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Earthquake inducing hazardous releases: risk prevention and external emergency planning

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Deepening the knowledge about natural disasters triggering chemical-industrial accidents is the aim of this work. In particular, risk prevention and emergency planning activities will be studied and analyzed in order to give some guidelines and suggestions for preventing and mitigating the huge consequences to human beings and environment caused by earthquakes inducing hazardous releases as well.

This argument is a problems of a certain concern in Italy because of a historical seismic activity and because of the presence of highly industrialized risk areas located in seismic zones. A high urbanization, developed in such zones regardless of natural and technological risk, made the situation a urgent issue. Basically it's clear that Competent Authorities has to face such a problem when it comes to citizen protection. The risk posed to population by all of this industries has to be taken into consideration in order to have an idea of what can be the consequences in seismically vulnerable areas of hazmat releases. A lot of possbile releases depending from a unique cause.

As a necessary first step, to a better understanding nowadays situation, the paper points out the distribution of major risk industries located in risk areas as established by the recent italian seismic risk maps that classifies the territory in different class of risk

Suggestions for local authorities, for public information, for first responders, for alarm communications in emergency planning and so on are also provided as well as a result of the experience coming from the Eurosot 2005 exercise, held in Sicily during the past October organized by the Italian Department of Civil Protection.