

Step Change Safety Alert Template (Internal Talisman Use Only)

STEP CHANGE IN SAFETY



Alert Title

Condensate release from needle valve plug

Incident Date

1st February, 2012

Summary

Condensate release from an open vent port on a bridle valve on a dehydration pre-scrubber

Incident Consequences

Hydrocarbon Release

Cause of Accident or Incident

Uncontrolled Release of a Flammable Gas or Liquid

Location

Fixed Installation

Activity

Production Operations

Description of What Happened

A Tech was in the vicinity sourcing information on an outlet valve when he noticed a smell of gas. On further investigation he witnessed a condensate release from a vent hole on a bridle valve. The CCR was informed immediately and Ops Tech sent to scene. The Tech turned the tap on the valve which closed and cut off the escaping condensate. The fixed detection systems approx 1.5 metres from the release point were not activated during the release.

Specific Equipment

Bridle valve on dehydration pre-scrubber

Lessons Learnt

- A needle valve was found to be open on the bridle vale which allowed a leak path to the open vent hole. The valve was believed to have been opened either due to being knocked or due to vibration on the equipment.
- There was no plug or instrumentation in place on the vent hole, leaving an open path to atmosphere for the condensate. The threaded vent port was rusted indicating there had not been a plug or instrumentation fitted to the valve for some time.
- Following investigation, it was determined that this was the only twin safe valve with this type of bleed arrangement. All other twin safe valves have flanged and blanked gate valve bleed assemblies.

Task Description:

Routine operator checks during normal operations

Recommendations

- Systematic checks to be conducted on hydrocarbon systems in line with procedure 'Plant Integrity Verification Post Intrusive Maintenance' to confirm there are no other similar issues.
- Proactive Hydrocarbon area hazard hunts implemented.
- Equipment added into vibration survey programme.

Contact Details:

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