

SHAC NOTICE

February 17, 1977

It has come to our attention that there are problems and potential hazards connected with the various types of electrical tracing used in the plant.

For new installations, Chemelex self limiting heating system should be used. This material looks like TV lead-in wire and has been found to perform effectively in its intended service.

We understand that a number of installations (especially in caustic and acetic service) have "MI" tracing installed. This type tracing can easily be mistaken for copper tubing, thus presenting an electrical hazard. The voltage on the "MI" cable is as high as 480 volts. If the copper jacket is broken, the heater will quickly fail because of moisture and repair is difficult requiring special techniques.

Those of you having electrical tracing installations in your area or on your equipment should ascertain the type of tracing installed. Consider replacement as practical, and insure that proper controls are instituted so that there is no change for an incident because of mistaken identity. The original installation was marked with large decals applied to the outside of the pipe's insulation.


Harold Lacy
Chairman, SHAC

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