

Worker Burned By Hot Water Lost Time Injury

SAFETY ALERT

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Enform: Your Partner in Safety

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This document was developed by industry for industry. Working collaboratively, Enform works with the submitting organization representative in developing these documents to improve the industry's hazard awareness. Canada's leading oil and gas industry trade associations support the use of shared information to help companies of all sizes improve performance.

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Details

Release Date: December 7, 2011
Incidence Type: Lost time injury
Country and Region: Saskatchewan, Canada

For more information on this event, please contact: safety@enform.ca

Description of Incident:

A truck driver was attempting to clear sand from a 4 inch gate valve on a 1000 bbl. production tank.

- The driver placed a 20 litre pail in front of the valve, and then partially opened the valve.
- When the sand broke free, the driver was sprayed with produced water at approximately 75° C.
- This resulted in burns to the driver's lower body
- Lost time injury.

What Caused It:

The service provider's valve de-sand procedure, states: valves are to be cleared with a vacuum truck hose and connections, a closed system.

Contributing Factors:

- The driver slipped and fell, while attempting to egress the area, thus resulting in a direct exposure to hot production fluid.
- The truck driver had previously succeeded in clearing a plugged valve using the incorrect method.

Corrective/Preventive Actions:

The service provider will review and revise their tank cleaning procedures to ensure potential worker exposure to hot fluids is addressed more clearly.

- The service provider will ensure all drivers (including sub-contractors) are trained on the revised procedure.



By industry, for industry