

INCIDENT ALERT

LOCATION: Other
ACTIVITY: Production and Processing
SUB ACTIVITY: Aggregate processing

ALERT STATUS: Normal
DATE ISSUED: 24/07/06
INCIDENT No: 00079

TITLE

Hotwork - RMC Fire

ACCIDENT / INCIDENT DETAILS

The fire started when Linatex lined pipe-work was ignited during hot work. Heat from Arc Welding ignited the Linatex lining and the pipes design meant that the lining sparked and continued combustion at such a rate, (fed by the suction of air, as in a chimney), that it soon spread.

Once it had spread to the Screens and the conveyors, it became impossible to stop.

When Linatex ignites, it is near impossible to extinguish and will migrate through the lined areas of the plant. With this in mind, ALL managers must review their hot work procedure when working on or near Linatex.

This should be a reminder to everyone of the need for sufficient Risk Assessments/SWP's and adequate Fire Points when undertaking hot work.

ACCIDENT / INCIDENT IMAGES



Pictured above the recent fire at an RMC Sand and Gravel Wharf.

LEARNING POINTS / ACTIONS TAKEN

Some points to consider in your review:

- L Don't just have a standby fire procedure, constantly damp down any lined areas around the hot working area.
- L Insist that the isolation and lock off procedures are followed. (You may then be left with the problem that you can't have pumps running, to water down the aforementioned areas. Consider hiring a small engine driven pump to be used whilst the plant is isolated.)
- L Insist on a 30minute fire-watch after the works are complete.
- L Ensure you have suitable communications in place to carry out the emergency procedures
- L Ensure all persons undertaking hot work are trained and competent

LEARNING POINTS / ACTIONS IMAGES