EXPLOSION PROTECTION SOLUTIONS

INNOVATIVE,
RELIABLE,
PATENTED
EXPLOSION PROTECTION TECHNOLOGIES
Fike is the leader in delivering patented, innovative technologies to the explosion protection market. Effective management of dust and gas explosion risks requires an understanding of critical explosion characteristics. Determination and location of combustible atmospheres and potential ignition sources need to be identified. And explosion protection equipment must be properly designed and maintained to minimize catastrophic risks.

With over 65 years of field experience and a team of in-house engineers, application specialists and combustion researchers, Fike understands the complexities of processes, relevant code compliance and the critical nature of continued plant operation. The culmination of this expertise is Fike’s complete line of explosion protection products – technology designed to help you achieve your safety goals AND keep you in compliance with the quickly changing codes, standards and regulations associated with the explosion protection industry.

Fike’s Explosion Protection Technology

- EXPLOSION VENTING
- FLAMELESS VENTING
- EXPLOSION ISOLATION
- EXPLOSION SUPPRESSION
- TESTING SERVICES
- ENGINEERING EXPERTISE

The first step in hazard analysis is to effectively determine the combustible or explosive nature of the material. Fike provides testing in both small and large vessels, designed and constructed to provide accurate data that is scalable to industrial equipment.

Fike’s explosion protection includes venting, flameless venting, isolation and suppression … either separately or in combination.

Fike is capable of performing application and equipment tests, specifically designed for your unique industrial environment. From the development and completion of a test plan to full scale testing and design of the appropriate safety systems, you have the Fike experts working for you.

Hazard Analysis Testing and Support

Every application, process and facility is unique and requires a complete assessment to determine what needs to be protected and the most effective means for accomplishing the safety goals. Fike offers a wide range of both standard and non-standard explosibility tests designed to assist companies in identifying and mitigating costly explosion hazards — all completed at Fike’s own state-of-the-art testing laboratories.

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- Explosibility parameters of $P_{max}$ and $K_{st}$
- Explosibility limits of fuel, oxidant or ignition energy
- Performance at elevated temperatures and/or pressures to simulate customer operating conditions
- Large scale verification of mitigation technologies and designs.

Once characterized, the hazard can be managed through clear determination of the prevention and protection objectives, followed by selection and implementation of the appropriate technology. Fike’s explosion protection includes venting, flameless venting, isolation and suppression … either separately or in combination.

Staffed with highly trained technicians, engineers, and combustion scientists, Fike testing is conducted in accordance with ASTM and CEN standards.

Many industries in which combustible dusts or gases are handled risk the devastating effects of an explosion. The amount of heat liberated during an explosion creates extremely high pressures which can result in damaged process equipment, loss of production and serious injury to personnel. Leading insurance firms estimate the average direct costs of an explosion in the hundreds of thousands of dollars, with many unprotected explosions leveling plants, or even closing businesses.
Mitigation Decision Chart

There are numerous ways to mitigate the risks of explosions. Effective management of explosion risks requires an understanding of dust, gas and/or vapor characteristics, the nature of processes and operations, the potential for business interruptions, facility limitations, existing codes and standards and economic concerns.

EXPLOSIBILITY TESTING
Defines the explosibility parameters and limits of the material for explosion protection system design.

The results of the explosibility testing are required by Fike certified representatives to determine and design the appropriate level of protection.

EXPLOSION VENTING
Relieves pressure during an explosion to prevent catastrophic damage to the process equipment.

Used when the enclosure cannot withstand maximum explosion pressure and when it is safe to release process materials and flames into the atmosphere.

Care should be taken to ensure that the process equipment is vented to safe areas to prevent secondary explosions.

EXPLOSION SUPPRESSION
Quickly introduces a suppressant agent into the vessel (within milliseconds) to mitigate the combustion hazard before pressure reaches dangerous levels.

Used when the process materials cannot be safely released to the atmosphere, when the installation of vents is impractical or when venting exposes personnel to dangerous pressure and flame discharge.

EXPLOSION ISOLATION
Stops the deflagration from reaching other areas through interconnected process ducts or pipes.

Isolation is employed to compliment both venting and suppression explosion protection methods. A deflagration should always be prevented from propagating to other parts of the facility.

FLAMELESS VENTING
Used when the protected enclosure is indoors, where ducting is cost prohibitive or impossible, and/or when free-venting exposes personnel or other equipment to the dangers of a vented discharge.

FIKE TOTAL EXPLOSION PROTECTION SOLUTIONS
From testing and compliance expertise to the complete line of explosion protection solutions, Fike can help you choose the correct technology for your facility... and your budget.
Burning material produced in the initial stages of a deflagration are conveyed through any open connections (ducts, piping, chutes, conveyors) putting connected equipment and facilities at risk to secondary explosions. These secondary explosions often cause the most devastation. Regardless of the protection measures considered, explosions must be prevented from propagating to other locations within the plant.

Fike’s Explosion Isolation systems prevent the propagation of flame through the use of fast-acting valves and/or chemical barriers – effectively eliminating secondary explosions.

**MECHANICAL EXPLOSION ISOLATION**
involves the use of mechanical valves to provide a physical barrier, preventing propagation of an explosion. Depending on the application and/or protected process, Fike has several options and sizes available:

- **EIV (Explosion Isolation Valve)** Designed to close within milliseconds of detecting an explosion, Fike’s EIV prevents the spread of flames and pressure (in both directions), preventing an explosion from propagating. Fike EIVs are one of the fastest, most effective forms of explosion protection available.

- **EIPV (Explosion Isolation Pinch Valve)** The EIPV consists of a heavy duty cast valve body containing a rugged elastomeric sleeve. Upon explosion detection, compressed air is released and within milliseconds the sleeve is “pinched” to full closure, stopping the explosion from spreading beyond the valve. Used in conjunction with other Fike explosion protection components, the EIPV is an economical way to prevent deflagration propagation.

**CHEMICAL EXPLOSION ISOLATION** is achieved through a rapid discharge of a chemical explosion suppressant which prevents the flame from spreading to other areas of the process system.

An injection of a chemical extinguishing agent into the ductwork creates a barrier against flame propagation.

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Explosion Suppression

Fike explosion suppression systems are designed to detect and chemically suppress an explosion in its earliest stages, before an explosion can cause damage to the equipment or escalate into a catastrophic event. While unsuppressed explosion pressures can reach dangerous levels in less than 50 milliseconds, Fike suppression technology can detect and respond in one millisecond, averting a potential disaster. And since explosion suppression systems do not release flame or other particulates, it is a natural choice when toxic materials are being handled, equipment is located indoors, or venting could expose personnel to dangerous pressure/flame discharge.

Fike is the leader in suppressing all classes of dust, gas and hybrid explosion hazards. Fike’s innovative actuators release suppressant agents with remarkable speed and have a 10-year shelf life. Patented container and nozzle designs minimize flow restrictions, extinguishing the explosion faster and minimizing pressure build-up inside process equipment. The simple design of the suppression container has no moving parts or wear points, providing greater reliability over many years.

A Fike explosion suppression system offers many distinct advantages:
- Suppresses Class ST III dust explosion hazards - offering your business the highest level of industrial explosion protection.
- Patented dispersion nozzles provide full coverage and increase agent discharge velocity.
- The control circuit design provides continued service even if two of the wires become severed.

Options are available for a variety of agents and sanitary applications.

Detection and Control

To be effective, the detection, evaluation/control, and activation of any explosion protection system must be completed within milliseconds. Fike detection and control interfaces with our explosion suppression and isolation systems to provide one of the fastest, most comprehensive explosion protection systems available.

Though sophisticated, its modular design, small size, global compatibility and preconfigured setups make Fike detection and control both flexible and easy-to-use. Made up of five basic modules, it is easy to install and program. Let Fike help you select just one or a combination of modules, to create the explosion protection system that’s right for your application.

- **Explosion Protection Controller (EPC):** offers multiple hazard protection, activation pressure and status/event history
- **Power Supply Unit (PSU):** uninterruptible power supply for added safety and complete reliability
- **Annunciator Module (AM):** command/communication central with complete history retrieval function
- **Relay Card (RC8):** relays for process equipment interface, allowing the system to distinguish between critical and non-critical trouble conditions
- **Detectors:** detection that is virtually invulnerable to damage and false activation

Fike detection and control also features EPWorks™, the most technologically advanced software available in explosion protection – providing you with system status, pressure readings and pre/post system activation history in easily understandable graphs.

Detection and control is a vital element in Fike’s complete line of Explosion Protection Integrated Components.
FIKE COMMUNICATIONS

TYPICAL EQUIPMENT APPLICATIONS

Dust Collectors
Precipitators
Cyclones
Hoppers
Conveying Systems
Bucket Elevators
Blowers
Pumps
Pulverizers
Grinders
Dryers
Oxidizers
Polishers
Screeners
Mixers
Silos
Storage Bins/Tanks

FIKE GLOBAL MANUFACTURING, SALES AND SERVICE

AMERICAS
FIKE CORPORATION
Blue Springs, MO, USA
Tel: +1-816-229-3405
Email: industrialprotection@fike.com
FIKE CANADA
Burlington, Canada
Tel: +1-905-681-3100
Email: fikecanada@fike.com
FIKE LATINA LTD (MERCOSUR)
Jundiai, Brazil
Tel: +55-11-4525-5900
Email: vendas@fike.com.br
CARIBBEAN, CENTRAL, SOUTH AMERICA
Houston, TX, USA
Tel: +1-281-885-0756
Email: ccsasales@fike.com
ASIA
FIKE ASIA PACIFIC SDN BHD
Selancor Darul Ehsan, Malaysia
Tel: +60-3-7899-1462
Email: fkeap@fike.com
FIKE JAPAN
Tokyo, Japan
Tel: +81-335-951-291
Email: office@fikejapan.co.jp
FIKE INDIA PVT. LTD.
Pune, India
Tel: +91-20-2439-1947
Email: sameerp@pn2.vsnl.net.in
EUROPE
FIKE EUROPE
Herentals, Belgium
Tel: +32-14-210031
Email: fike-europe@fike.com
FIKE UNITED KINGDOM
Maidstone, Kent, United Kingdom
Tel: +44-1-622-677081
Email: sales@fike.co.uk
FIKE FRANCE
Cergy Pontoise Cedex, France
Tel: +33-1-30-31-31-32
Email: contact@fike.fr
FIKE ITALIA
Milano, Italy
Tel: +39-02-2962-4166
Email: webmaster@fike.it
FIKE IBERICA
Barcelona, Spain
Tel: +34-93-6000-800
Email: fike@fike.es
MIDDLE EAST
FIKE CORPORATION DUBAI
Dubai, UAE
Tel: +971 4 (0) 3664-55
Email: fike.dubai@fike.com

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