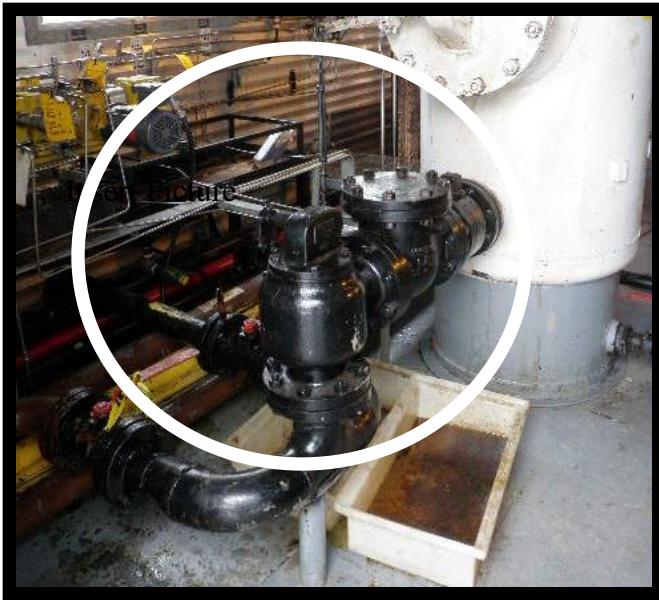


SAFETY ALERT

Date: Aug 2011

Trapped Pressure in Valve



Description:

- A Near Miss (Process Safety Incident) occurred when a worker was sprayed with an emulsion when pressure in a check valve/control valve piping system was released unintentionally while trying to locate an obstruction.
- The top of the check valve had been removed previously to demonstrate zero energy. Believing the system was completely bled off the worker began to remove the top off the control valve. The site operator manually operated the control valve. This action released unexpected trapped pressure between the control valve and the downstream isolation valves.

The Learning:

- **Zero energy** was not achieved during the isolation process
- Section of pipe without bleed-off could potentially have trapped pressure

The Recommendations:

- Review piping systems to ensure small sections between isolation valves can be de-pressured and to identify areas with no bleed-off valves.
- Ensure these sections of piping can be safely de-pressured and **zero energy** can be verified.

