MANUFACTURING
SAFETYALERTAsk Yourself
"Could it happen here?"

DESCRIPTION OF EVENT

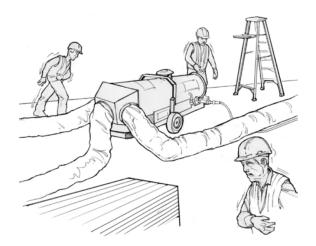
Heater - Carbon Monoxide Poisoning

During set-up, the valve handle was not properly locked in the correct position. The handle slipped during operation from the propane position (vertical) to the natural gas position (horizontal) causing low gas-supply pressure.

As a result, the propane did not burn properly causing an over-abundance of carbon monoxide emission through the heater's exhaust fumes. Three on-site workers were treated for carbon monoxide poisoning.

SUGGESTED ACTIONS

- 1. Always install and use the equipment according to the manufacturer's instructions.
- 2. Vent gas-powered heaters as directed by the manufacturer to prevent exposure to carbon monoxide.
- 3. Conduct inspections of heaters regularly to ensure they are functioning correctly.
- 4. When using gas-powered heaters, consider conducting periodic air monitoring to ensure carbon monoxide levels remain within occupational exposure limits.



MOST IMPORTANT TAKE AWAY

Gas-powered heaters pose a significant risk of carbon monoxide poisoning.

Follow manufacturer's instructions when setting up heaters.



BC Forest Safety

BCFSC welcomes all incident or near-miss submissions. To protect your privacy, we will review and remove all identifying information.

To share an incident or to subscribe to the Safety Alert of the Week, visit: www.bcforestsafe.org/safety-alerts/

Scan the QR Code with your mobile device's camera to access this alert.

