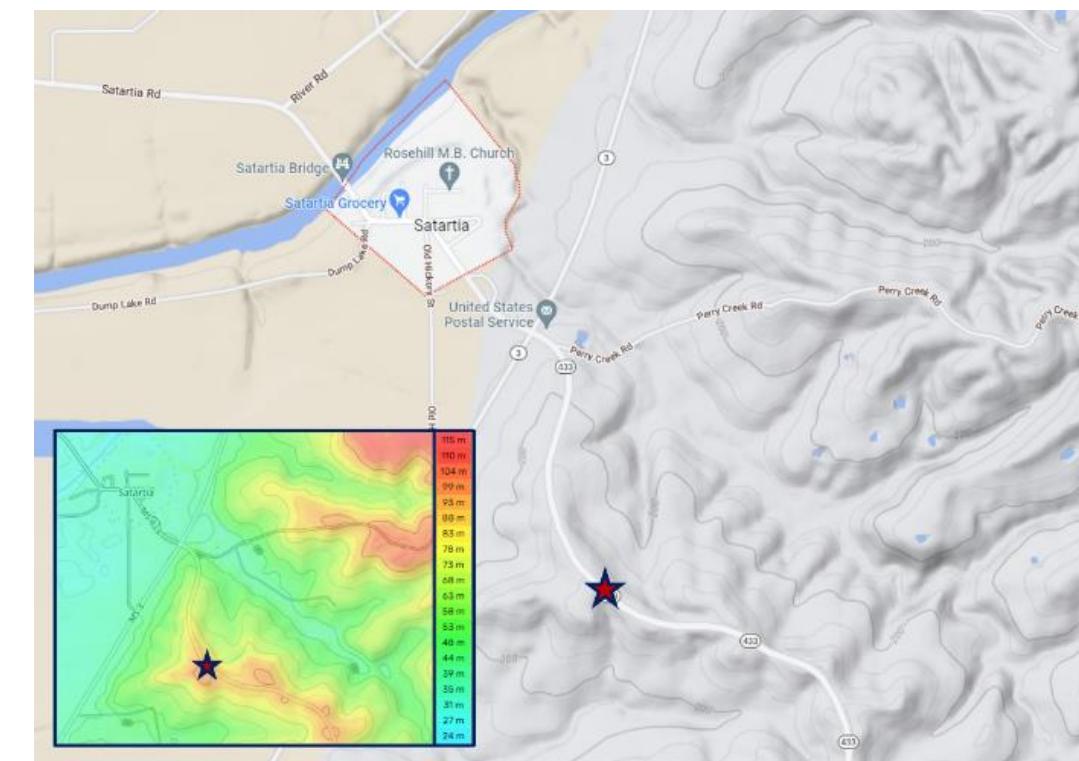
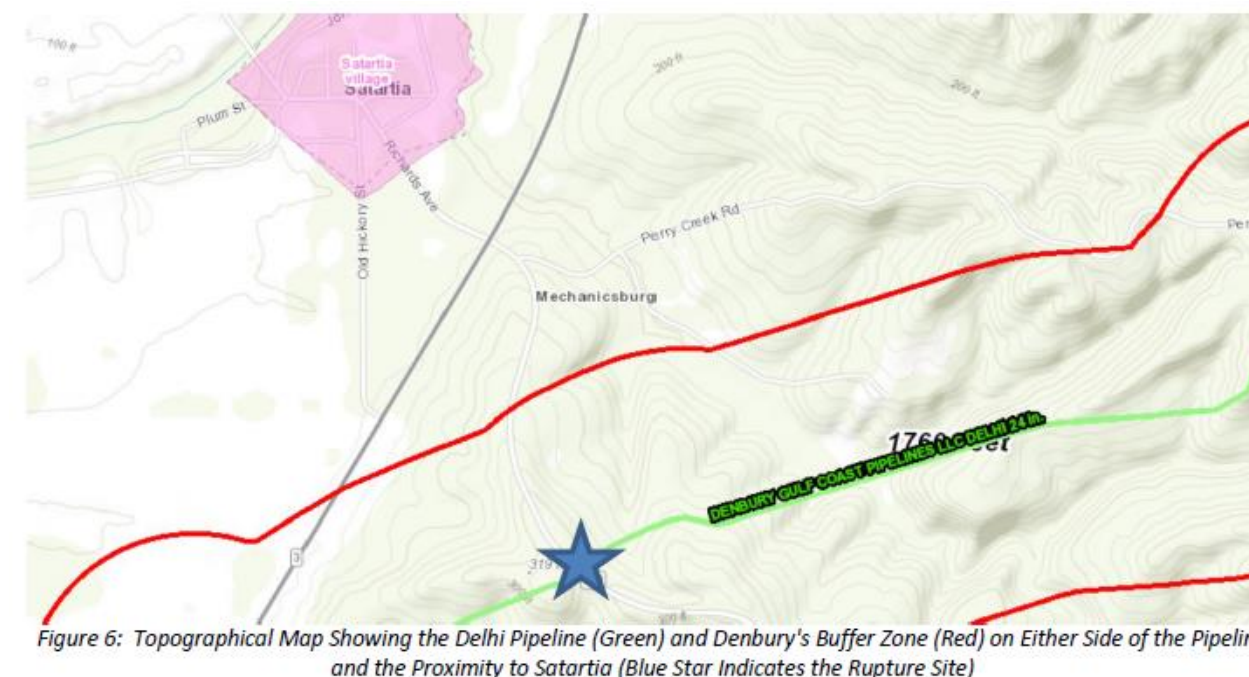


Viking CCS project <https://www.vikingccs.co.uk/>

- 55 km long 24" diameter onshore dense-phase CO₂ pipeline from Immingham to Theddlethorpe Gas Terminal <https://pipeline.vikingccs.co.uk/>
- DCO granted in April 2025 <https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN070008>
- FEED contract awarded to Technip in Jan 2024
- FID expected in Q1 2025

Satartia CO₂ pipeline incident

- Failure of Denbury 24-inch dense-phase CO₂ pipeline near Satartia, Mississippi due to landslide
- Full-bore failure at girth weld indicates weld was undermatching (yield strength < parent pipe)
- Dense CO₂ cloud rolled downhill and engulfed Satartia village, a mile away
- Approximately 200 people evacuated and 45 required hospital treatment
- Communication issues: local emergency responders were not informed by pipeline operator of the rupture and release of CO₂
- Denbury's risk assessment did not identify that a release could affect the nearby village of Satartia



Terrain map taken from Google Maps and contour map taken from topographic-map.com. Approximate location of release marked by a star.

Image sources: Yazoo County Emergency Management Agency/Rory Doyle for HuffPost and PHMSA

- https://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/entry/gassing-satartia-mississippi-co2-pipeline_n_60ddea9fe4b0ddef8b0ddc8f
- <https://www.phmsa.dot.gov/sites/phmsa.dot.gov/files/2022-05/Failure%20Investigation%20Report%20-%20Denbury%20Gulf%20Coast%20Pipeline.pdf>

PHMSA public meeting on CO₂ pipelines

- PHMSA held public meeting on CO₂ pipelines in Des Moines, Iowa on 31 May – 1 June 2023
<https://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/meetings/MtgHome.mtg?mtg=165>
- Presentations by PHMSA, EPA, DOE, National Association of Pipeline Safety Representatives (NAPSR), Pipeline Safety Trust, Center for International Environmental Law, Science and Environmental Health Network, members of the public, API, HSE, CER etc.
- Meeting discussed PHMSA's actions following the Satartia incident
 - <https://www.phmsa.dot.gov/news/phmsa-announces-new-safety-measures-protect-americans-carbon-dioxide-pipeline-failures>
- 116 formal comments received on Federal register
 - <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2023/04/20/2023-08369/pipeline-safety-carbon-dioxide-pipeline-safety-public-meeting>

PHMSA Pipeline Safety Research and Development Forum 2023

- PHMSA R&D forums are held every 2 years with public, government, and industry pipeline stakeholders to identify technology and knowledge gaps
- PHMSA uses this information to develop research solicitations
- Listing of PHMSA-funded research projects:
<https://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/matrix/>
- Details of 2023 R&D Forum:
<https://primis-meetings.phmsa.dot.gov/archive/MtgHome.mtg@mtg=166.html>

Readout Report: Workgroup #1 Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) Pipelines

Workgroup Leaders

Ashley Kroon: General Engineer, PHMSA
Gary Choquette: Executive Director of Research and IT, PRCI

Top 4 Identified R&D Gaps

Gap #1 – EOS refinement for CO₂ pipelines (Output type: General Knowledge)(Infrastructure type: Pipeline/CO₂)

Gap #2 – Refine fracture control models for CO₂ (Output type: General Knowledge)(Infrastructure type: Pipeline/CO₂)

Gap #3 – Validate and apply dispersion modeling for CO₂ release (Output type: General Knowledge)(Infrastructure type: Pipeline/CO₂)

Gap #4 – Non-metallic materials compatibility for CO₂ service (Output type: General Knowledge)(Infrastructure type: Pipeline/CO₂)

NOTE: RED text indicates gaps with a possible academic focus.



PHMSA Draft rulemaking on CO₂ pipelines, January 2025

PHMSA issued this Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on January 10, 2025, and it has been submitted to the Office of the Federal Register for publication. Although PHMSA has taken steps to ensure the accuracy of this version of the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking posted on the PHMSA website, and will post it in the docket (PHMSA-2022-0125) on the Regulations.gov website (www.regulations.gov), it is not the official version. Please refer to the official version in a forthcoming Federal Register publication, which will appear on the websites of each of the Federal Register (www.federalregister.gov) and the Government Printing Office (www.govinfo.gov). After publication in the Federal Register, this unofficial version will be removed from PHMSA's website and replaced with a link to the official version. PHMSA will also post the official version in the docket.

Billing Code: 4910-60-W

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration

49 CFR Parts 190, 195, 196, and 198

[Docket No. PHMSA-2022-0125]

RIN 2137-AF60

Pipeline Safety: Safety of Carbon Dioxide and Hazardous Liquid Pipelines

AGENCY: Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA), Department of Transportation (DOT).

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM).

SUMMARY: PHMSA proposes revisions to the Pipeline Safety Regulations to include safety standards and reporting requirements for gas- and liquid-phase carbon dioxide pipelines.

PHMSA proposes safety improvements for all carbon dioxide pipelines, including the establishment of an emergency planning zone for improved emergency response and public communications; more prescriptive fracture control requirements; explicit inclusion of carbon dioxide in the definition of a highly volatile liquid; specific requirements for vapor dispersion modeling; and conforming changes to operations, maintenance, and emergency manuals.

PHMSA also proposes specific requirements applicable to both hazardous liquid and carbon dioxide pipelines, including enhanced right-of-way inspections to identify geologic hazards and mitigate those threats, and the use of fixed vapor detection and alarm systems at specific highly volatile liquid pipeline facilities. Additionally, PHMSA proposes changes to the conversion to service requirements affecting both hazardous liquid and carbon dioxide pipelines. On May 31


- Proposed emergency planning zone for CO₂ pipelines: default 2 miles wide on either side of the pipeline, unless otherwise defined by dispersion modelling
- Additional safety measures required within emergency planning zone
- Perform annual population density survey within zone for all places of residence, business or public assembly
- Distribute emergency response information to all within zone, including specific actions to be taken in the event of emergency
- Provide automatic notifications to the public within zone informing them when an emergency has occurred and what to do
- Operators to retain documentation on their CO₂ pipeline routing
- Fixed vapor detection and alarm systems on Highly Volatile Liquid pipelines (including CO₂ pipelines) at all above-ground installations (pump, compressor, meter, valve, PIG stations)
- Further requirements described in draft rule

<https://www.phmsa.dot.gov/news/usdot-proposes-new-rule-strengthen-safety-requirements-carbon-dioxide-pipelines>

<https://www.phmsa.dot.gov/sites/phmsa.dot.gov/files/2025-01/PHMSA%20Notice%20of%20Proposed%20Rulemaking%20for%20CO2%20Pipelines%20-%202137-AF60.pdf>

<https://pipelinepodcastnetwork.com/phmsa-co2-notice-of-preliminary-rule-making/>

PHMSA-funded project on CO₂ dispersion modelling



Research & Development Program

Server Version: 3.02.00-rc.1 Server Time: 05/12/2025 12:39 PM UTC

Project Search

Modern Search

Advanced Search...

Historical Search...

RD Program

MIS Home Page

Public R&D Page

Submit R&D Idea

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Determination of Potential Impact Radius for CO2 Pipelines using Machine Learning Approach

Main Objective

The main objective of this project will be to establish a computational fluid dynamics (CFD) model to simulate the release and dispersion of supercritical CO2 from full pipeline ruptures, then use the simulation results to construct a database comprising CO2 dispersion data under different scenarios. The researcher will use the resulting scenario data in a machine learning analysis for predicting dispersion ranges and health consequences. Using the analysis results and existing literature, the researcher will develop a rapid, universally applicable tool to assess the consequences of accidental CO2 dispersion from high-pressure pipelines.

Public Abstract

Transport of CO2 via pipelines in a supercritical phase is more economic for a larger amount of CO2 over long distances. However, if the CO2 pipeline is accidentally ruptured, it can release a considerable amount of CO2 into the air that could pose harm to humans, especially in those areas that are characterized by a high population density. Accurate source modeling and dispersion modeling form the basis for accurately predicting the consequence. CFD models are becoming more popular to evaluate the release and subsequent dispersion of CO2 because they can fully take into account pipeline characteristics, operation conditions, local geology/geography, and the weather. In this project, we will first establish a CFD model to simulate the release and dispersion of supercritical CO2 from full pipeline ruptures with reasonable accuracy and acceptable computational cost. Then we will construct a database of CO2 dispersion under different scenarios along with some experimental data. Afterward, we will use the scenario and physical properties of CO2 as property descriptors and independent variables in machine learning-based quantitative property consequence relationship (QPCR) analysis for dispersion ranges prediction and health consequence. Being coupled with existing literature about how PIR was addressed for natural gas pipelines and evacuation time evaluation, we will perform risk assessment and develop a rapid, universally applicable tool to assess the consequences of accidental CO2 dispersion and determine the PIR for CO2 pipelines. This tool can be applied to assess the risk of CO2 pipelines during the planning stage and emergency responses.

Fast Facts

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Research Award Recipient: | Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station 400 Harvey Mitchell Parkway South Suite 300 College Station, TX 77845-4375 |
| AOR/TTI: | Nusnin Akter, nusnin.akter2@dot.gov , 839-273-0528 Basim Bacenty, basim.bacenty@dot.gov , 713-272-2838 |
| Contract #: | 693JK32250011CAAP |
| Project #: | 987 |
| Researcher Contact Info: | Dr. Sam Wang, Associate Professor 3122 TAMU, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 77843 Phone: (979)845-9803; Fax: (979)845-6446; Email: qwang@tamu.edu |

Downloads of Project Reporting

| | |
|-------------------|------|
| Since Jan 1, 2017 | 8741 |
|-------------------|------|

Technology and Commercialization

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----|
| Technology Demonstrated? | TBD |
| Commercialized (in whole/part)? | TBD |

Financial and Status Data


| | |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| Project Status: | Active |
| Start Fiscal Year: | 2022 (09/26/2022) |
| End Fiscal Year: | 2025 (09/25/2025) |
| PHMSA \$\$ Budgeted: | \$279,754.00 |

Anticipated Results: A well-established CFD model for the release and dispersion of supercritical CO2 from pipeline ruptures, a database of CO2 dispersion scenarios, and a reliable and user-friendly machine learning web-based tool to determine the PIR for CO2 pipelines.


Potential Impact on Safety: Using our tool to determine the PIR for CO2 pipelines quickly, the risk of full pipeline ruptures can be thoroughly assessed during the planning stage and responders can quickly determine the emergency plan.

QUARTERLY/ANNUAL STATUS REPORTS

Annual Report 2 updated on Feb 2025

 [ANNUAL_REPORT_2024_UPDATED_ON_FEB_2025.PDF](#) (2,359,099 bytes) [\[VIEW\]](#) [\[DOWNLOAD/SAVE...\]](#)

Quarterly Report 1

 [QUARTERLY REPORT 1.PDF](#) (638,133 bytes) [\[VIEW\]](#) [\[DOWNLOAD/SAVE...\]](#)

Outline

- CO₂ pipelines
 - Planned CO₂ pipelines in the UK
 - Satartia incident
 - PHMSA public workshop and R&D forum
 - PHMSA draft rules
 - HSE research
 - Joint industry projects (Skylark, IntoCloud, PRCI etc.)
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 - Recent RIVM research
 - Other recent ammonia research activities

HSE research



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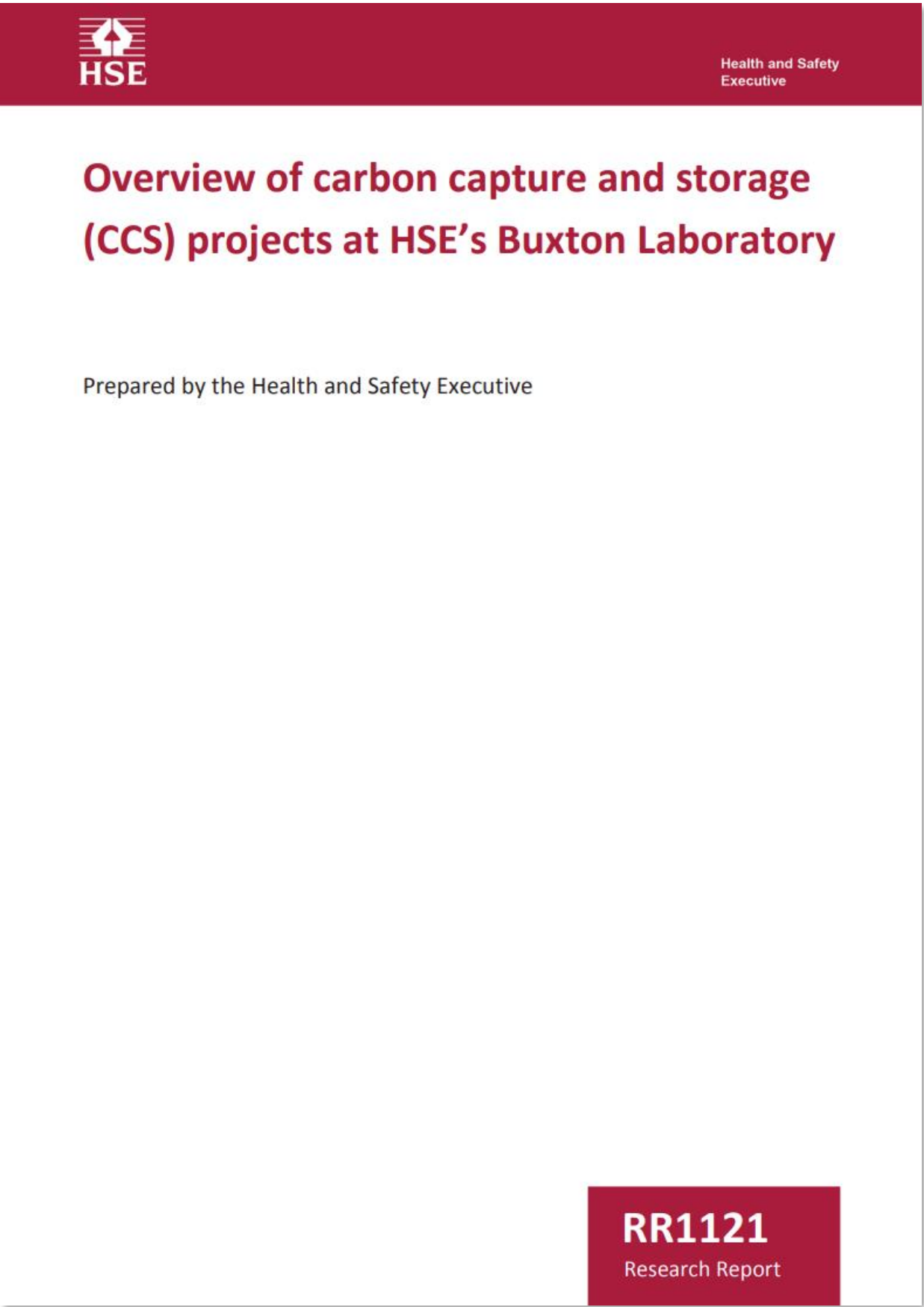
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| Maintain Great Britain's record as one of the safest countries to work in | 17 |
| Research aims | 17 |
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https://ari.org.uk/source_documents/hse-areas-of-research-interest-2024.pdf

<https://ari.org.uk/>

<https://int.octopus.ac/>

Previous HSE research on CO₂ pipelines



<https://www.hse.gov.uk/research/rrhtm/rr1121.htm>

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Ongoing HSE CCUS Research Project

- Task A1 – Oversight and technical coordination
- Task B1 – Develop internal CCUS training course
- Task B2 – Support to regulatory questions
- Task C1 – Collation of JIPs and international projects
- Task C2 – Steering Board engagement
- Task C3 – Review international lessons learned
- Task D1 – Review of industry models
- Task D2 – Update previous modelling
- Task D3 – Modelling offshore scenarios
- Task D4 – Storage thresholds for CO₂
- Task E1 – Understanding industry design
- Task E2 – Flow assurance and process safety
- Task E3 – Suitability of controls
- Task E4 – Understanding the standards landscape
- Task E5 – Definition of hazard and scenarios
- Task E6 – Mitigations and emergency response
- Task F1 – Materials challenges and interactions
- Task F2 – Fracture control
- Task F3 – Corrosion control
- Task F4 – Non-metallic materials and coatings
- Task F5 – Low temperature excursions
- Task G1 – Review of CO₂ toxic levels and dose
- Task G2 – Amines and health effects from the capture process

Ongoing HSE CCUS Research Project

- Task F2 – Fracture control
 - Review control of fracture initiation and propagation in pipelines
 - Identify unique pipeline challenges created by CO₂
 - Review approaches and guidelines for pipeline design for CO₂
 - Undertake some example analyses and investigate mitigation measures
- Task F3 – Corrosion control
 - Review current status of approaches for corrosion control (published research, guidance, standards, etc.)
 - Define the key material and component considerations for CO₂ pipelines and other components
- Task F5 – Low temperature excursions
 - Construct test facility at HSE Science and Research Centre in Buxton for impinging CO₂ jets onto pre-stressed steelwork to investigate cold embrittlement effects
 - Measure cooling effect on steel plates from exposure to impinging CO₂ jets
 - Conduct tests on specimens at different loadings, both with/without pre-formed defects
 - A range of barrier materials may also be tested

Ongoing HSE CCUS Research Project

- Task G1 – Review CO₂ toxic levels and dose
 - Revisit and publish a summary of HSE’s assessment of the dangerous toxic load (SLOT and SLOD)
 - Review other published criteria on CO₂ toxicity
 - Review criteria for human impairment and possible impact on disorientation and means of escape
- Develop CO₂ pipeline risk assessment model for land-use planning
 - Extension of existing HSE natural gas pipeline risk assessment model (MISHAP)
 - Requires consideration of:
 - Fault trees
 - Failure rates
 - Fracture models
 - Release rate model
 - Dispersion model

Failure modes in PIPIN / MISHAP for land use

planning: Initial overview of considerations for CO₂

| Primary failure mode | Secondary failure mode | Currently in PIPIN? | Factors | Failure rate considerations; CO ₂ case as compared to natural gas | Potential Effect |
|--------------------------|---|---------------------|---|--|------------------|
| Ground movement | Landslides, earthquakes, heavy rains, operator error | Y | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Source of stress/strain unaffected by gas being transported Pipe mechanical properties not affected Likely to be location –sensitive Common modes of failure include shell buckling, cross-sectional ovalisation and in extreme cases, tensile fracture (circumferentially) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cause of events should be unaffected. Possibility of rupture from holes due to local cooling of metal in leak area due to J-T effect may increase failure frequency | Med |
| Mechanical failures | Construction faults | Y | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A function of the material and construction detail of the pipeline or its design Generally independent of both the commodity being transported and the locality of the pipeline | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cause of events should be unaffected. Only in the event of an actual failure, depressurisation could lead to lower toughness: the likelihood of the event could be the same, but the consequence/ resultant leak area might be higher | Med |
| Corrosion | External corrosion | Y | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> External corrosion is dependent on the type of soil in which the pipeline is located, the water levels, the pipeline material and age Mitigated through physical corrosion protection such as coatings and the use of active corrosion prevention methods such as cathodic protection Pressure fluctuations of the CO₂ could lead to low temperature transients of the coating | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rates should be unaffected or possible slight increase Pipes usually externally coated, and cathodic protection applied Some references refer to coating disbonding due to temperature fluctuations from pressure changes, which could affect external corrosion | Med |
| | Internal corrosion | N | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not currently included in natural gas model due to low water limits Existing pipeline flow coatings are not recommended in BS ISO 27913 when repurposing to CO₂ due to debonding in pressure reduction scenarios in gas phase, and should be avoided in dense phase | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Corrosion rate potentially very high in CO₂ depending on composition Unprotected regions around girth welds susceptible Failure frequency potentially increases by a significant amount | High |
| Third party damage (TPA) | A gouge model that models the plastic collapse of the pipeline using either gouge data or dent-gouge data | Y | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> YS and UTS form basis | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provided there is no through-wall failure (J-T cooling), the failure frequency should be unaffected However, possibility of rupture from holes due to local cooling of metal in leak area may increase failure frequency | Med |
| | A dent-gouge model that models failure of the pipeline by fracture | Y | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> YS, UTS and fracture toughness form the basis | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Toughness issues from J-T cooling Toughness may reduce, so failure frequency increase Running fractures could become an issue in dense phase Dense vs gas phase-different requirements | High |
| | A rupture model that models the likelihood of a leak leading to a rupture, resulting from either plastic collapse or fracture | Y | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> YS, UTS and fracture toughness form the basis | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Toughness issues from J-T cooling Toughness may reduce, so failure frequency increase Running fractures could become an issue in dense phase Dense vs gas phase-different requirements | High |

Thoughts on “interim” CO₂ dispersion modelling

Possible CO₂ dispersion modelling methodologies that could be used during interim period, prior to conclusion of Skylark project

- 2 mile wide corridor either side of pipeline (default from PHMSA draft rule)
 - Takes into account CO₂ dispersion behaviour from Satartia incident
 - No account of hole size, pipeline diameter and pressure (gas/dense phase), meteorology etc.
- Integral model assuming flat terrain (Phast/Drift)
- Assessment of terrain along pipeline route
 - Use integral model for flat areas (criteria of “flat” to be defined?)
 - Apply extended cloud lengths for downslope areas (using scaling factors, e.g., from Satartia?)
 - Use CFD modelling in some high-priority areas?
- Use risk assessments undertaken by pipeline operator for routing purposes

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CCUS Joint Industry Projects

- SAFEN: failure rates for CCUS, hydrogen and ammonia
 - SINTEF
 - Offshore large-scale subsea CO₂ releases
 - CO₂ EPOC: effect of CO₂ on polymeric materials
 - IntoCloud: venting of refrigerated CO₂
 - DNV
 - Skylark: dispersion of CO₂ from pipeline releases
 - CO₂SafePipe: updating DNV-RP-F104
 - Materials in CO₂ wells
 - CO₂MET: CO₂ composition measurement
 - CO-CO₂ cracking in pipelines
 - CO₂ CFD simulation software
 - SubCO₂ Phase 3 – subsea CO₂ releases
 - CO₂ offshore injection into subsea reservoirs
 - TWI
 - MASCO2T II: Materials assessment for CO₂ transport
 - Permeation of CO₂ through thermosets
 - PRCI
 - CO₂ pipeline dispersion modelling
- HSE participating in these JIPs**

Skylark joint industry project: CO₂ dispersion in complex terrain

<https://www.dnv.com/article/skylark-pioneering-excellence-in-co2-pipeline-safety-250648/>

- Kick-off on 13 May 2025, 3-year duration
 1. CO₂ pipeline craters and source terms – DNV
 2. Wind-tunnel experiments – University of Arkansas
 3. Simple terrain dispersion experiments – DNV
 4. Complex terrain dispersion experiments – DNV
 5. Model validation – HSE
 6. Emergency response – NCEC
 7. Venting – DNV



Source of images: Allason D., Armstrong K., Barnett J., Cleaver P. and Halford A. "Behaviour of releases of carbon dioxide from pipelines and vents", Paper IPC2014-33384, Proc. 10th International Pipeline Conference IPC2014, Calgary, Alberta, 29 September – 3 October 2014, © Copyright National Grid / DNV / ASME

Participation in Skylark modelling exercises

- Organisations who have expressed an interest so far:

- | | | |
|--------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Aker Solutions | 13. Kent | 24. Met Office |
| 2. Ambipar | 14. Monaco Engineering Consultants | 25. Environment Agency |
| 3. Arup | 15. Ramboll | 26. DSTL |
| 4. AS Modelling & Data | 16. Riskaware | 27. INERIS (France) |
| 5. Baker Risk | 17. Rosen | 28. EU Joint Research Centre, Ispra |
| 6. CERC | 18. RPS | 29. Los Alamos National Lab (USA) |
| 7. Eddystone consultancy | 19. Pace CCS | Universities of: |
| 8. ESR Technology | 20. Petrofac | 30. Leeds |
| 9. Exponent | 21. Sintef | 31. Imperial College |
| 10. Fluidyn | 22. Woods | 32. Liverpool John Moores |
| 11. Fraunhofer | 23. Zelt (consultant for the Alberta Energy Regulator AER) | 33. Surrey |
| 12. Gexcon | | 34. Texas A&M |

- Participation of modellers to be approved by Skylark project steering board

University of Leeds



**Proposed PhD
project**

Accelerated Fluid Dynamics of CO₂ dense gas dispersion in complex terrain

Academic lead: Dr Amirul Khan, School of Civil Engineering, a.khan@leeds.ac.uk

Industrial lead: Dr Simon Gant, Health and Safety Executive (HSE), simon.gant@hse.gov.uk

Co-supervisor(s):

Dr Andrew Ross, School of Earth and Environment, A.N.Ross@leeds.ac.uk, Dr Rory Hetherington, Health and Safety Executive (HSE), rory.hetherington@hse.gov.uk (External)

Project themes:

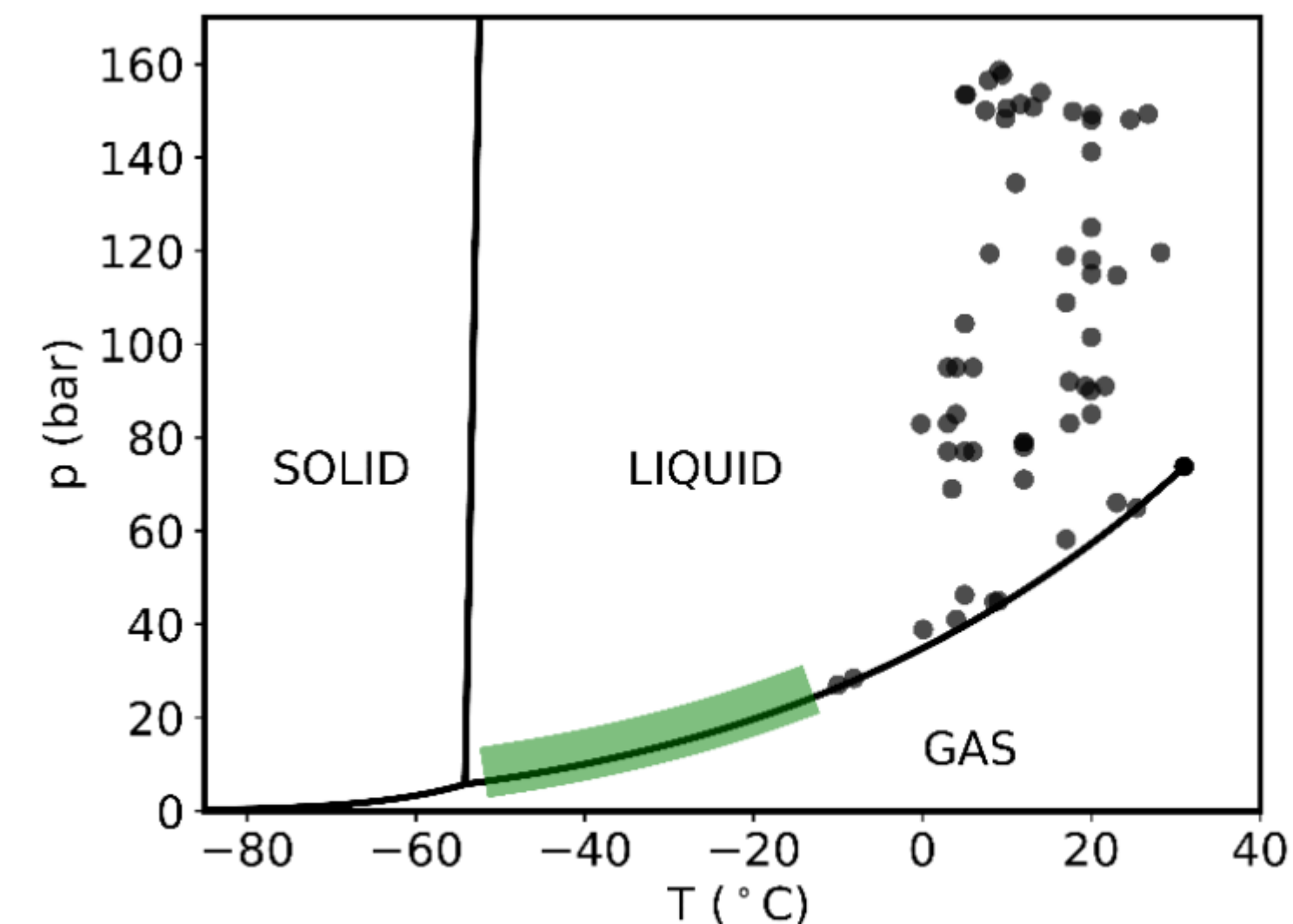
Clean Energy, Computational & Analytical Tools, Data-driven methods, Multiphysics & Complex Fluids

Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) is recognised as a crucial element in reaching the target of Net Zero. To support this, an infrastructure of pipelines are required to transport liquid CO₂. However, safe operation of pipelines relies on accurately predicting the consequences of a leak or rupture (e.g. 2020 Satartia pipeline release in Mississippi). Key factors in modelling pipeline releases, especially when a risk assessment is undertaken along the full length, include (i) the computational cost of a model and (ii) its capacity to account for complex terrain.

<https://fluid-dynamics.leeds.ac.uk/projects/accelerated-fluid-dynamics-of-co2-dense-gas-dispersion-in-complex-terrain/>

SINTEF IntoCloud joint industry project

- Leaks and dispersion from refrigerated CO₂ relevant to ship transport and intermediate storage
- Leakage and dispersion experiments
- Physics-based modeling and validation
- Benchmarking and industry cases
- 30 MNOK (€2.6M), duration: 2025 – 2029
- Partners: CLIMIT (40% funding), Equinor, Gassco, Open Grid Europe, Aker Carbon Capture, Aker Solutions, DNV, University of South-Eastern Norway
- Project leader: Hans Langva Skarsvåg (SINTEF)
- <https://climit.no/en/project/intocloud/>



Phase diagram for CO₂. Experimental data from previous dispersion experiments are marked. Typical shipping and intermediate storage conditions are marked in green.

Pipeline Research Council International (PRCI)

- HSE are members of PRCI Government engagement committee
- Project proposed by PRCI on CO₂ pipeline dispersion modelling
 1. Satartia incident (although, limited data available for modelling, may be omitted)
 2. Dense-phase onshore CO₂ pipeline release
 3. CO₂ vent release
- Project awarded funding in April 2025
- Led by Jeff Whitworth (PRCI) and David Burns (Enbridge)

Other CCS Joint Industry Projects

| | | | |
|--|--|---|-----------|
| CO2SafePipe | To close knowledge gaps identified in the transportation of CO ₂ in pipelines covering CO ₂ in both gas phase and dense phase, including: 1. CO ₂ stream composition and its effect on corrosion and materials 2. the risk of running ductile fracture The project will update Recommended Practice DNV-RP-104 | https://www.dnv.com/article/design-and-operation-of-co2-pipelines-co2safepipe-240345/ | 2023-2024 |
| Materials in CCS Wells | 1. Identifying the role of key environmental factors on damage modes in Corrosion Resistant Alloys (CRAs) based on preliminary thermodynamic calculations. 2. Characterizing the performance of CRAs and establishing environmental limits for localized corrosion and SCC in CCS storage wells. 3. Creating a framework to translate qualification test observations into long-term performance predictions in service. | https://www.dnv.com/article/materials-performance-in-ccs-wells/ | 2023-2025 |
| CO-CO ₂ cracking in pipelines | 1. Define limits on CO and oxidizers (O ₂ , NO ₂) to prevent CO/CO ₂ cracking 2. Identify metallurgical limits (yield strength/hardness) to mitigate CO/CO ₂ cracking 3. Develop a qualification test methodology to screen line pipe steels and welds for susceptibility to CO/CO ₂ cracking. | https://www.dnv.com/article/establishing-guidelines-to-avoid-co-co2-cracking-in-co2-pipelines-251263/ | ? |
| CO ₂ CFD simulation software | Model development and validation of KFX including complex thermodynamics and heat transfer processes for release of liquid CO ₂ , including: dry ice formation, deposition of dry ice on the ground and in complex geometries, sublimation of dry ice, condensation of moisture in the surrounding air | https://www.dnv.com/article/co2-cfd-simulation-software-232808/ | -2024 |
| Offshore CO ₂ good practice | Good Practice Guide for working on offshore oil and gas structures repurposed for CO ₂ streams, including consideration of what action to be taken in the event that an evacuation proves necessary | Andy Brown proposed to Energy Institute in 2024 | 2024- |

Other CCS Joint Industry Projects

| | | | |
|---|---|---|------------------|
| SAFEN | Develop risk models for hydrogen, ammonia and CCS Share knowledge for development of best practices for safe design of technologies | https://www.safetec.no/en/news/safen-ijp-ready-to-meet-new-challenges | Phase 2 2024- |
| Offshore Monitoring of Large-Scale Subsea Releases of CO ₂ | The project will collect observations from four releases from 300 meters depth, each lasting approximately 30 minutes Aim is to create an open curated dataset for public utilization | contact: Paal.Skjetne@sintef.no | 2024- 2025 |
| CO ₂ EPOC | Characterization and prediction of the CO ₂ effect on polymeric materials within the CO ₂ transport chain (pipelines and ships) in order to avoid leakage and failure | https://www.sintef.no/en/projects/2020/co2-epoc/ | 2020- 2025 |
| MASCO2T II | Materials Assessment for Supercritical CO ₂ Transport 1. Generate corrosion data for candidate metallic materials in high pressure/supercritical CO ₂ , with varying types and concentrations of impurities 2. Establish a thorough knowledge of the impact of a range of environmental factors (such as pressure, temperature, fluid composition etc.) on (i) the corrosion behaviour of candidate metallic materials including welds, and (ii) the effect of stress on the environmental performance of candidate metallic materials and welds. | https://www.twi-global.com/media-and-events/press-releases/2023/join-our-new-supercritical-co2-transport-project | 2023- 2026 |
| Permeation of CO ₂ through thermosets | Combined Permeation of Pressurised CO ₂ and Impurities through Thermosets 1. To establish the barrier performance of thermoset materials to CO ₂ with associated impurities. 2. To establish if any transport of these impurity species causes ageing in the thermoset matrix. | https://www.twi-global.com/what-we-do/research-and-technology/research-programmes/joint-industry-projects#/ | ? |

Energy Institute: CCUS activities

- Recent and ongoing EI projects
 - Hazard analysis for onshore/offshore installations
 - Good plant design and operations
 - Running ductile fracture
 - Repurposing and design guidelines for carbon dioxide pipelines
 - Flow assurance and measurement
 - CO₂ impurities measurement
 - Material degradation, corrosion management and asset integrity
 - Interface between conventional power (thermal) generation and a CCUS plant
- Projects under development
 - Hazard identification and risk assessment for new and repurposed offshore structures used for CO₂ streams
 - CO₂ transportation and storage flexibility
 - Non-pipeline transport hubs
 - CO₂ subsurface storage
- Webinar “Good practice guide for CO₂ stream impurity measurement within CCS applications” 12 June 2025
- Joint HSE and Energy Institute workshop on CCUS research priorities planned in coming months

Reports now available from:


<https://www.energyinst.org/technical/publications/sectors/ccus>

Regulators can access Energy Institute publications for free. Contact Mark Scanlon:
mscanlon@energyinst.org

Outline

- Carbon dioxide pipelines
 - Planned CO₂ pipelines in the UK
 - Satartia incident
 - PHMSA public workshop and R&D forum
 - PHMSA draft rules
 - HSE research
 - Joint industry projects (Skylark, IntoCloud, PRCI etc.)
- Ammonia pipelines
 - RIVM-HSE proposed project
 - Incidents
 - Recent RIVM research
 - Other recent ammonia research activities

RIVM-HSE Concept for collaborative project on ammonia pipelines

- HSE has held discussions held over last year with Elin Bloem (RIVM) about scope for possible future project on ammonia pipelines (funding to be determined)
- Scope:
 - Current and future international plans for ammonia pipelines
 - Past international experience with operating ammonia pipelines
 - Relevant standards/guidelines/regulations on pipeline risk assessment, e.g. PD 8010, 49 CFR 195
 - Ammonia pipeline incidents  Some info in next slides
 - Potential hazards of ammonia pipeline releases
 - Relevant physics
 - Modelling tools (PHAIST, EFFECTS, FRED etc.)
 - Existing guidelines on effect distances
 - Run simulations of toxic dispersion and fireballs(?) for range of credible scenarios
 - Compare hazard distances to those for natural gas transmission pipelines
 - Failure rates and uncertainties in comparing risks
 - Emergency response
 - Public perception
 - Further research needs

If you are interested in this topic, please get in touch with Elin Bloem (elin.bloem@rivm.nl) or Simon Gant (simon.gant@hse.gov.uk)

McPherson, Kansas (1973) ammonia pipeline incident

- Since start of ammonia pipeline operation in 1968, 3 major leaks
- Third leak occurred at distance of 300 ft from pump station
- Ice storm caused power outage and pipeline shutdown
- Power restored and pumps activated but electrically-operated block valve failed to open, resulting in increased line pressure
- Pipeline failed at point of prior construction damage
- 5-10 mph winds blew dense cloud across highway at ground level
- Two vehicles drove into cloud, one stopped and driver escaped, the other crashed into ditch and driver escaped: two people hospitalised
- Sheriff evacuated nearest dwellings, 1 mile away

Ammonia Pipeline Maintenance and Repair

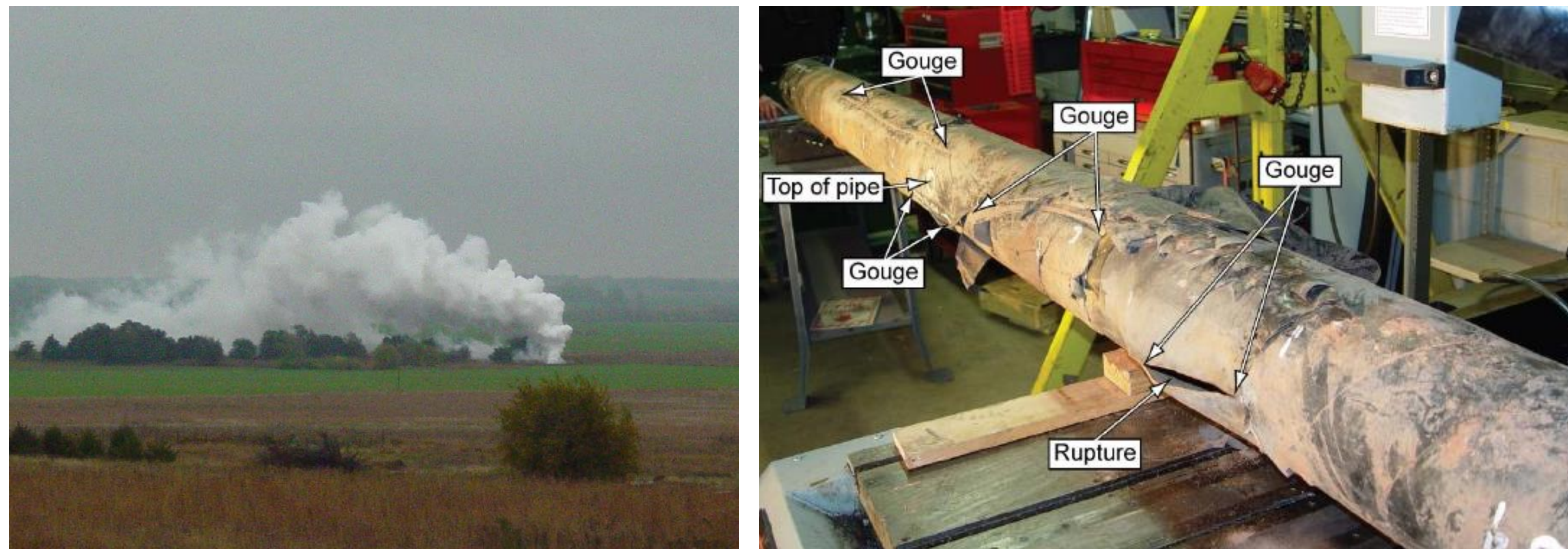
A case history of how one company with a 939-mile line maintains operations and the procedure it followed when a major leak problem occurred.

D.E. Luddeke
Mapco, Inc.
Tulsa, Okla.

https://appsparadeep.iffco.coop/CD_LIBRARY/technical/aiche%20papers%201956-2013/1974/Aiche-17-017.pdf

Kingman, Kansas (2004)

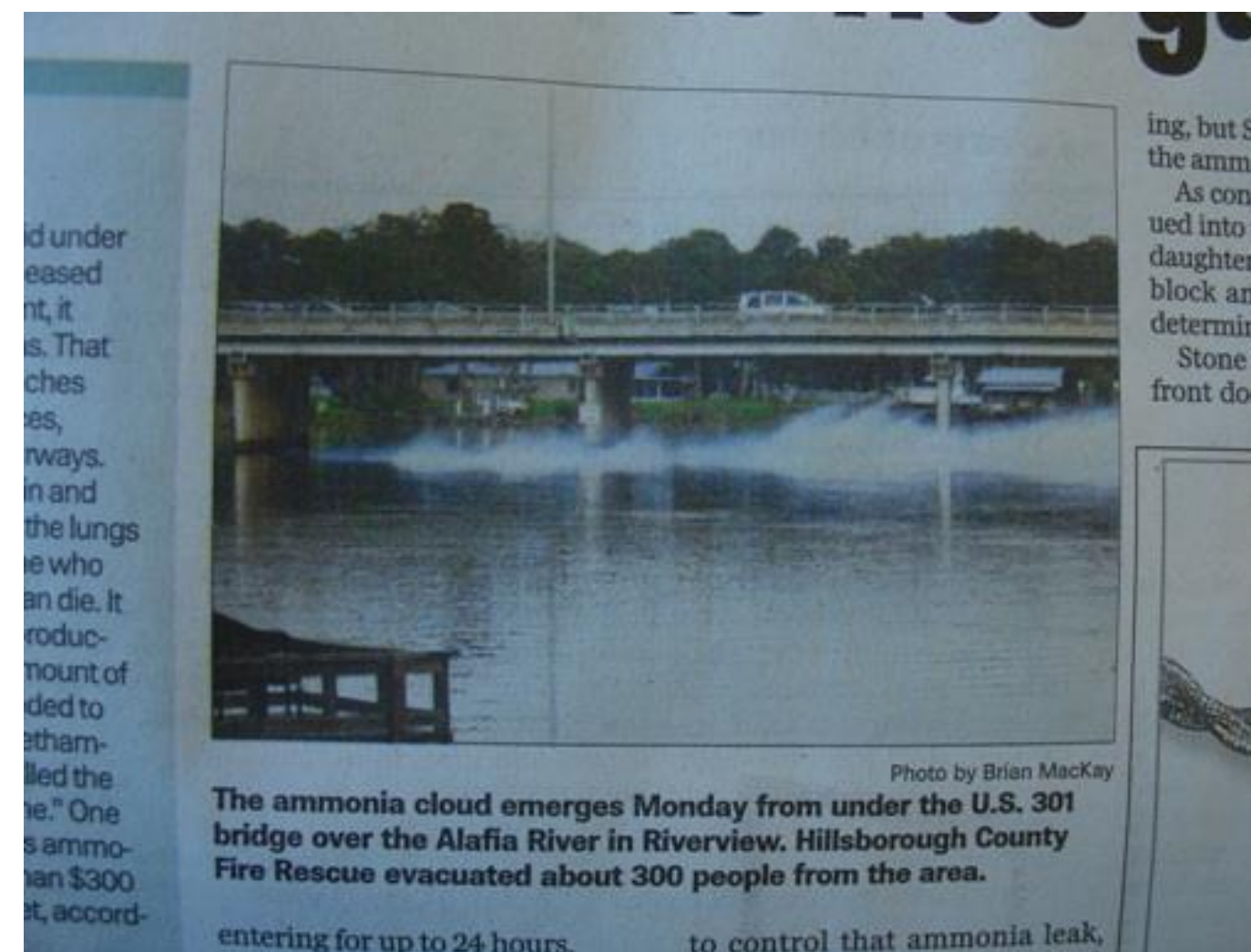
- 8-inch diameter Magellan pipeline ruptured and released 480 t of ammonia
- Visible vapour cloud 0.5 miles wide and 1.5 miles long
- Four families evacuated, no injuries
- Analysis showed pipeline rupture was caused by damage from digging equipment, either during construction or later agricultural activities



<https://www.nts.gov/investigations/AccidentReports/Reports/PAB0702.pdf>

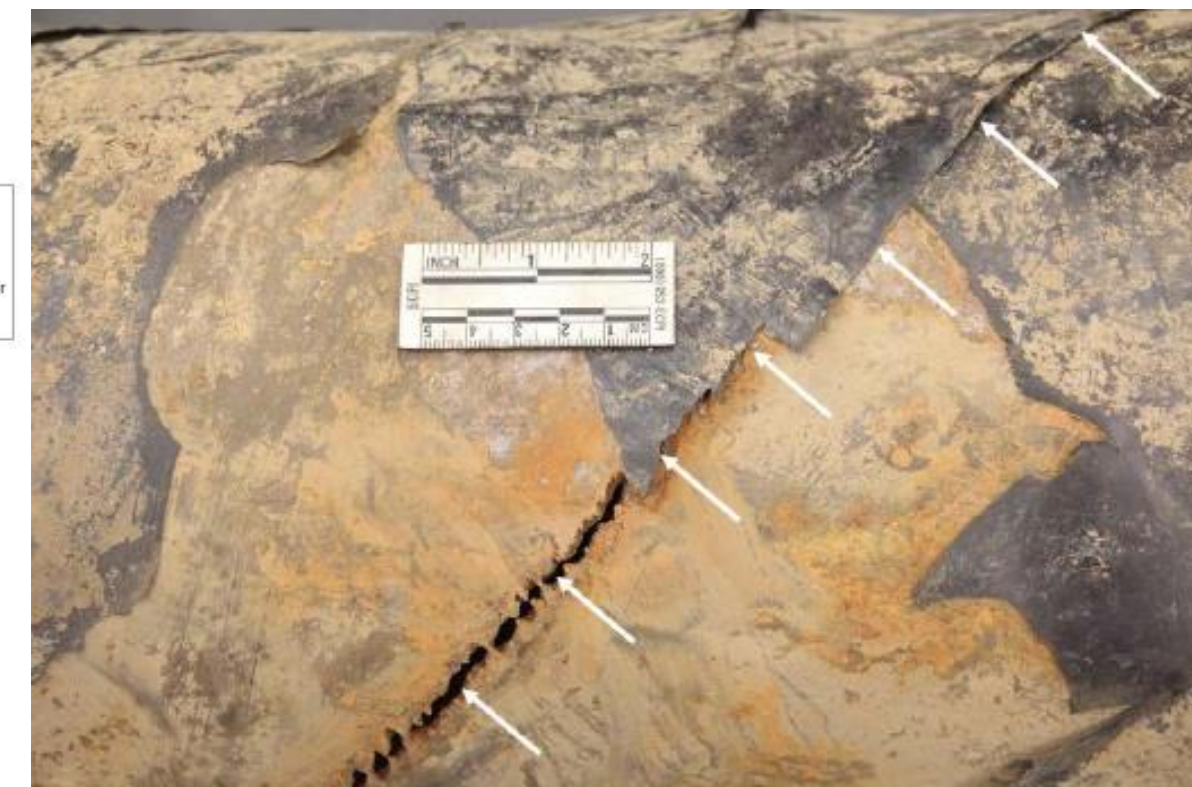
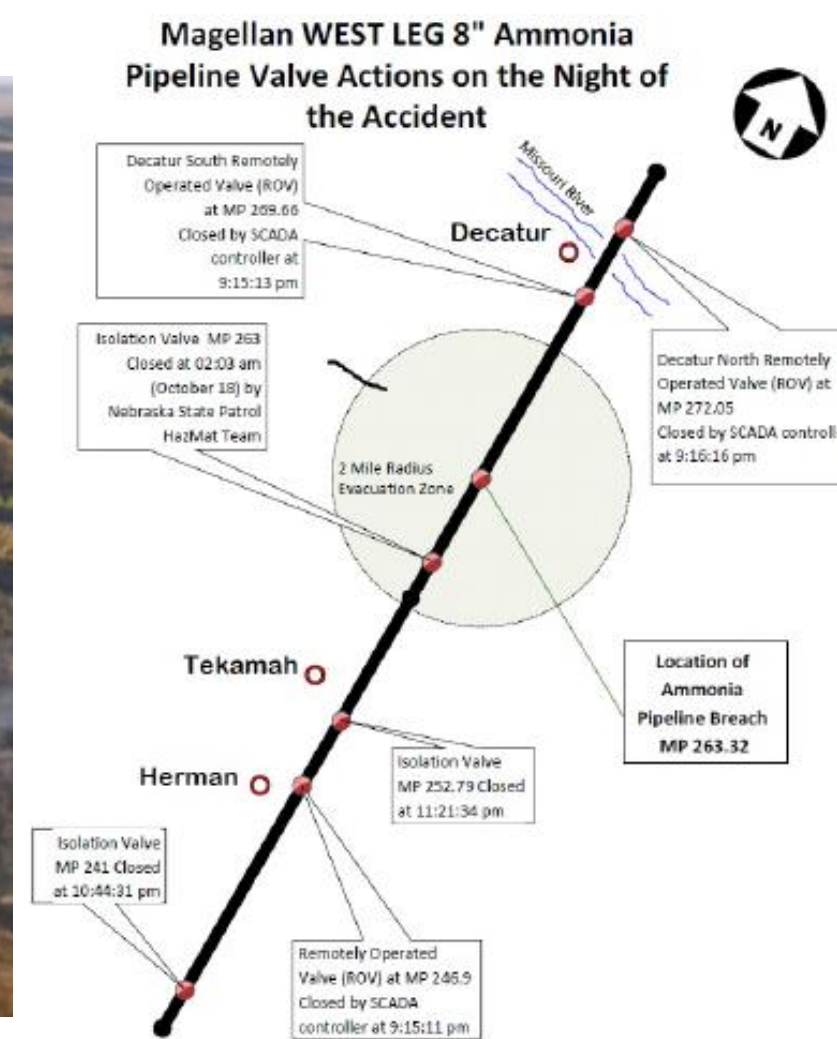
Tampa Bay, Florida (2007)

- Teenager took 2 days to drill through steel wall of 6-inch diameter ammonia pipeline using a cordless drill
- Suffered burns from jetting ammonia, but fell or jumped into river and survived
- Public evacuated from $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ mile radius
- Fortunately, pipeline was operating at half usual pressure due to maintenance



Tekamah, Nebraska (2016)

- 8-inch diameter Magellan pipeline ruptured and released 260 t of ammonia
- 49 people evacuated, 1 death
- Several previous leaks in West leg of Magellan pipeline needed repairs: one in 1984, five between 1988 and 1990, three between 1993 and 1994
- Cause of 2016 incident: corrosion fatigue cracking of pipeline steel
- In 2019, Magellan announced they would decommission the 1,100-mile pipeline



Chennai, India (2023)

- Release from 8-inch diameter flexible high-density-polyethylene ammonia pipeline running underwater from fertilizer plant at port near Chennai
- During pipeline pre-cooling process, pressure drop recorded in pipeline and gas bubbles observed 2 feet from shore
- Release occurred at night and cloud passed through nearby fishing village
- 52 people hospitalised



Residents from Periyakuppam fishing hamlet staging demonstration in front of Coramandel International Limited, Ennore on December 27, 2023 | Photo Credit: B. Jothi Ramalingam

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/chennai/many-hospitalised-as-ammonia-gas-leaks-out-at-an-industrial-unit-in-tamil-nadus-ennore/article67678852.ece>

Recent RIVM research

Effect Modelling of Ammonia Pipeline Ruptures

Elin Bloem¹, Yannick Geertzema¹

¹Dutch National Institute for Public Health and the Environment

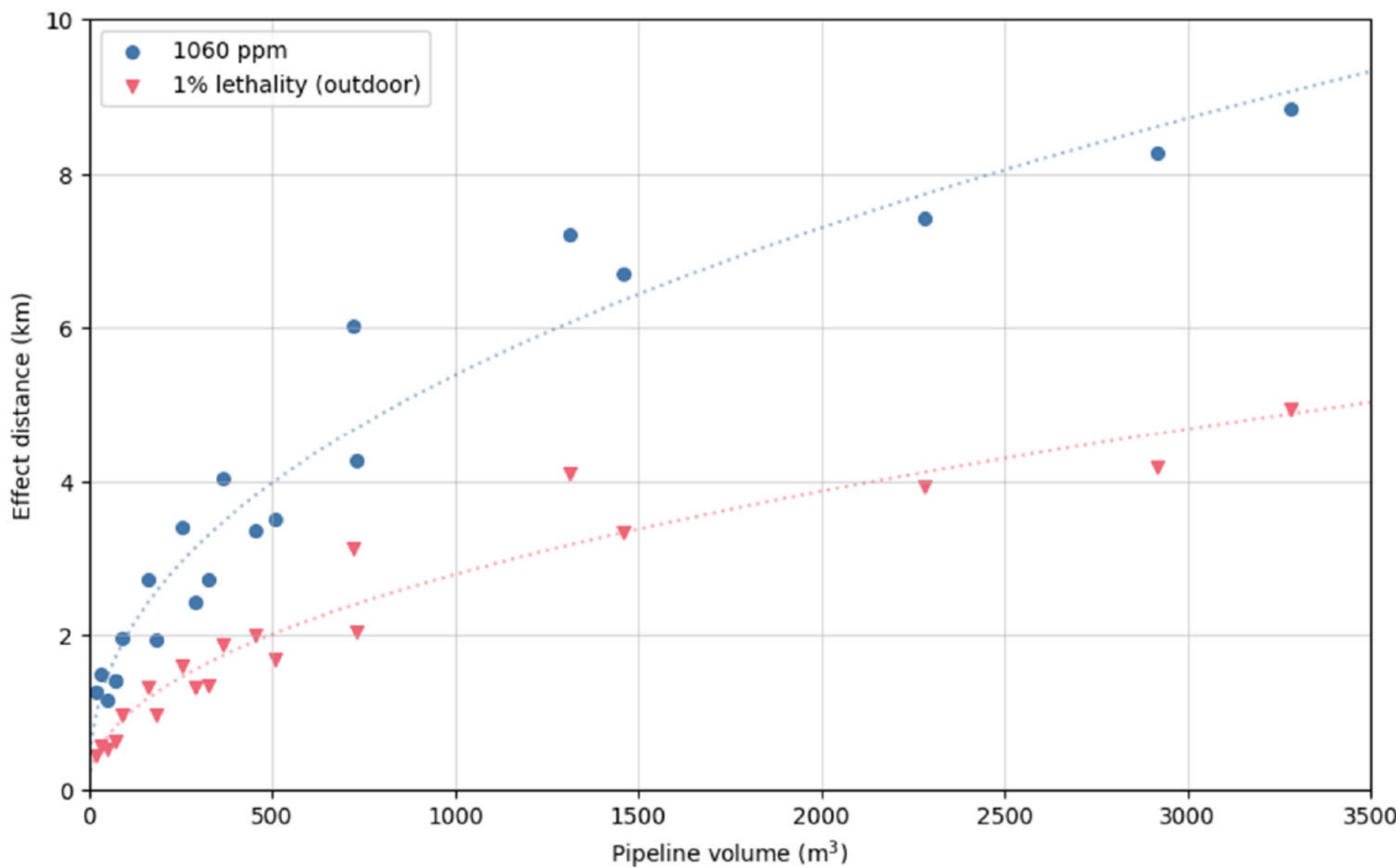


Elin Bloem
elin.bloem@rivm.nl

Table 2: Parameters of the rupture scenario modelling

| Parameter | Value |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Material | Ammonia |
| Diameters | 6, 8, 10, 12, 24, 30, and 36 inch |
| Length | 50 km |
| Segment lengths | 1, 5, and 10 km |
| Weather | F1.5, Soesterberg |
| Temperature | 10 °C |
| Pressure | 100 bar |
| Pipeline surrounding | Buried |
| Soil cover | 1.75 meter |
| Valve closing time | 65 seconds |
| Scenario duration | 1800 seconds |

Figure 1: Relation between pipeline volume and effect distances. The dotted lines are to guide the eye. For legibility, the volumes for the 30" and 36" 10 km pipelines (4600 and 6600 m3) are not included in this graph.



Atmospheric dispersion of pressure-liquefied ammonia: results from the Jack Rabbit III model inter-comparison exercise on Desert Tortoise and FLADIS

Simon Gant¹, Joseph Chang², Rory Hetherington¹, Steven Hanna³, Gemma Tickle⁴, Tom Spicer⁵, Sun McMasters⁶, Shannon Fox⁶, Ron Meris⁷, Scott Bradley⁷, Sean Miner⁷, Matthew King⁷, Steven Simpson⁷, Thomas Mazzola⁸, Alison McGillivray¹, Harvey Tucker¹, Oscar Björnham⁹, Bertrand Carissimo¹⁰, Luciano Fabbri¹¹, Maureen Wood¹¹, Karim Habib¹², Mike Harper¹³, Frank Hart¹³, Thomas Vik¹⁴, Anders Helgeland¹⁴, Joel Howard¹⁵, Lorenzo Mauri¹⁶, Shona Mackie¹⁶, Andreas Mack¹⁶, Jean-Marc Lacome¹⁷, Stephen Puttick¹⁸, Adeel Ibrahim¹⁸, Derek Miller¹⁹, Seshu Dharmavaram¹⁹, Amy Shen¹⁹, Alyssa Cunningham²⁰, Desiree Beverly²⁰, Daniel M. O'Neal²⁰, Laurent Verdier²¹, Stéphane Burkhart²¹, Chris Dixon²², Sandra Nilsen²³, Robert Bradley²⁴, Hans L. Skarsvåg²⁵, Eirik H. Fyhn²⁵ and Ailo Aasen²⁵

¹ Health and Safety Executive (HSE), Buxton, Derbyshire and Bootle, Merseyside, UK

² RAND Corporation, Arlington, Virginia, USA

³ Hanna Consultants, Inc., Kennebunkport, Maine, USA

⁴ GT Science and Software, Waverton, Cheshire, UK

⁵ University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Arkansas, USA

⁶ Chemical Security Analysis Center (CSAC), Science and Technology Directorate (S&T), Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland, USA

⁷ Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA), Fort Belvoir, Virginia and Albuquerque, New Mexico, USA

⁸ Systems Planning and Analysis, Inc. (SPA), Alexandria, Virginia, USA

⁹ Swedish Defence Research Agency (FOI), Umeå, Sweden

¹⁰ EDF and École des Ponts ParisTech, Paris, France

¹¹ European Joint Research Centre (JRC), Ispra, Italy

¹² Bundesanstalt für Materialforschung und -prüfung (BAM), Berlin, Germany

¹³ DNV Digital Solutions, Stockport, UK and Trondheim, Norway

¹⁴ Norwegian Defence Research Establishment (FFI), Kjeller, Norway

¹⁵ Defence Science and Technology Laboratory (DSTL), Porton Down, UK

¹⁶ Gexcon, Bergen, Norway and Driebergen-Rijsenburg, Netherlands

¹⁷ Institut National de l'Environnement Industriel et des Risques (INERIS), Verneuil-en-Halatte, France

¹⁸ Syngenta, Huddersfield, Yorkshire, UK

¹⁹ Air Products, Allentown, Pennsylvania, USA

²⁰ Naval Surface Warfare Center Indian Head Division (NSWC IHD), Indian Head, Maryland, USA

²¹ Direction Générale de l'Armement (DGA), Paris, France

²² Shell, London, UK

²³ Equinor, Norway

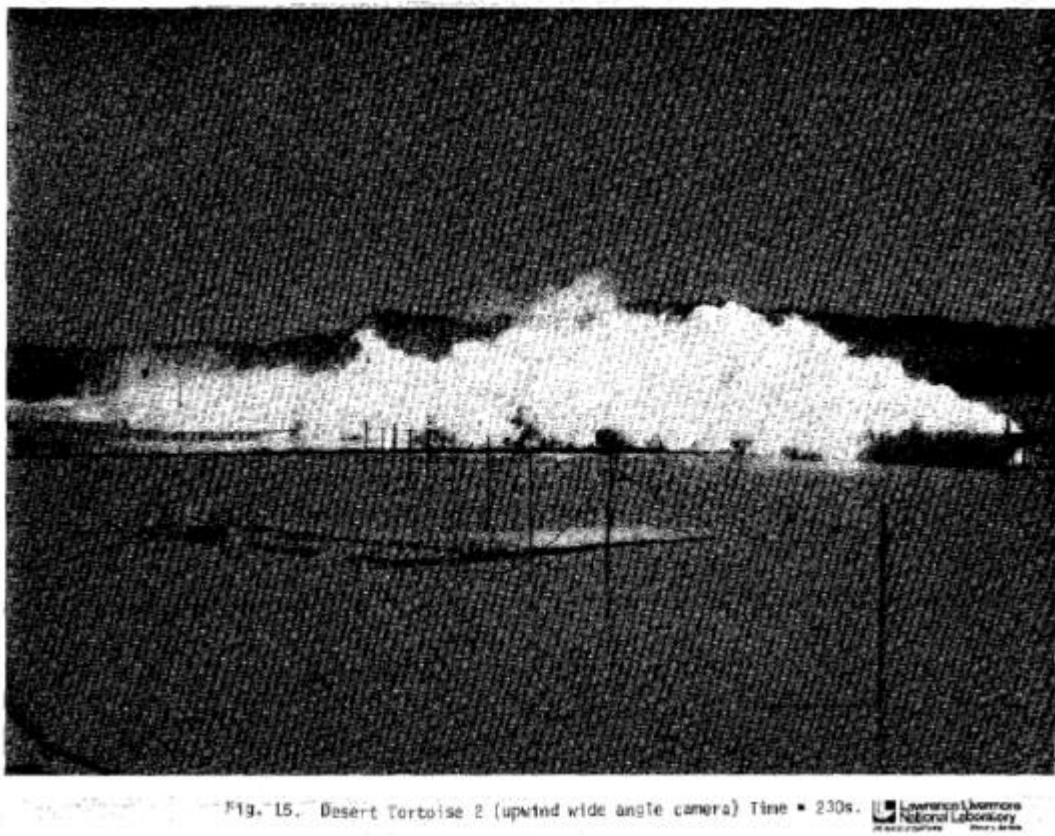
²⁴ Emergency Management (EM) Solutions, USA

²⁵ SINTEF Energy Research, Trondheim, Norway

Jack Rabbit III ammonia dispersion modelling exercise

| # | Organisation | Model | Model Type | | | | Desert Tortoise | | | FLADIS | | |
|----|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|------------|---|---|---|-----------------|---|---|--------|----|----|
| | | | A | B | C | D | 1 | 2 | 4 | 9 | 16 | 24 |
| 1 | Air Products, USA | Ventjet | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2 | BAM, Germany | AUSTAL | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3 | | VDI | | | | | | | | | | |
| 4 | CEREA (EDF/Ecole des Ponts), France | Code-Saturne v7.0 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 5 | | Crunch v3.1 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 6 | DGA, France | PHAST v8.6 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 7 | | Code-Saturne v6.0 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 8 | DNV, UK | PHAST v8.61 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 9 | DSTL, UK | HPAC v6.5 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 10 | DTRA, ABQ, USA | HPAC v6.7 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 11 | EM Solutions, Inc., USA | ALOHA v5.4.7 Gaussian | | | | | | | | | | |
| 12 | | ALOHA v5.4.7 Integral | | | | | | | | | | |
| 13 | Equinor, Norway | PHAST v8.6 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 14 | FFI, Norway | ARGOS v9.10 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 15 | FOI, Sweden | PUMA | | | | | | | | | | |
| 16 | Gexcon, Netherlands | EFFECTS v11.4 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 17 | Gexcon, Norway | FLACS | | | | | | | | | | |
| 18 | GT Science & Software | DRIFT v3.7.19 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 19 | Hanna Consultants, USA | Britter & McQuaid WB | | | | | | | | | | |
| 20 | | Gaussian plume model | | | | | | | | | | |
| 21 | HSE, UK | DRIFT v3.7.19 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 22 | | PHAST v8.4 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 23 | INERIS, France | FDS v6.7 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 24 | JRC, Italy | ADAM v3.0 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 25 | NSWC, USA | RAILCAR-ALOHA | | | | | | | | | | |
| 26 | Shell, UK | FRED 2022 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 27 | SINTEF, Norway | OpenFOAM v2206 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 28 | Syngenta, UK | PHAST v8.61 | | | | | | | | | | |

Note: Model Type: A = Empirically-based nomograms/Gaussian plume model; B = Integral model; C = Gaussian puff/Lagrangian model; D = CFD. Shading in the right six columns indicates model was run for that trial. See Glossary for the full names of the organisations and models.

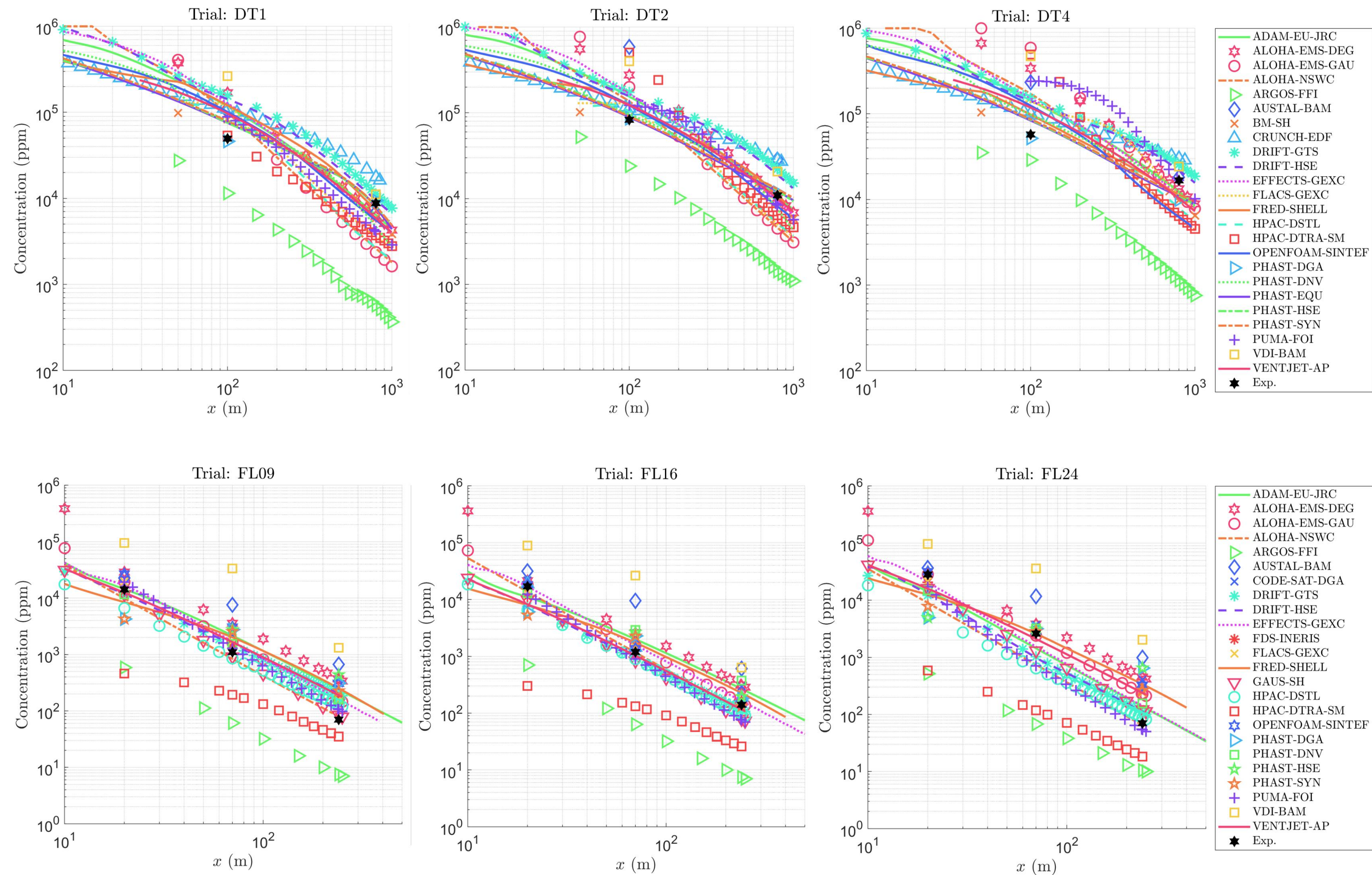


Desert Tortoise ammonia release, Nevada, USA, 1983



FLADIS ammonia release, Sweden, 1993-1994

Jack Rabbit III ammonia dispersion modelling exercise



EU/OECD Joint Research Centre: hydrogen risks webinars

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| Moderator: Maureen Wood, EC-JRC-MAHB | | Co-Moderator: Marie-Ange Baucher, OECD |
| 09:00 Introductory Session | | |
| Welcome to the Webinar | | Maureen Wood, EC-JRC and Eeva Leinala, OECD |
| Introduction to the Programme | | Maureen Wood, EC-JRC |
| Session 1 | | |
| 09:05 | Need for closer cooperation between policy, industry and safety experts on ammonia and other hydrogen fuels | Ruta Baltause, EC DG ENER |
| Discussion: If you would like to ask a question or comment, please use the Webex chat. Presenters should ideally plan for 20-25 minute presentations leaving time for discussion | | |
| Session 2 | | |
| 09:50 | Ammonia risks in the hydrogen fuel context | Lorenzo Van Wijk, EC-JRC-MAHB |
| 10:00 | Safe Ammonia handling – Challenges & Opportunities | Laurent Ruhlmann, Yara |
| 10:20 | Design principles for NH3 Fully Refrigerated Large Quantity Storage | Michel J Ruttens, Advario |
| 10:40 | PGS 12 Ammonia, New BAT document on ammonia storage in the Netherlands, Part 1 | Jochem Langeveld, DCMR Environmental Service Rijnmond |

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| WEBINAR | | |
| EU Technical Working Group for Seveso Inspections (TWG 2) and OECD Working Party on Chemical Accidents | | |
| Hydrogen Fuel Risks Webinar Part 4 | | |
| Organised by the EC-Joint Research Centre with the TWG 2 and OECD | | |
| 11 March 2025, 09:00– 13:30 CEST | | |
| 11:10 | PGS 12 Ammonia, New BAT document on ammonia storage in the Netherlands, Part 2 | Jochem Langeveld, DCMR Environmental Service Rijnmond |
| 11:20 | Challenges and risks of ammonia storage in confined and geographically remote industrial precincts – an Australian perspective | Dannae Campbell, WorkSafe Paul Newell, WorkSafe, Queensland Steve Emery, WorkSafe, Western Australia |
| Discussion: If you would like to ask a question or comment, please use the Webex chat. Presenters should ideally plan for 20-25 minute presentations leaving time for discussion | | |
| Session 3 | | |
| 12:00 | Decarbonized but Not De-Risked: The Case of Green Ammonia | Paolo Mocellin, University of Padua |
| 12:20 | Summary of research activities on ammonia safety at HSE | Simon Gant, Health and Safety Executive, UK |
| 12:40 | Fog formation and water-ammonia interactions: key physical mechanisms affecting ammonia risks | Hans Langva Skarsvåg, SINTEF, Norway |

https://minerva.jrc.ec.europa.eu/EN/content/minerva/a065e0e1-9122-11ef-989f-0050563f0167/euoced_hydrogen_fuel_risks_webinar_series

FABIG conference, London, 13-14 May 2025

Several ammonia presentations

- Challenges when designing and assessing the risks of ammonia plants Stian Bratsberg - Vysus Group
- Ammonia pipeline release modelling Paul Williamson - Thornton Tomasetti
- Bridging analytical models and CFD: Advancing ammonia spill dispersion predictions Filippo De Rosa - Monaco Engineering Solutions



Thank you

Any questions?

simon.gant@hse.gov.uk

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- To review HSE areas of research interest, search here: <https://ari.org.uk/> or <https://int.octopus.ac/>