

MANUFACTURING SAFETY ALERT

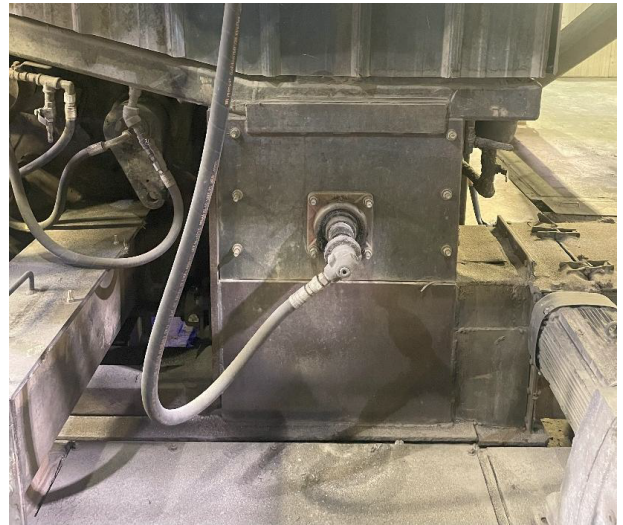
Ask Yourself
"Could it happen here?"

DESCRIPTION OF EVENT

Screw Conveyor Flashback – Medical Aid

A large clinker broke loose and caused a blockage that bridged over the #1 screw conveyor. To clear the obstruction, an employee accessed the tail end of the conveyor using water to break it up. As the blockage began to clear, the air began to flow on the hot embers, triggering a flashback.

The employee saw the flashback and instinctively turned away, but still sustained superficial burns to the left side of the face, neck and left elbow. The injuries required self-treatment daily self-care of cleaning and re-dressing for about 10 days.



SUGGESTED ACTIONS

- **PPE Evaluation:** Test flame-retardant personal protective equipment (PPE) under upset conditions that require direct access to the combustor to ensure it provides adequate protection.
- **Safe Blockage Clearing Procedures:** Train employees to clear blockages gradually while closely monitoring combustor behaviour as air is reintroduced, reducing the risk of flashback or sudden ignition.
- **Update Job Safety Analysis (JSA):** Include flashback hazards and reinforce the use of flame-retardant PPE in relevant tasks.

MOST IMPORTANT TAKE AWAY

"Clinkers" form as a result of fuel impurities. While their formation can be reduced they cannot be fully eliminated.

Clear blockages gradually and closely monitor combustor behaviour - especially as air is reintroduced.

MAG
Manufacturing Advisory Group



BC Forest Safety

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