# MANUFACTURING<br/>SAFETYALERTAsk Yourself<br/>"Could it happen here?"

### **DESCRIPTION OF EVENT**

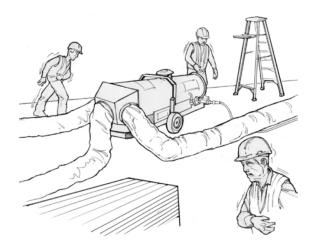
#### Heater - Carbon Monoxide Poisoning

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

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