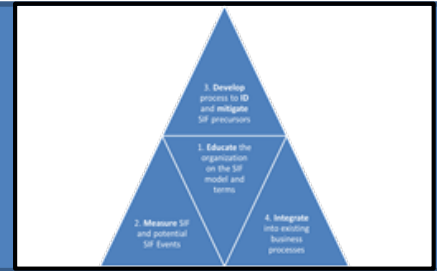


RAPID FIRE COMMUNICATION

Chemical Exposure/Lilly Corporate Center
16-MAR-2018/10:00AM/First Shift



Contractor Potential SIF Event Description:

- Mechanical Contractors
- Building 90 Cooling Tower Basins/M90 Cooling Tower Refurbishment
- A mechanical contractor was given a task to remove some abandoned chemical lines that were located in the cooling tower pit. These lines were abandoned years prior and were previously used for chemicals to treat the tower water. When they walked down the pipe run, they noticed a low dip in the run so they began their demo from an open end that was in a higher elevation. All of the pipe runs to be removed were open-ended. When they got to the low dip, they treated it as if there would be residual liquid in it. Their plan was to catch any liquid if it came out of the pipe. As one craftsman was preparing to make a cut, he was wearing a face shield and rubber gloves, he told the second craftsman to back up out of the area in the event liquid came out. After the cut, liquid came rushing out faster than they thought it would and they were unable to catch the liquid. The liquid had odor and color so the craftsmen called their general foreman. The general foreman went to the water lab to get litmus paper and test the PH of the unknown liquid. When tested it was determined to be a PH of 0.

SIF Precursors/Causal Factors:

- Removing chemical lines without properly verifying they were clean.

Safety Lessons Learned:

- Lesson Learned: Assume the worst case scenario when documentation isn't present for the decommissioning of chemical lines. Flush the lines when possible to ensure they are clean.
- Lesson Learned: Sulfuric Acid can strengthen over time once water has evaporated. In this particular situation, the acid had been sitting in the abandon lines for many years. Use extra caution when removing chemical lines that have been sitting abandoned for long periods of time.
- Recommended Follow-Up: Discuss during pre-construction meetings the need to flush/neutralize lines before work starts and walk down the lines to be removed to identify low points where liquid can collect.

Location of removed chemical line with parallel lines having similar low points



Contact person: Jimmie Bailey