



A major concern with respect to flammable, reactive, and explosive substances is their widespread industrial use. Actually, such materials are relatively safe inside of manufacturing plants and properly secured storage areas. The greater threat comes from their transport. This is illustrated by very frequent transportation accidents involving rail cars, trucks, barges, and pipelines that result in explosions, fires, and release of corrosive materials. Hijacking of trucks transporting hazardous materials and even trucks driven by terrorists are a particular concern. The practice of industrial ecology and green chemistry can help minimize such threats by, for example, promoting the production of hazardous substances in minimal quantities where needed and as needed. “Just-in-time” production minimizes storage of hazardous substances.

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