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Collana	Investigation report ; ; report no. 2005-04-I-TX, March 2007
Soggetti	<p>Fire investigation\$ vTexas</p> <p>Industrial accidents\$ xInvestigation\$ vTexas</p> <p>Petroleum refineries\$ xFires and fire prevention\$ vTexas</p> <p>Chemical Engineering</p> <p>Safety inspections</p> <p>Chemical engineering</p> <p>Petroleum</p> <p>Fires</p> <p>Petroleum engineering</p> <p>Government/court document</p> <p>Texas City, TX</p>
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Sommario/riassunto	<p>On March 23, 2005, at 1:20 p.m., the BP Texas City Refinery suffered one of the worst industrial disasters in recent U.S. history. Explosions and fires killed 15 people and injured another 180, alarmed the community, and resulted in financial losses exceeding \$1.5 billion. The incident occurred during the startup of an isomerization (ISOM) unit when a raffinate splitter tower was overfilled; pressure relief devices opened, resulting in a flammable liquid geyser from a blowdown stack that was not equipped with a flare. The release of flammables led to an explosion and fire. All of the fatalities occurred in or near office trailers located close to the blowdown drum. A shelter-in-place order was</p>

issued that required 43,000 people to remain indoors. Houses were damaged as far away as three-quarters of a mile from the refinery.
