Step Change Safety Alert Template

Alert Title

Minor hydrocarbon gas release from within 'A' export gas compressor enclosure

What leaked and where from? E.g.: "Lube oil leak from compressor system open vent"

Incident Date

January 2014

The date on which the incident occurred, not when this form was completed

Location Type

Fixed production installation

E.g. Floating/Fixed Production, Drill Rig, Vessel, etc.

Specific Equipment Involved

Export gas compressor

Give as much detail as possible about the equipment involved

Description of What Happened

The "A" export compressor was removed from service for scheduled maintenance which included breaking of containment for the fuel gas pipework. Following completion of this work and leak testing of the affected pipework, the unit was entered back into service in accordance with an internal procedure. Approximately 4 minutes into the re-start sequence, the enclosure extract gas heads (2 out of 3) alarmed High High in the turbine enclosure. Upon inspection, a ½" instrument fitting was found to be loose, within the enclosure. Following tightening of the loose fitting, a further leak test of the entire fuel gas system within the enclosure was carried out to confirm the pipework was no longer leaking..

Be as detailed as possible. Give equipment history and approximate time(s) of actions/occurrences related to the incident

Cause of Incident

1/2" tube fitting not fully tightened

Build from OIR/12 checklist

Incident Consequences

The gas release initiated an ESD1 and platform muster. Subsequent site check completed by fire team, in accordance with procedures confirmed no gas with hand held meters and platform stood down. Estimated volume of gas released was 0.25kg.

Include the release itself and any subsequent emergency actions/dangerous occurrences

Lessons Learned

- The importance of following procedure / permit when leak testing any system.

Include a few bullet points clarifying what was learned from the incident

Recommendations/Actions

- Additional hazard identified on leak test permits to ensure leak test injection point is witnessed when remade and disturbed joint tag returned to Area Authority.
- Update Leak Testing procedure to highlight that leak testing injection points are still to be treated as disturbed joints and the disturbed joint tags to be applied so it can be captured with a service test when the system becomes live.
- Coaching for all leak testers with roll out of new and revised procedures to all leak testers.

Include a few bullet points stating any recommendations/actions that will be made/taken as a result of the lessons learned

Contact Details (Optional)

If you would like your submission to be anonymous, leave this section blank