

COS SAFETY SHARE

WHAT WILL WE DO TO PREVENT THIS FROM HAPPENING HERE?

WHIPPING PRESSURIZED HOSE INJURES TWO

What happened?

A contract Coiled tubing crew was in the process of rigging down coil equipment. Part of the process required the hook up of a nitrogen bottle rack to blow compressed nitrogen into the coil tubing to flush fluids from within. The employee opened one of the nitrogen bottle valves to begin the process when the brass nipple connecting the hose to the bottle rack broke at the hose fitting. The hose, now under pressure, started whipping and struck two separate employees. One employee was struck on the right hand causing minor laceration and bruising, the other employee was struck on the right forearm with abrasions and bruising. The first employee that was struck on the hand resulted in two fractured fingers.

What went wrong?

Pre-planning did not include appropriate requirements for the supplier to provide appropriate safety devices. Applicable job steps were not included in the JSA nor risked for mitigation.

Why did it happen?

Post incident investigation identified failure to identified two prominent causal factors. Nitrogen bottle racks and associated hoses were delivered to the location without the appropriate safety devices (whip checks) installed. The procedure for blowing the reel dry and rigging up the nitrogen bottle racks was not risk assessed and identified on the JSA.

What areas were identified for improvement?

Actions taken to prevent recurrence included Safety Alert dissemination, notification to suppliers to include appropriate safety equipment, and discussion with employee about Stop Work Authority utilization when equipment is not up to standards and lack of inclusion in the JSA.

Replace the failed equipment and ensure that safety whip checks were in place as required by contractor's safe work practices.

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