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## **Boiler Explosion in Italian Paper Mill**

### **Brief Description**

On 25 November, 2011 a Boiler exploded at Cardboard producer Cartiera Cama in Lallio near Bergamo Italy. The blast occurred early in the morning killing one person and cutting steam and electricity supply to the board machine.

Although there were nine (9) other operators working in the mill at the time, no one was injured. Parts of the mill were completely destroyed and debris projected across a large area including into the car park and surrounding houses. A 2 tonne piece of metal broke through the roof of one home landing in the kitchen.

Although details of the incident are sketchy it is believed that it was a 1 HTF diathermic oil Boiler, producing six (6) to seven (7) tonnes per hour of steam. It appears that a steam overpressure explosion occurred in the steam generator.

The subsequent fire was controlled by the external Fire Brigade.

A series of dramatic images from the local media are attached for your information.

### **CPI Member Recommendations**

HSE has recently issued guidance on the risks and regulatory requirements for the operation of steam boilers *INDG 346 – ‘Safe management of industrial steam and hot water boilers’*.

It sets out the general principles of boiler safety for people with limited technical knowledge of boilers, such as owners, managers and supervisors, who do not have access to industry guidance.

As the manager of a workplace, there is a duty to manage the risks associated with that workplace. If there is a boiler installation on your premises, you must ensure it remains safe.

Members are advised to purchase or download a free copy of guidance and review their own operating procedures against this information.

Further information and a free download of the guidance visit <http://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/indg436.pdf>