



USING THE O.R.E.O.S. TOOL FOR EXPLOSIVE HAZARD IDENTIFICATION

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PRESENTED AT THE SPRING MEETING OF THE PURDUE PROCESS SAFETY AND ASSURANCE CENTER

MAY 10, 2022

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DEFINITION OF EXPLOSIVE SUBSTANCE

"Explosive substance" is defined in 2.1.1.3 (a) of U.N. Model Regulations:

"Explosive substance is a solid or liquid substance (or a mixture of substances) which is in itself capable by chemical reaction of producing gas at such a temperature and pressure and at such a speed as to cause damage to the surroundings. Pyrotechnic substances are included even when they do not evolve gases"

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Recommendations on the

TRANSPORT OF DANGEROUS GOODS

Model Regulations

Volume I

Twenty-first revised edition

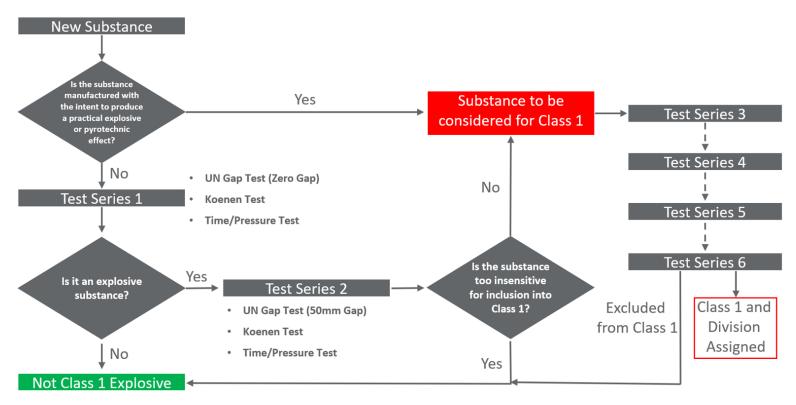


https://www.unece.org/trans/danger/publi/unrec/rev21/21files_e.html

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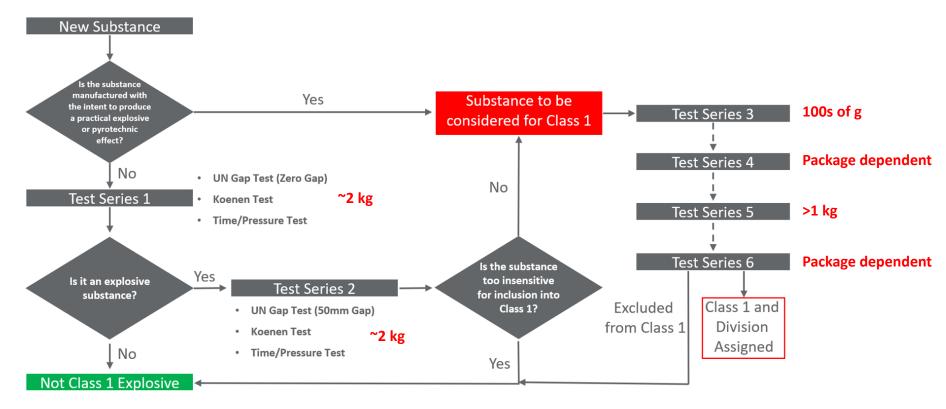


CLASSIFYING EXPLOSIVE SUBSTANCES



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CLASSIFYING EXPLOSIVE SUBSTANCES



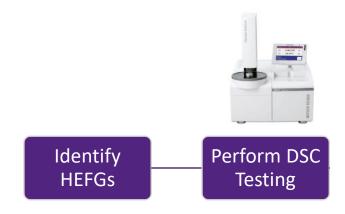
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DSC WORKFLOW AT VERTEX PHARMACEUTICALS

Identify HEFGs

High Energy Functional Groups (HEFG)

	All Substance	s Containing:	
$\overline{\prec}$	Acetylenic, metal acetylides, haloacetylene derivatives, allenes, etc.	\triangle	X= C,O,N. Cyclopropanes, epoxides, and azindines
Ĭ	X= O,N. Osetanes and azetidines	0	X- C.N. 1,3,5-triazines and pyrimidines
>-<	Hydrazines, hydrazones, etc		N-N double or triple bonds, i.e. pyridizines, aco, diazonium selts, azides, diazinies and other high ritrogen containing compounds like triazoles, triazones, tetrazoles, etc.
	O-O bonds, i.e. peroxides, peroxyacids and their salts, hydroperoxides, peroxyesters, etc.	—м—х	Halogen azides, N-halogen compounds, N- haloimides, etc.
—о—х	Alkyl perchlorates, aminium perchlorates, chlorite salts, halogen oxides, hypohalites, perchloryl compounds, etc. including bromates and lodates.	—N—0	N-O bonds, such as isozazoles, nibro, nibroso, hydroxylamines, nibrite, nibrate, fulminates, oximes, oximates, etc.
—к—и	Metal nitrides, amides, hydradides, imides, cyanamide, Main concern is the prophoric nature of the pure solid material. Dilute solutions of metal amides and substituted amides (i.e. LDA, LIHMDS) are generally acceptable depending on use and late of sevens marefuline.	н—и—х х—н—и	Non-catalytic use of haloary/metals, haloarenemetal pf-complexes. Note: Only Grignards of concern are halo- phum/ Grignards containing trifluoromethyl moisties.



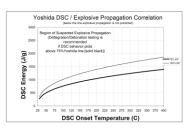
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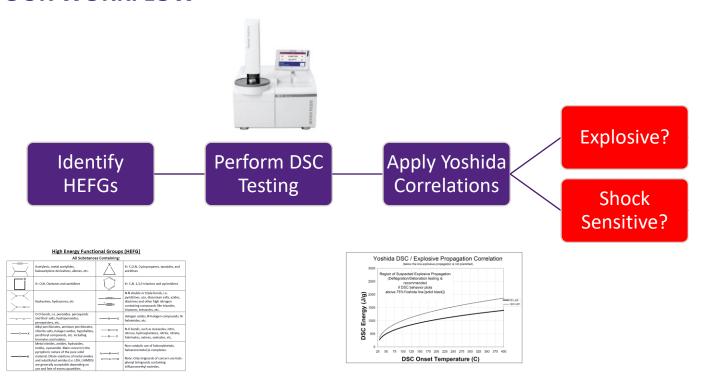


High Energy Functional Groups (HEFG)

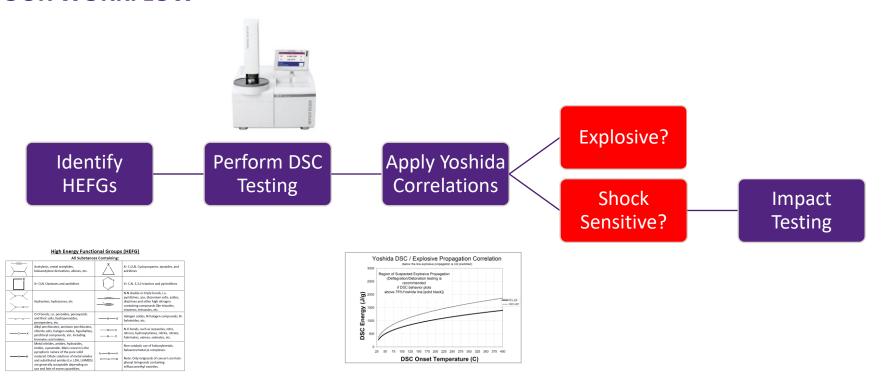
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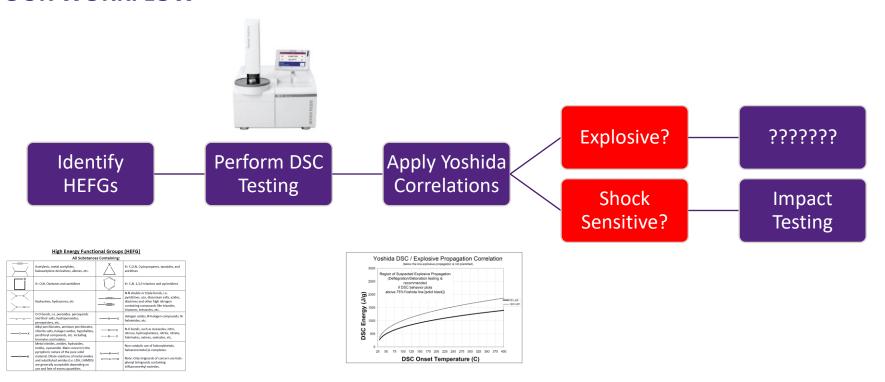
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EXPLOSIVITY SCREENING METHODOLOGIES

SCREENING METHODOLOGIES

- HEFG List
- Yoshida Correlation (Explosive Propagation)
- Oxygen Balance calculation
- "Rule of Six"
- Explosive Functional Group (ExFG) list

HEFG LIST

- A high-energy functional group (HEFG) is any functional group that is known to contribute to the exothermic decomposition of a molecule
- Compounds containing one or more HEFGs may be unsafe at any temperature
- The more HEFGs a compound has, the more exothermic its decomposition and the less stable

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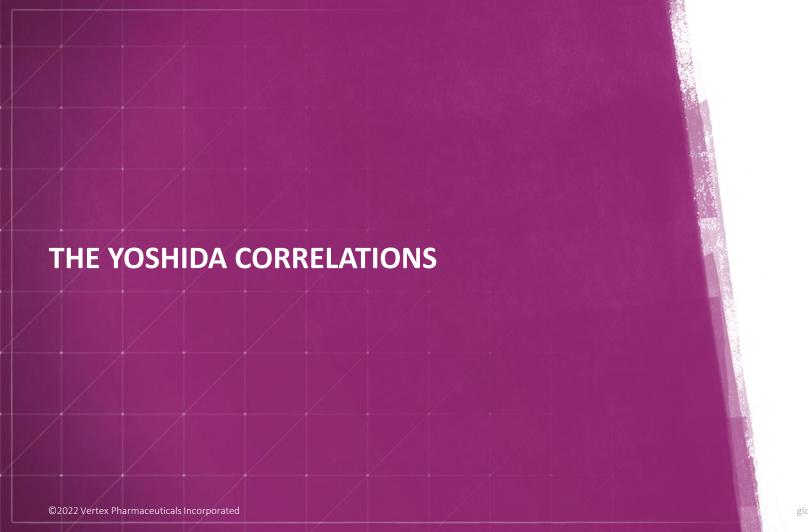
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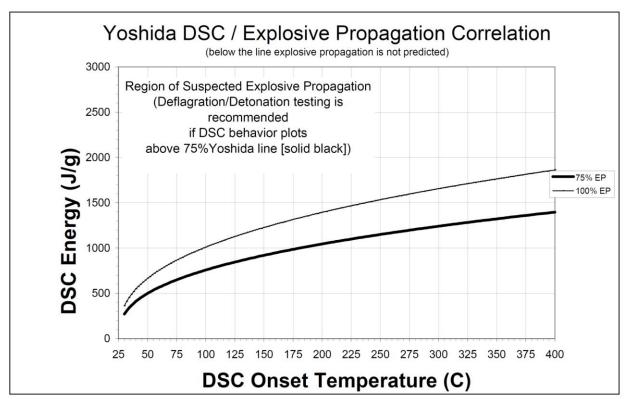
YOSHIDA CORRELATION FOR EXPLOSIVE PROPAGATION

• Mathematical equation used to predict explosive properties as a function of DSC onset temperature and the energy associated with any exothermic decompositions

$$EP = \log(Q_{DSC}) - 0.38[\log(T_{DSC} - 25)] - 1.67$$

 $Q_{\rm DSC}$ is the energy of the exotherm in cal/g, and $T_{\rm DSC}$ is the onset temperature of the exotherm in °C

YOSHIDA CORRELATION FOR EXPLOSIVE PROPAGATION



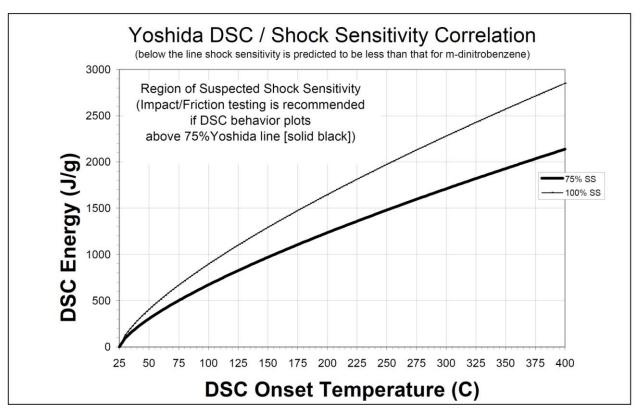
YOSHIDA CORRELATION FOR SHOCK SENSITIVITY

• Mathematical equation used to predict explosive properties as a function of DSC onset temperature and the energy associated with any exothermic decompositions

$$EP = \log(Q_{DSC}) - 0.72[\log(T_{DSC} - 25)] - 0.98$$

 $Q_{\rm DSC}$ is the energy of the exotherm in cal/g, and $T_{\rm DSC}$ is the onset temperature of the exotherm in °C

YOSHIDA CORRELATION FOR SHOCK SENSITIVITY





EXFG LIST

- An explosive functional group (ExFG) is a functional group that can give a molecule explosive properties
- Every ExFG is also an HEFG but not <u>all HEFGs are ExFGs</u>
- The more ExFGs a compound has, the more likely it is to be classified as an explosive material

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Structural Feature	Examples
C – C Unsaturation	Acetylene, acetylides, 1,2-dienes (allenes)
C-Metal, N-Metal	Grignard reagents, organo-lithium species
	Azides, aliphatic azo compounds, diazonium salts,
Contiguous nitrogen atoms	hydrazines, sulfonyl hydrazides
Contiguous oxygen atoms	Peroxides, ozonides
	Nitro, nitroso, nitrates, hydroxylamines, N-oxides,
N-O	1,2-oxazoles
	Chloramines, fluoroamines, chlorates,
N-halogen, O-halogen	perchlorates, iodosyl compounds

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https://pubs.acs.org/doi/pdf/10.1021/acs.oprd.0c00467



RULE OF SIX

Rule of 6

- Introduced by Peer in 1998
- Originally applied to azides but has since been applied to other materials containing explosive functional groups
- The "Rule of Six" states: If a substance presents at least six atoms of carbon (or other atoms of approximately the same size) per energetic functionality (ExFG), this should render the molecule relatively safe to handle

Peer, M. Spec. Chem. 1998, 18, 256 - 263.

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Rule of Six Pass or Fail?

If a substance presents at least six atoms of carbon (or other atoms of approximately the same size) per energetic functionality (ExFG), this should render the molecule relatively safe to handle

Rule of Six Pass or Fail?

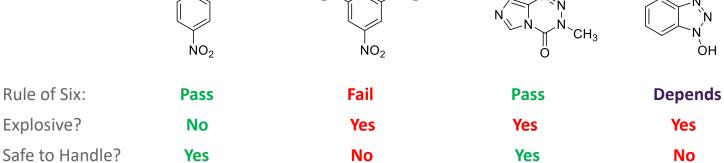
Rule of Six:

Explosive?

Safe to Handle?

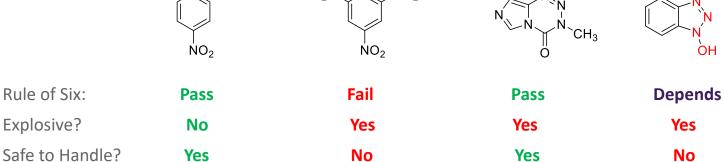
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Rule of Six Pass or Fail?

$$O_2N$$
 N
 NO_2

$$N$$
 N N N CH_3

Pass

Fail

Pass

Depends 1 ExFG = Pass; 2 ExFG = Fail

Explosive?

No

Yes

Yes

Yes

Safe to Handle?

Yes

No

Yes

No



OXYGEN BALANCE CALCULATION

Oxygen Balance: For an organic compound with a molecular formula of $C_XH_YO_Z$ and molecular weight (MW), the OB can be obtained by the following equation:

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Oxygen Balance =
$$\frac{\left[-1600\left(2X + \frac{Y}{2} - Z\right)\right]}{MW}$$

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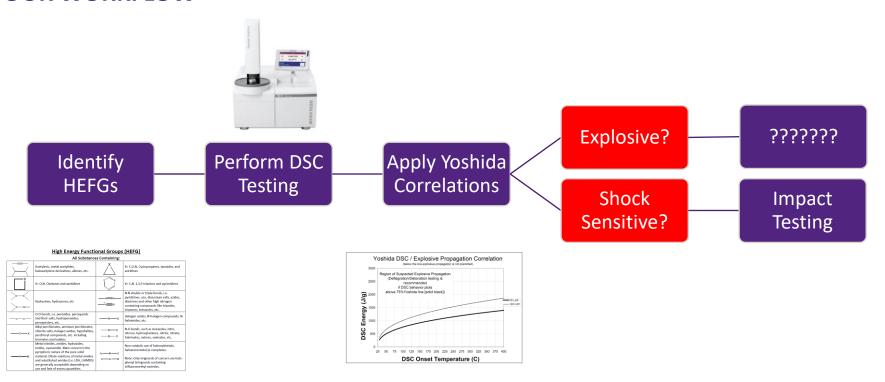


Shanley, E. S.; Melhem, G. A. Process Saf. Prog. 1995, 14, 29-31

OXYGEN BALANCE CALCULATION

Compound	Oxygen Balance	Oxygen Balance Hazard Rank	Observed Hazard Rank
Hydrogen Peroxide	47	High	Medium-High
Water	0	High	None
Oxalic Acid	-18	High	None
Hydrazoic acid	-19	High	High
Acetyl peroxide	-95	High	High
Diazomethane	-114	High	High
t-Butyl Peroxide	-252	Low	High
Ethylene	-286	Low	Medium
Acetylene	-308	Low	High

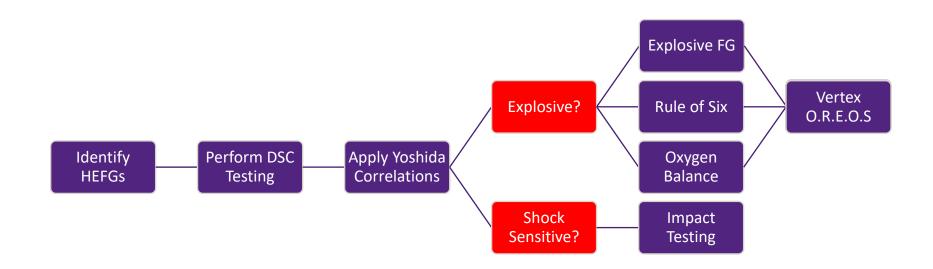
OUR WORKFLOW



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OUR WORKFLOW





O.R.E.O.S. TOOL

- Combine <u>o</u>xygen balance calculation, the "<u>R</u>ule of 6" and the <u>e</u>xplosive functional group list together and combined with a material's <u>o</u>nset temperature of decomposition and the proposed <u>s</u>cale
- O.R.E.O.S. is effective at combining the five variables into a single hazard category
- This tool aims to identify materials early in Discovery that could pose additional risk (rapid pressure events), before any large-scale chemistry is planned
- This tool is also fully customizable for any organization to align with the internal Environmental Health and Safety and/or Laboratory Safety guidance for handling energetic materials since both the "Onset Temperature" and "Scale" variables can be modified
- Only requires a 3-5mg sample for DSC analysis

O.R.E.O.S. TOOL

	Points					
	1	2	4	8		
Oxygen Balance Hazard		Low	Med	High		
Rule of 6 calculation		Pass		Fail		
Explosive Functional Group?	No			Yes		
Onset temperature	>300	200-300	125-200	<125		
Scale	1mg to 5g	5g to 100g	101g to 500g	>500g		
	O.R.E.O	.S. Total:				
			Medium			
		Low Hazard	Hazard	High Hazard		
	Points:	7 to 17	18 to 27	28 to 40		

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	O.R.E.O	.S. Total:						
	Medium Medium							
		Low Hazard	Hazard	High Hazard				
	Points:	7 to 17	18 to 27	28 to 40				

	Proceed using internal guidance on handling energetic compounds.
Low Hazard	• ARC testing <i>recommended</i> .
	-or-
	• Quantitative small-scale explosivity screening is <i>recommended</i>

Quantitative small-scale explosivity screening: mini-autoclave or ARC with high-speed pressure transducer

https://pubs.acs.org/doi/10.1021/acs.oprd.0c00467

		Points						
	1	1 2 4 8						
Oxygen Balance Hazard		Low	Med	High				
Rule of 6 calculation	Pass Fail							
Explosive Functional Group?	No Yes							
Onset temperature	Onset temperature >300 200-300 125-200 <125							
Scale 1mg to 5g 5g to 100g 101g to 500g >500g								
O.R.E.O.S. Total:								

		ivieaium	
	Low Hazard	Hazard	High Hazard
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	1 omts. 7 to 17 18 to 27
	Proceed using internal guidance on handling energetic compounds.
	• ARC testing is <i>required</i> .
Medium Hazard	-or-
	• Quantitative small-scale explosivity screening is <i>required</i>
	• Select Test Series 1 is <i>recommended</i> based on ARC testing, likely failure modes and available material (Koenen Test, Time/Pressure Test, and/or U.N. Gap)

 $Quantitative\ small-scale\ explosivity\ screening:\ mini-autoclave\ or\ ARC\ with\ high-speed\ pressure\ transducer$

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O.R.E.O.S. Total:									

		Medium	
	Low Hazard	Hazard	High Hazard
Points:	7 to 17	18 to 27	28 to 40

Consider alternative methods.
 ARC testing is required.
 Quantitative small-scale explosivity screening is required
 Select Test Series 1 is required based on likely failure mode and available material (Koenen Test, Time/Pressure Test, and/or U.N. Gap)

 $Quantitative\ small-scale\ explosivity\ screening:\ mini-autoclave\ or\ ARC\ with\ high-speed\ pressure\ transducer$

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Entry	Material	ОВ	Rule of 6	ExFG	Onset	1mg to 5g	5g to 100g	101g to 500g	>500g
1	O ₂ N CO ₂ H 4-nitro-3- pyrazolecarboxylic acid	High (8)	Fail (8)	Yes (8)	200- 300 (2)	Medium Hazard	High Hazard	High Hazard	High Hazard
2	H N N Br 4-bromopyrazole	High (8)	Fail (8)	Yes (8)	>300 (1)	Medium Hazard	Medium Hazard	High Hazard	High Hazard
3	N 5-iodo-1- methylpyrazole	High (8)	Fail (8)	Yes (8)	200- 300 (2)	Medium Hazard	High Hazard	High Hazard	High Hazard
4	Na-O ^S CF ₂ sodium difluoromethane- sulfinate	High (8)	Pass (2)	No (1)	125- 200 (4)	Low Hazard	Low Hazard	Medium Hazard	Medium Hazard

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3	N 5-iodo-1- methylpyrazole	High (8)	Fail (8)	Yes (8)	200- 300 (2)	Medium Hazard	High Hazard	High Hazard	High Hazard
4	Na-O ^{'S} CF ₂ sodium difluoromethane- sulfinate	High (8)	Pass (2)	No (1)	125- 200 (4)	Low Hazard	Low Hazard	Medium Hazard	Medium Hazard

Allows for prioritization of testing

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Incorporate into eLN!

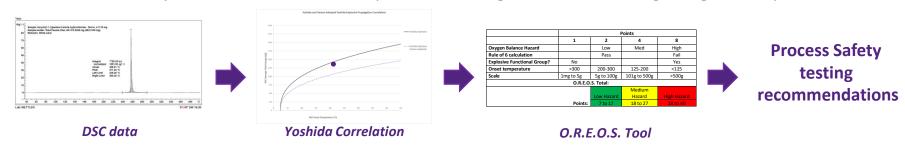
T(onset) Threshold (°C)	105.1
Max Energy (3/g)	-1257
Thermal Risk	Very High (>1000 J/g)
Potentially Shock Sensitive	Yes
Potentially Explosive	Yes

Chemical	OB	Rule of 6	ExFG	Onset (°C)	Scale			
					<5g	5g to 100g	>100g to 500g	>500g
Azobisisobutyronitrile (AIBN)	Med (4)	Pass (2)	Yes (8)	<125 (8)	Medium Hazard	Medium Hazard	Medium Hazard	High Hazard

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CONCLUSIONS

- U.N. methods for classification of explosives are complex and material intensive
- Screening methods are convenient, but path forward is unclear when potential risk identified
- Vertex has developed a tool that combines the oxygen balance calculation, "rule of six", the ExFG list, the onset of decomposition by DSC, and the proposed scale into the O.R.E.O.S. assessment
- O.R.E.O.S. tool provides consistency when evaluating compounds that may possess explosive properties and provides recommendations for process safety testing
- O.R.E.O.S. is fully customizable to meet companies' internal guidance for handling energetic compounds



Sperry, J.B.; Azuma, M.; Stone, S. Org. Process Res. Dev., 2021, 2, 212-224

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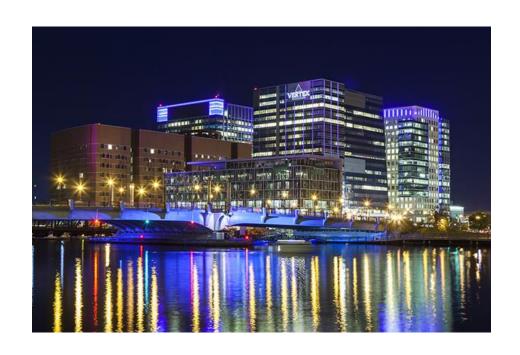
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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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- Michael Azuma
- Connor Barrett
- Shane Stone

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