

Controversies Air Liquide

- In July 2020, [a fire triggered an explosion](#) at an Air Liquide specialty gases plant in Douai, France.
- In June 2020, Airgas USA and Air Liquide Large Industries U.S., subsidiaries of Air Liquide, [were fined 257 000 USD](#) after the EPA found violations of the Clean Air Act and its Chemical Accident Prevention Provisions.
- In April 2020, Airgas USA, a subsidiary of Air Liquide, [settled with EPA](#) over a [fatal gas explosion](#) in La Porte, Texas that killed one employee and left another one with serious burn injuries in 2013, and will pay 257,000 USD. The incident was one of the most controversial in the history of the company. Its impact on the two workers and the inconclusive investigations by various agencies have been captured in this report by the [Houston Chronicle](#).
- In February 2020, a [fire broke out](#) at an Air Liquide synthesis gas plant in Oberhausen, Germany. Four persons were slightly injured in the fire.
- In November 2018, two unrelated but successive [fire incidents](#) were reported from Air Liquide's pharmaceutical lab in Bonneuil-sur-Marne, France and a syngas plant in Oberhausen, Germany. No injuries or deaths were reported.
- In July 2018, Air Liquide (UK) was issued a [243,000 USD court bill](#) for a work place safety incident that exposed its staff to dangerous vapours from bottles back in 2015. An investigation by the [Health and Safety Executive \(HSE\)](#) found that Air Liquide's emergency response team was not equipped to deal with the bottles' hazardous contents. Furthermore, it was stated that the work had not been supervised and that the company had failed to control the "very real" risk of explosion.
- In December 2017, a fire broke out at the [Air Liquide Fos-sur-Mer facility in France](#). It took 25 fire engines and 60 fire fighters to control the blaze.
- In April 2017, the US Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board (CSB) [presented its final report](#) on [the nitrous oxide explosion](#) that occurred in August 2016 at an Airgas facility in Cantonment, Florida. One person was killed in the incident and the explosion caused serious damage to the site.

- In July 2016, US department of Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) issued [fines](#) totalling [77,000 USD](#) for two safety violations at the steam methane reformer plant at the company's Corpus Christi, Texas facility.
- In May 2016, Air Liquide's subsidiary Airgas Doral, Inc. was [sentenced to a 4,300,000 USD criminal fine](#), two years organizational probation, with a special condition of a hazardous materials compliance program, including an independent monitor and periodic reporting, and was ordered to pay a total of 2,700,000 USD in restitution to the estates of the three stevedores who died from asphyxiation on May 20, 2008, as a result of their exposure to argon gas in the hold of a cargo vessel at Port Everglades.
- In May 2014, [a blaze caused explosions](#) at a compressed gas facility in Brampton, Canada. One employee was taken to hospital to be treated for burn injuries.
- Between 2011 and 2020, Air Liquide paid [more than 7.5 million USD in fines for 17 environmental violations](#), according to the violation tracker project of Good Jobs First.