

Steam Burn Fatality (Lessons Learnt / Case Study)

What Happened:

- On a parent company vessel two crew members were performing maintenance and cleaning inside an enclosed space (feed water tank)
- At that time the boiler and diesel generator were started and they filled the enclosed space with hotwater and steam

- ***The crew members got severely burnt and one of them died later from his injuries***



Contributing Factors / Causes:

- Inadequate processes on:
 - Permitting to Work
 - Isolating confined space from pipelines/valves/energy
 - Locking out/tagging out
- Inadequate onboard operational communication between involved departments

CORRECTIVE & PREVENTIVE ACTIONS REQUIRED:

Vessels:

- 1) Hold a dedicated safety meeting with Deck and Engine crewmembers engaged in relevant activities to:
 - a) Review this Bulletin with Lessons Learnt / Case Study
 - b) Review the VMS procedures on:
 - [Fleet Ops > 9.0 Safety Management > 9.6 Safe Working Practices > 9.6.2 Permit to Work System > Enclosed Space Entry and Rescue Procedures](#)
 - ◆ form SAF06 “Permit to Work and Entry into Enclosed Spaces”
 - [Fleet Ops > 9.0 Safety Management > 9.6 Safe Working Practices > 9.6.18 Tool Box Talks](#)
 - c) Reiterate the critical importance from the above procedures on:
 - performing the following process for jobs requiring permits to works and/or non-routine tasks:
 - ◆ pre-job Tool Box Talks (TBT)
 - ◆ identification of Hazards
 - ◆ performing /reviewing Risk Assessments
 - adequately isolating confined from connecting pipelines, valves and energy:
 - ◆ locking / tagging these out
 - ◆ communicating the above to all involved departments
- 2) Review best practices for:
 - a) Crew in Engine spaces and procedures taken by the ECR watch for all engine room visitors with regard to accounting and logging for them - in/out, awareness of their visit/work performed/location etc
 - b) Implement a Standing order by the Ch. Eng. on the above
- 3) Revert to your VOTech/Fleet Cell and DPA with positive reports on the above

The Company:

- 1) Circulate a Lesson Learnt case study fleet wide
 - 2) Review the effectiveness of the related procedures (above), their associated Generic Risk Assessments and checklists / permits to work and enhance them as feasible
 - 3) Implement a fleet wide procedure on crew in engine spaces / engine room visitors
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■ ■ Completed ■ ■
