

B. F. Goodrich Chemical Company

Inter-Organization Correspondence

10-7

To D. L. Dowell

Date 5/2/70

Location Cleveland

From J. W. Gressler

Subject Near Miss - Blown Manhead Gasket on Catalyst Charge Bottle- Pedricktown - Bldg. 513

On April 26, 1970 at 2:26 P.M. we experienced a gas escape through the manhead of the catalyst charge bottle.

Poly #2 was being charged. The catalyst had been added to the catalyst charge bottle and was being flushed into the poly with fresh VCl. Approximately 150 to 200 gallons of VCl were added, when a leak appeared at the manhead of the catalyst charge bottle.

, lead technician, had added the catalyst. He then asked operating technician, to close and secure the manhead. went to the recovered VCl tanks to switch tanks. While was doing this, the gas alarm sounded. He immediately went back to the second floor to see what had happened. Upon arriving at the second floor, he noticed VCl pouring out of the manhead of the catalyst charge bottle. He then left the building.

Upon hearing the alarm, I immediately went to Bldg. 513. I saw . and asked him what had happened. He explained the situation. We re-entered the building to determine what should be done next. In the meantime, I , console technician, had closed the VCl valve and began to water flush the lines with the computer. After id I had examined the situation, we decided the water flush should continue. In this particular situation the computer proved to be invaluable. If it had not been for the computer, we would not have been able to water flush. With the water flush, we suppressed the vapors and cleared the lines of VCl within a short period.

Our charge bottle is designed with the "O" ring located in the manhead. The charge bottle was opened and examined. Upon examination of the "O" ring, it was found to be sheared in two places. It was then determined that the "O" ring had slipped out of its proper location. This was the case, as part of the ring was in the bottle, while the major part was still in the manhead groove.

technician assigned to Bldg. 513, activated the master gas alarm, fog system and emergency fans.

NGC 15662

Corrective Action:

1. The "O" ring will be examined each and every time the bottle is opened. If wear is apparent, the "O" ring will be replaced.
2. The "O" ring will be greased periodically to prevent it from falling out of the manhead.
3. A valve and funnel will be added to the rupture disc line so the catalyst can be added through the funnel and a vacuum will be culled and the valve opened. By installing the above, it will limit the number of times the manhead has to be opened.

cc: O. F. Beckmeyer
J. L. Nelson - R. D. Scott
B. W. Harrington - P. H. Lawrence
G. Pow
W. E. Brodine
W. L. Cato

E. E. Mitchell
A. R. Webber
H. T. Evans
J. W. Coetsch
S. A. Evans
E. C. Martinelli
File

REDACTED

OTHER PLANTS -
WATCH THIS

Jimmie Russell
5-8-70

HAVING AN "O" RING SEAL IN THE MAN HEAD OF THIS CHARGE BOTTLE APPEARS TO BE DND ENGINEERING

B. F. Goodrich Chemical Company

Inter-Organization Correspondence

10-8

To D. L. Dowell

Date 5/2/70

Location Cleveland

From J. W. Gressler

Subject Near Miss - Pedricktown - Gas Escape, Poly Building - Bldg. 513

On April 25, 1970 at 3:10 A.M. we experienced a gas escape through the top of washdown tank #8E in Building 513.

Poly #7 had finished its normal charge cycle and had been blown down. Recovery was being made through the blowdown line and back through Poly #7. However, the blowdown valve from Polys #5 and #6 was not closed. With this valve open there was pressure up to the drain valve on the washdown tank. In the meantime, Poly #6 was ready to be flushed to washdown tank #8E. The drain valve on the blowdown line from Poly #6 was opened by the computer. When this valve was opened, the recovered VCl and flushed slurry from Poly #6 went to the washdown tank and escaped through the top. , operating technician, was checking the level of the washdown tank at the time of the accident. As the washdown tank overfilled, was soaked with slurry. He was wearing his safety glasses, thus preventing injury to his eyes. Realizing what had happened, he immediately turned on the master gas alarm, fog system, and emergency fans. He then contacted console technician, and informed him of the situation. immediately closed the blowdown valve from Polys #5 and #6. The building was cleared of VCl within a few minutes and the All Clear was sounded at 3:20 A.M.

The common blowdown valves had been changed from manual to computer. This was done to prevent the above from occurring. However, the program had not yet been set in the computer.

Corrective Action:

- ① Before blowdown or recovery is attempted, all valves will be visually checked.
- ② A check sheet will be provided to assure that the valves are in the proper position.
- ③ This accident will be discussed with all shifts.
- ④ The computer will be programmed to put the valves in the proper position before attempting an operation.

cc: O. F. Beckmeyer
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G. Pow
W. S. Brodine
W. L. Cato
E. E. Mitchell
A. R. Webber
H. T. Evans
J. W. Goetsch
S. A. Evans
E. C. Martinelli
File

WE ARE HAVING TOO MANY
VCL LEAKS IN THIS
PLANT

Dennis R. Howell

NGC 15663

10-9

3. L. SWELL
4. F. SCHWANDER
5. L. GASTON 70

ON APRIL 29, 1970, AT APPROXIMATELY 3:00 PM HE EXPERIENCED A
HIGH GAS ESCAPE BEHIND THE TOP OF TACHYON 1 HOLE IN AREA 313.

THEY ARE ALREADY WELL MOTIVATED.

↑ 2010 年 10 月 1 日