



National Institute for Public Health  
and the Environment  
*Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport*

# RIVM

## *Industrial and Environmental Safety*

Research and innovation  
for a safe environment



In the Netherlands, there is limited space available for living and working. People want a healthy and safe environment to live in, and businesses want to retain space for economic growth. The ongoing search for making optimum use of the limited land available is the focus of industrial and environmental safety.

Industrial and environmental safety concerns the risks associated with the use and transport of hazardous substances, the safety of installations and facilities, and the safety of new and

rapidly emerging technologies. The focus here is on the calculated risks, which are at times associated with major uncertainties, as well as the perceived risks.

RIVM Industrial and Environmental Safety is the Dutch knowledge and research centre for industrial and environmental safety, which provides advice and support to government bodies in meeting their responsibilities in the area of policy and implementation.



The core expertise of RIVM Industrial and Environmental Safety is risk analysis in relation to accidents with hazardous substances. In addition, RIVM provides advice on the consequences of the above for considerations in the area of spatial planning. RIVM manages and develops the computational methods and programs (such as SAFETI-NL) used to carry out risk calculations for hazardous substances, and it provides support to users via helpdesks. RIVM works on methods for determining which environmental measures can be taken to protect the public in case of a catastrophe. It also analyses accidents and international developments, and it

advises and reports to government bodies regarding the consequences of such accidents and developments for the Dutch situation.

Other tasks include carrying out risk perception research, providing advice on safety measures (safety and security) and providing support to emergency assistance services and national and local government authorities by providing independent assessments of risk analyses. RIVM establishes and maintains knowledge networks and is represented in national and international working groups.

### **RIVM. Committed to health and sustainability**

The National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (RIVM) has been protecting and promoting the safety of the public and the quality of the environment we live in for over 100 years. RIVM is a professional, reliable, and independent organisation.

### **RIVM's Centre for Environmental Safety and Security**

carries out research, provides advice and is available on a 24/7 basis to consult on radiation, CBRN threats, and the consequences of accidents with hazardous substances.

At the Centre for Environmental Safety and Security, roughly 100 people work on a wide range of subjects such as industrial and environmental safety, occupational safety, radiation protection, security, environmental health, risk perception and crisis management.

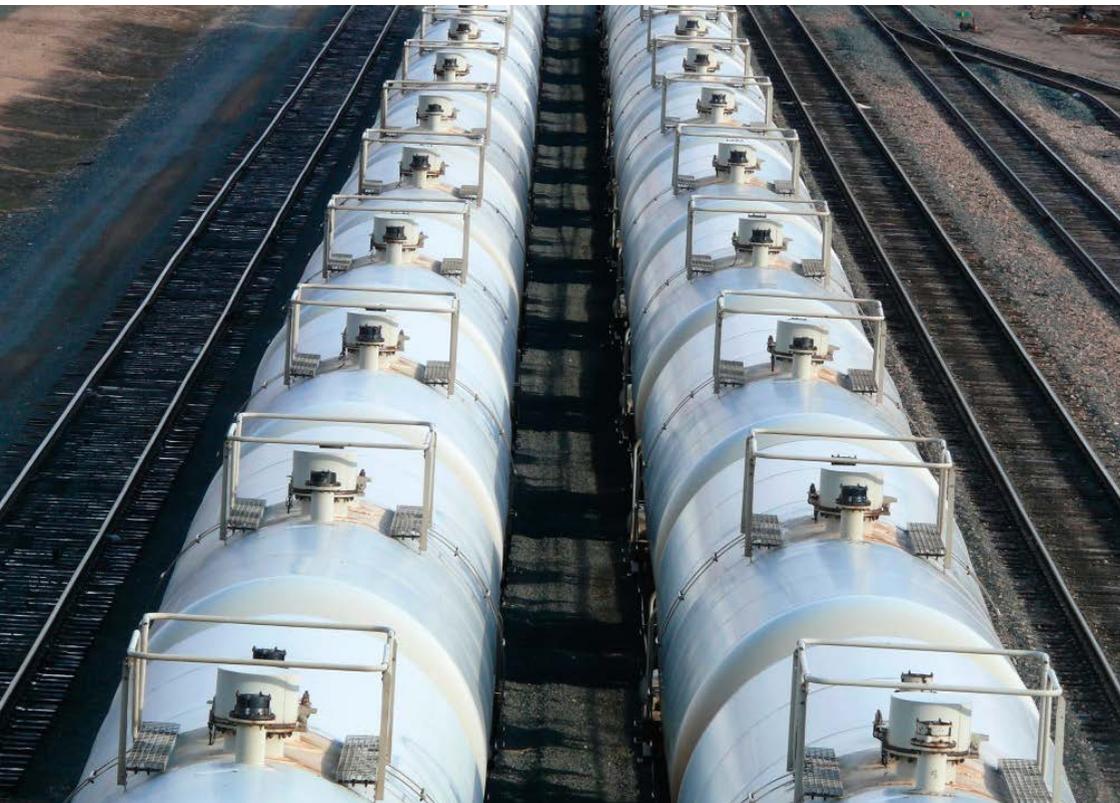
Fireworks Decree Oxidising Wind turbines  
Gas cylinders Vapour cloud explosion Ammonia  
BEVB LPG stations Loading Bowtie analysis  
Intentional disruption REVB Risk perception  
CLP Revi RISK-NL ADR BARIM Tripod  
Explosives storage  
Stevedores LNG<sup>Co</sup> RWSQRA Ageing Bevi  
Group risk Pool fire PGS Pool evaporation RBM-II  
ADN Combination toxicity RID Rrzo Brzo  
Environmental Act Probits Deposition Peroxides BAL BLEVE  
GHS LOPA BEVT Pipelines Reach Cryogenic gases  
BKL Jet fire Dispersion Safety risks Safety  
management system  
LPG delivery installations Railway yards  
Earthquakes Substances Liquid sulphur dioxide CAROLA  
Nanotechnology Risk acceptance story builder

RIVM has a central role **as a knowledge and research centre for Industrial and Environmental Safety**. It has in-house expertise on the subject of industrial and environmental safety, but it also keeps track of the knowledge and experience in that area possessed by other parties inside and outside the Netherlands.

The major areas of focus in this regard are the industrial and environmental safety in relation to the installations/facilities and the transport of hazardous substances over the road, water, and

railways and through pipe lines. Another area of activity is advising on policy and policy changes, for example in relation to the modernisation of the Industrial and Environmental Safety Policy.

RIVM's knowledge base is not limited to technical know-how; it also includes expertise in the areas of risk communication and policy processes. RIVM supplements its technical and scientific knowledge with insights from the social sciences, for example on governance and risk perception.



RIVM Industrial and Environmental Safety works together with national and local government bodies, in particular the Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment. Emergency services, industry, centres of expertise, and consultancy firms also play a crucial role within the network.

RIVM shares knowledge and insights within a national and international network of universities and other centres of expertise and publishes articles in scientific magazines and trade journals. It also makes its knowledge and expertise available by participating in networking meetings and organising training sessions.

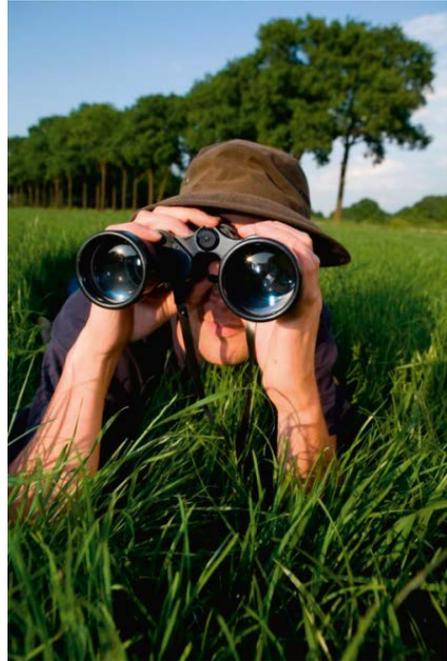


RIVM has an Innovation Team for Industrial and Environmental Safety that identifies new developments and solutions and makes them suitable for application within the work field of industrial and environmental safety.

Inside as well as outside RIVM, a multidisciplinary and integrated approach is taken towards safety issues. In doing so, RIVM focuses on the relationship between natural science and social science, i.e. between industrial and environmental safety and occupational safety and security, in relationship with other factors that influence our environment.

RIVM Industrial and Environmental Safety shares its knowledge and expertise via networking days, handbooks, fact sheets, and scientific publications.

It aims to function within a broader social perspective and to make a sustainable contribution to a safer environment for all of us.



More information about RIVM's work in the area of Industrial and Environmental Safety is available on the RIVM website, at <http://www.rivm.nl/omgevingsveiligheid>. On this website, you can also find information about the Industrial and Environmental Safety helpdesk and risk assessment tools. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at:

**[Omgevingsveiligheid@rivm.nl](mailto:Omgevingsveiligheid@rivm.nl)**

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