

# COMBUSTIBLE DUST MADE EASY

## I have a Dust Collector: What do I do?

### Start with these steps:

1. Identify the materials handled by the dust collector
2. Conduct a Go/No-Go Explosibility Screening Test and VDI 2263 test burning behavior to determine if the materials burn or are combustible
3. If the sample is a "Go" - Determine the  $K_{St}$  and  $P_{max}$  values with an Explosion Severity Test
4. If a low  $K_{St}$  value is generated ( $< 50 \text{ bar-m/s}$ ), perform a  $1 \text{ m}^3$  screening test to validate that the material is indeed combustible

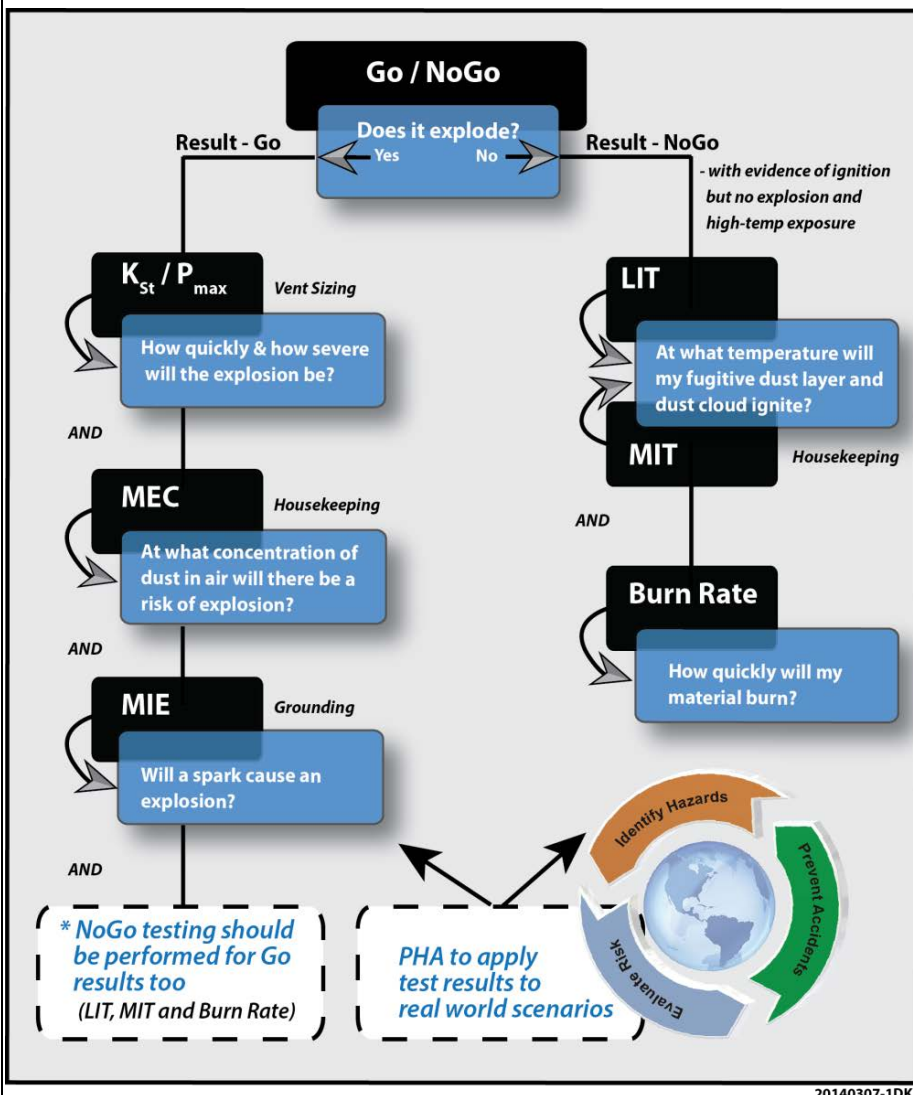


### What do these tests tell you?

The Go/No-Go test tells you if the sample is combustible in dust cloud form. The VDI 2263 burning behavior test tells you if the sample burns. The Explosion Severity Test ( $K_{St}$  and  $P_{max}$ ) quantify how energetic the explosion could be. Now that you know your  $K_{St}$  and  $P_{max}$  values, your service provider can incorporate the proper explosion protection equipment into the design for your dust collector.

### What are the next steps?

Once you KNOW you have a combustible dust, you need to make sure you're handling the material safely throughout the process – protecting your equipment is only *one* aspect of a sound combustible dust management program. A process hazard analysis (PHA) is an excellent tool that can be used to ensure that you've correctly identified the risks associated with combustible dusts in your facility, and limit the probability of occurrence. An example of tests that address the question of probability are listed in the flowchart on the left.



If you have questions – please  
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