Explosions rock two separate ADM plants

January 4-5, 2019

CHICAGO — Archer Daniels Midland Co. (ADM) reported explosions at two separate plants over the weekend of Jan. 4-5, one of which resulted in the death of a firefighter and a critical injury to another.

A fire at an ADM grain facility in Clinton, Iowa, on Jan. 5 led to an explosion that resulted in the death of 33-year-old Lt. Eric Hosette. The Des Moines Register also reported that Firefighter Adam Cain, 23, was reportedly missing after the explosion but was then found. He was taken to Iowa City for treatment and as of Jan. 6, was listed in critical but stable condition.

The other incident occurred on Jan. 4 at an ADM corn processing plant in Decatur, Ill., according to the Decatur Herald & Review.

Company spokesman Jackie Anderson told the newspaper that no injuries were reported, and company officials are investigating the cause of the blast and assessing damage.

Ms. Anderson said the explosion occurred in the corn plant’s conveyor belt system.

The incidents come a little more than a month after an explosion was reported at the ADM Milling Co.’s flour mill in Calgary, Alta. No injuries were reported in that incident.