

January 2024 – EMEA Loss Report

The LEARISK LOSS REPORT is a monthly news clipping designed to keep professionals in the insurance community informed about relevant claims in the EMEA (Europe, the Middle East, and Africa) region. A comprehensive understanding of losses and their circumstances is crucial for those interested in risk analysis and policy underwriting. It is important to note that since this data is sourced externally, the report does not represent the opinion of LEARISK, and we cannot assure the technical accuracy of the descriptions within the articles.

LEARISK also publishes a monthly loss report focused on LATAM (in Spanish). Subscribe to receive LEARISK Loss reports and our Seminar Program [HERE](#)

LOSSES IN EMEA REGION

GUINEA
SEYCHELLES
SOUTH AFRICA
SPAIN
UNITED KINGDOM

OTHER RELEVANT LOSSES (NA/LATAM/APAC)

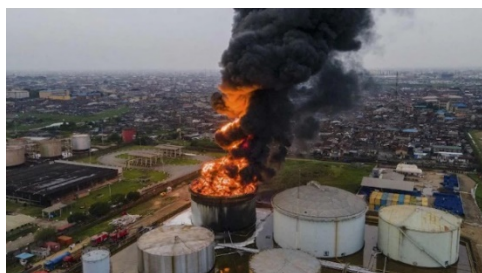
AUSTRALIA
CHINA
COLOMBIA
INDIA
INDONESIA
MEXICO
UNITED STATES

LOSSES IN EMEA REGION

GUINEA

20/12/2023 – Fire and/or Explosion

EXPLOSION OF A FUEL TANK IN THE CAPITAL OF GUINEA



A sudden and strong explosion in a fuel tank in Conakry, the capital of Guinea, triggered a large fire in the area. At least four people were confirmed dead as a result of the incident in the Kaloum district, in the center of the capital. At the moment there are no details on the causes of the explosion at the Guinean Petroleum Company depot in Kaloum, where the central government headquarters, the Presidential Palace, the National Assembly, and numerous ministries, embassies, banks and residential areas are located. "Kaloum is burning. The port area is completely barricaded by the police, and firefighters rush to the scene of the disaster. Electricity is completely cut off in the area." The fire affected several offices and buildings in the area, which was covered in dense smoke that forced residents to flee their homes.

Source: [Powder Bulk Solids](#)

SEYCHELLES

7/12/2023 – Fire and/or Explosion

AT LEAST 66 INJURED IN AN EXPLOSION AT AN EXPLOSIVES WAREHOUSE IN SEYCHELLES



The explosion occurred in the CCCL explosives warehouse in the Providence industrial estate on Mahé, the largest island in this tourist archipelago in the Indian Ocean and where the capital, Victoria, is located, which is home to the majority of the country's population. "Over the last ten years there have been major concerns about the storage of explosives at CCCL," the president admitted at a press conference in Victoria. "Four containers of explosives exploded and an assessment is being

carried out right now. The damage is enormous and many families have abandoned their homes for safety reasons." The international airport also suffered damage, despite being about four kilometers away, although it remains operational. Likewise, heavy rain last night caused serious flooding and landslides on the island, resulting in the deaths of at least three people. The explosion and rainfall pushed the Government to declare a state of emergency on Thursday morning, which lasted a few hours, to allow emergency services to carry out essential work.

Source: [Euronews](#)

SOUTH AFRICA

18/12/2023 – Fire and/or Explosion

MASSIVE BLAZE AT DURBAN WAREHOUSE



A fire erupted at a warehouse in Durban's Sea Cow Lake on Monday afternoon. "Reports from the scene are that a semi-factory used for storage of retail goods caught fire. The fire spread to the adjacent offices before members of eThekweni Fire and Rescue Services managed to contain the blaze". No injuries were reported. "The roadway was closed to allow fire services access to the area, and traffic was severely affected. Smoke could be seen across the greater north Durban skyline".

Source: [IOL](#)

27/12/2023 – Flood

SOUTH AFRICA FLASH FLOODS KILL SIX WITH PEOPLE STILL MISSING



On Christmas Eve the city of Ladysmith to the north-east of Lesotho experienced flash flooding after a sudden deluge during the evening. There was significant damage to infrastructure in the area, with one house and several vehicles swept away. Three vehicles were travelling on a major highway at the time and were washed away when a nearby river burst its banks, with water then flowing on to the road. One of these was a minibus carrying nine people, three of whom were later found dead inside, while the other six remain missing. In total, six deaths have so far been confirmed because of the floods, with search and rescue teams currently searching for 10 more people.

Source: [The Guardian](#)

SPAIN

14/12/2023 – Fire and/or Explosion

A FIRE IN TORRESPAÑA AFFECTED RTVE BROADCASTS



Spanish Radio Television (RTVE) reported early this Thursday of a fire in Torrespaña, popularly known as Pirulí in Madrid. It has affected the correct broadcast on La 1, La 2, Canal 24 Horas and Radio Nacional de España (RNE), for which he has apologized to viewers. Torrespaña is located at the confluence of O'Donnell Street with Sainz de Baranda Street and close to the M-30. It is 232 meters high, making it the third tallest telecommunications tower in Spain. 'El Pirulí' is not only an iconic figure in the Spanish capital, but also a fundamental pillar in the broadcasting and telecommunications infrastructure in Spain.

Its main function is to support the equipment necessary for the transmission of radio and television signals, hosting equipment from several national and international operators.

Source: [Gearrice](#)

14/12/2023 – Cyber attack

CYBERATTACK IN REUS MOBILITY



Reus City Council has reported that Reus Movilidad y Servicios and Reus Transport were victims of a cyber attack, detected last Saturday, December 9, already in the control phase. The IT services would have identified intrusion into the information systems of both municipal companies. The incident could have led to the theft of personal data of workers, clients and suppliers, such as names and surnames, telephone number, ID, email, vehicle license plates and bank details. Credit card data would not have been affected. In addition, the impact caused incidents for a few hours in the APARCAR application and at the entrances and exits of the municipal parking network.

Source: [Tarragona Digital](#)

17/12/2023 – Collapses, Impacts and other accidents

THE COLLISION OF TWO TRAINS IN ÁLORA (MÁLAGA) LEAVES 13 INJURED



Thirteen people have been slightly injured after the collision of two passenger trains in the Malaga municipality of Álora. The crash happened after half past nine last Saturday night at the El Chorro station. Telephone 112 received numerous calls reporting a collision between two medium-distance trains that covered the Seville-Málaga and Málaga-Seville lines. The thirteen people suffered minor injuries and were treated by health services, and two of them were transferred to the Valle del Guadalhorce hospital. The accident did not have more

serious consequences, because only the last car of one of the trains, in which there were no passengers, derailed and partially overturned.

Source: [Euro Weekly News](#)

UNITED KINGDOM

28/12/2023 – Nature Risks

MANY LEFT WITHOUT POWER AS STORM GERRIT DAMAGE HOUSES IN UK



The storm brought with it high winds, snow, and rain that caused damage to houses, infrastructure, and transportation. Scotland and parts of northern England were the most affected areas, with canceled trains, structural damage to homes, and widespread power outages. Work crews battled wind speeds reaching 80 miles per hour along the Scottish coast, grappling with the aftermath of fallen branches and debris that disrupted utility lines, leaving around 14,000 homes in the dark. In northwest England, specifically Manchester, police responded to numerous

reports of homes ravaged by what was described as a brief "localized tornado" late Wednesday. The impact was severe, prompting the evacuation of approximately 100 properties. Greater Manchester Police declared a major incident due to the extensive damage, emphasizing the potential risk to public safety, although no injuries were reported. At Heathrow Airport, the primary travel hub for the U.K., 18 flights were canceled on Wednesday due to air traffic control restrictions on domestic routes.

Source: [Economic Times](#)

OTHER RELEVANT LOSSES (NA/LATAM/APAC)

AUSTRALIA

11/12/2023 – Fire and/or Explosion

BODY OF WORKER FOUND AFTER FIRE ENGULFED PAINT FACTORY IN MELBOURNE



An explosion and resulting fire occurred at a paint factory in Dandenong South in Melbourne, Australia, Friday afternoon. Four people were rushed to the hospital, including two firefighters and two workers, after the paint factory caught fire. Another worker remained missing as of Sunday morning. Strong winds along with excessive black smoke prompted authorities to issue a watch and act alert for residents living in the area. Police believe people at the factory were

unloading a delivery of solvents and chemicals when the blast triggered a massive blaze. The fire engulfed the premises and three workers were close to the delivery when it was being unloaded. Victoria Police later on Sunday confirmed officers recovered a person's body at the scene.

Source: [Powder Bulk Solids](#)

CHINA

19/12/2023 – Nature Risks

MORE THAN A HUNDRED DEAD IN AN EARTHQUAKE IN NORTHWEST CHINA



Rescuers search for survivors this Tuesday among the rubble of buildings that collapsed after a powerful earthquake in the middle of the night that left at least 118 dead in northwest China. The earthquake occurred about 1,300 kilometers southwest of Beijing, in Gansu province. Local authorities in Gansu province reported at least 105 dead and around 400 injured. In the neighboring province of Qinghai, state television CCTV reported another 13 dead and 20 missing in the city of Haidong. The

earthquake damaged thousands of houses and forced residents to go outside in freezing temperatures. Outages to electricity and water services were reported in some villages, and videos posted on social media showed fallen roofs and debris in the streets.

Source: [Ap News](#)

COLOMBIA

19/12/2023 – Fire and/or Explosion

TWO EXPLOSIONS AND A LARGE FIRE LEAVE FOUR INJURED AT THE COCA COLA PLANT IN PASTO



On the night of Monday, December 18, two strong explosions were reported at the Coca Cola factory located near Mijitayo Avenue, in the east of Pasto (Nariño), where four people were injured (those affected were passers-by, who were passing by the place when the accident occurred). According to the first hypothesis used by the authorities, the serious accident would have been caused by the explosion after a gas leak from one of the cylinders used at the headquarters of the multinational soft drink company in that city in the southwest of the country.

Source: [Paudal](#)

INDIA

27/12/2023 – Fire and/or Explosion

FIRE REPORTED AT INDIAN OIL PLANT IN CHENNAI



One person was killed while another was reported injured after an explosion at an Indian Oil Corporation plant in southern India's Chennai city. The facility is located at Chennai's Todiarpur area. A Fire and Rescue Services official cited by The Indian Express said that the incident took place when workers were engaged in completing tasks like welding "in an ethanol storage tank" after it was emptied. A worker, who is said to be a welder, died on the spot, whereas another worker was severely injured.

Source: [Wio News](#)

30/12/2023 – Fire and/or Explosion

MASSIVE FIRE ENGULFS MATTRESS FACTORY IN JAMMU'S GANGYAL



A massive fire broke out at a mattress factory in Jammu's Gangyal area on Saturday afternoon. According to reports, a major eruption at the Nindiya mattress factory in industrial area of Gangyal in Jammu district and soon engulfed the entire building in towering flames. Some factory employees blamed the "late response" by the Jammu and Kashmir Police and fire and emergency services personnel for the spread of the fire. They alleged that the firefighters arrived at the scene at around 2:30 PM and fire truck had no water following which they had to wait for another vehicle to arrive to start dousing the flames, which by then had spread to the entire premises.

Source: [India.com](#)

31/12/2023 – Fire and/or Explosion

FIRE AT GLOVES FACTORY IN MAHARASHTRA



At least six workers died after a massive fire broke out in the wee hours of Sunday inside a hand glove manufacturing company in Maharashtra's Chhatrapati Sambhaji Nagar. Several others were left injured in the incident, they are currently undergoing treatment at a hospital. The blaze erupted around 02:15 am at the factory in Waluj MIDC area. Workers said that the company was closed, but 10-15 workers were sleeping inside the building when the fire broke out. Some managed to escape, but at least five were trapped inside," one of the workers said.

Source: [NDTV](#)

INDONESIA

27/12/2023 – Fire and/or Explosion

EXPLOSION AT A NICKEL PLANT IN INDONESIA LEAVES AT LEAST 13 DEAD AND 46 INJURED



At least 13 people were killed and 46 injured in eastern Indonesia on Sunday after an explosion at a Chinese-funded nickel-processing plant, an industrial park official said. The island of Sulawesi is a hub for the mineral-rich country's production of nickel, a base metal used for electric vehicle batteries and stainless steel. The accident occurred at a plant owned by PT Indonesia Tsingshan Stainless Steel in the Morowali Industrial Park in Central Sulawesi province. An initial investigation showed the explosion happened during repair work on

a furnace when a flammable liquid ignited and the subsequent blast caused nearby oxygen tanks to explode as well. The facility is operated by PT Gunbuster Nickel Industry (GNI), a local unit of China's Jiangsu Delong Nickel Industry. The confirmed number of fatalities is 13 people, consisting of nine Indonesian workers and four workers from China. Forty-six other people were injured, mostly due to exposure to hot steam.

Source: [The Guardian](#)

MEXICO

30/12/2023 – Fire and/or Explosion

CHEMICAL FACTORY CATCHES FIRE IN COLONIA FERROCARRIL



The events were reported in a chemical factory where paints are also produced, which is located on Calle 4 in the municipality of Guadalajara. In the factory, some drums and containers that had some chemicals were consumed, although due to the incident, acids and caustic soda were spilled on public roads, considered high risk for the population, so support from SIAPA staff. "The fire was extinguished first. Subsequently, we proceed with SIAPA personnel. Several dams were made to prevent this product

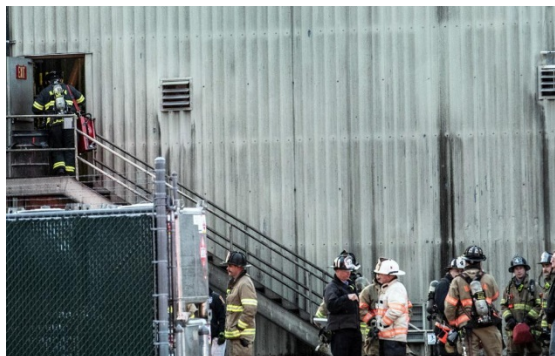
from entering the sewage network. The dikes are being cleaned." There were no people injured or poisoned by the fire or the chemical spill.

Source: [Informador MX](#)

UNITED STATES

1/12/2023 – Fire and/or Explosion

FIRE AT INDUSTRIAL ADHESIVES & COATINGS PLANT



Around 6:30 a.m., first responders began receiving multiple reports referencing an explosion and fire at Worthen Industries, an adhesives and coatings plant located in Nashua. One man was transported with burns to Southern New Hampshire Medical Center and was later taken by helicopter to a Boston hospital for further treatment. The chemical involved was Methyl Ethyl Keytone. This chemical is not under a national ban, though it is banned in Southern California, as well as in some states that have strict VOC laws.

Source: [Powder Bulk Solids](#)

18/12/2023 – Fire and/or Explosion

A FARM FIRE IN THE US KILLS ABOUT 200,000 CHICKENS

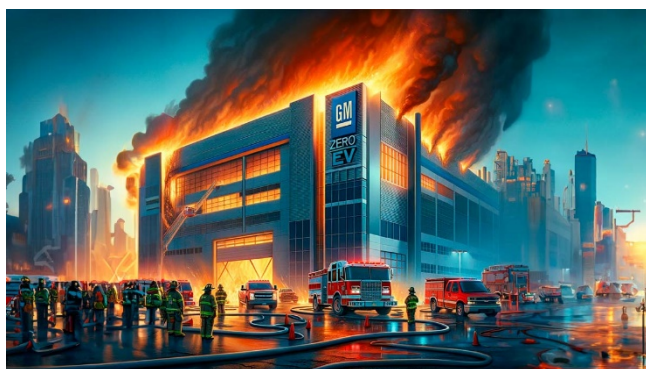


A fire in the municipality of Middletown, in the State of Delaware, in the United States, caused the death of approximately 200,000 chickens). The fire affected the farm of Puglisi Eggs Farm, an American producer and distributor of fresh eggs. Losses from the damage are estimated at 1 million dollars. The Delaware State Fire Department reported that the incident began with a brush fire, around 7 p.m., and then spread to both floors of the farm facility. eggs. According to authorities, no employees were injured and the cause of the fire remains under investigation.

Source: [NBC Philadelphia](#)

19/12/2023 – Fire and/or Explosion

FIRE AT GM ELECTRIC CAR FACTORY IN THE US INTERRUPTS PRODUCTION



A fire was reported at GM Factory Zero, the General Motors group's electric vehicle factory formerly known as GM Detroit-Hamtramck Assembly Plant (USA), on the night of December 19. The fire originated in a sizable stockpile of electric vehicle batteries or was significantly exacerbated because the batteries caught fire after a fire broke out in another area. The fire at GM Factory Zero is being classified as a "three-alarm fire call," indicating that three times the contingent of trucks, firefighters and firefighting

equipment than a standard fire was sent to the scene. Compounding the severity of the fire, "multiple" containers containing lithium-ion batteries for electric vehicles (components of GM's Ultium battery technology) burst into flames. No injuries or deaths have been reported. Electric vehicle production at the facility has been suspended. GM had planned to begin production of the GMC Sierra EV and Cadillac Escalade IQ at the facility in the near future, but that could be delayed.

Source: [Inside EVS](#)