

# Market Update

5 August 2020

## Beirut explosion

The city of Beirut was shaken after a huge explosion devastated the port area of the capital Beirut on Tuesday. The explosion appears to have been caused by 2,750 tonnes of ammonium nitrate stored unsafely in a warehouse. Ammonium nitrate is used as a fertiliser in agriculture and as an explosive.

The explosion tragically killed at least 100 people and injured more than 4,000 others. Rescue workers in Lebanon are searching for more than a hundred people who are missing.

Crawford has a sizable and experienced operation in the Middle East and has adjusters on the ground in the Lebanon with experience in large scale material damage, business interruption and marine claims. Our response is being coordinated by our experienced team in Dubai to provide carriers, brokers and corporates with a rapid and expert response to this disaster.

The main explosion zone at the port is a “no-go” area and the authorities have cordoned off the explosion site, which includes areas outside the port. They are still investigating the cause and cleaning the toxic deposits. Our adjusters and partners are on standby for when access is granted.

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