

# MANUFACTURING SAFETY ALERT

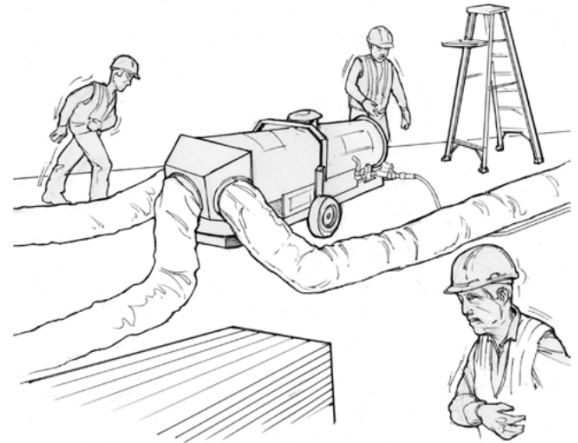
Ask Yourself  
“Could it happen here?”

## DESCRIPTION OF EVENT

### Heater - Carbon Monoxide Poisoning

A heater was being used to heat a building. As the result of improper use of the gas-powered heater three workers at the site had to be treated for carbon monoxide poisoning.

At the time of the incident, the valve handle was not locked into position as it should have been. It slipped from the propane position (vertical) to the natural gas position (horizontal). This meant that the gas-supply pressure was too low. As a result, the propane did not burn properly, and the heater's exhaust gases contained more carbon monoxide than normal.



## SUGGESTED ACTIONS

1. Always install and use 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 that carbon monoxide levels remain within occupational exposure limits.

## MOST IMPORTANT TAKE AWAY

Gas powered heaters pose a significant risk due to carbon monoxide poisoning. Follow all manufacturer instructions when setting up the heaters.

