

# Dust Definitions

## Combustible dust

Any material made of finely divided solid particles that have the ability to disperse in air and catch fire and/or explode when exposed to an ignition source.

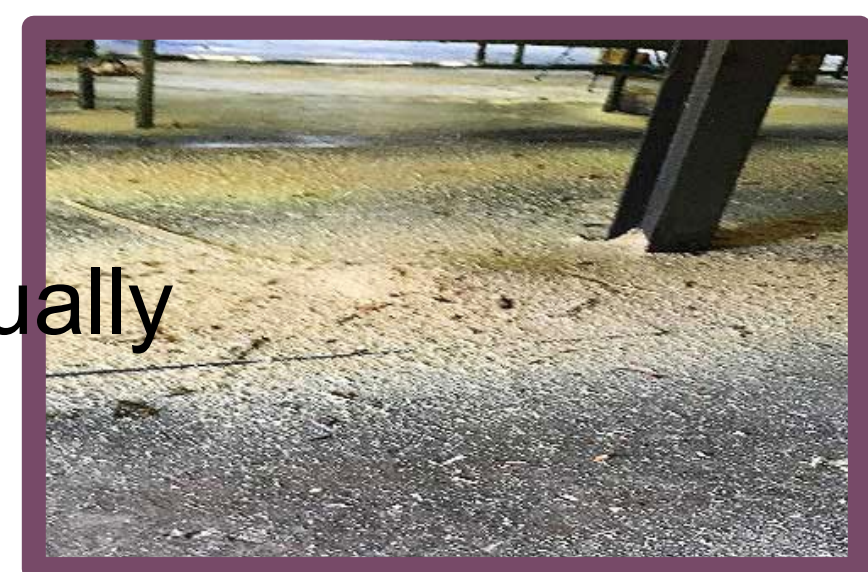


## Deflagration

A type of combustion that spreads through heat and sparks. When the fuel is dispersed dust, the spread happens so quickly that it creates extreme pressure which can blow out walls and destroy structures.

## Primary dust

Dust found on floors and surfaces near or below the dust producing or waste handling equipment. Primary dust is usually larger in size and has a higher moisture content.



## Secondary dust

Finer, drier dust that is broadly dispersed and settles away from the points where it's produced or released. Secondary dust that accumulates more than 1/8" or over more than 5% of a work area is a fire or explosion hazard.

## Primary explosion

The first explosion to occur when dust is ignited.

## Secondary explosion

A primary explosion may dislodge other accumulated dust, which could become airborne and ignite. A secondary explosion is often more destructive than the primary explosion.

