

Boilers and Unfired Pressure Vessels



FIG 18-6 – Men entering any confined space in boiler area should wear a lifeline and be constantly watched by man stationed outside who is wearing similar protective equipment. Explosion-proof 6 volt lamp is supplied by sealed step-down transformer in inspector's left hand. Some organizations use battery-powered lights.

cracking, and other defects. Internal parts should be readily accessible for a close and thorough examination. (Handholes and manholes should be open and the boiler should be ventilated.) Adequate lighting and protective equipment for work in the boiler should be provided.

If the boiler inspector's time is improperly scheduled, excessive down time or costly reinspections can result. If the boiler is opened and ready at the appointed time, a list of work that should be done can be prepared even before the inspector leaves the plant. Repairs can start immediately.

Boiler and furnace entry precautions. General precautions for entering boilers include having proper ventilation, proper equipment, and proper protection. To make certain that no flammable or toxic gases are present, ven-

tilate boiler settings thoroughly and then check the atmosphere with a testing instrument before permitting anyone to enter. This is especially important when more than one boiler is connected to one breeching or chimney, because under certain circumstances flue gases can come back into the boiler from other boilers.

One cannot overemphasize the need for caution when men do cleaning or maintenance on boilers. A great number of injuries have occurred in this work. Good vessel entry procedures and good lockout procedures to prevent steam, hot or high pressure water, or hot gases from reaching workmen must be followed. All valves that are closed must be checked for leakage. Lines which are interconnected between boilers must be positively sealed off at both ends and locked out. Also attention must be paid to providing