

MANUFACTURING SAFETY ALERT

Ask Yourself
“Could it happen here?”

DESCRIPTION OF EVENT

PROPANE INCIDENTS - FORKLIFT

Near Miss: A propane odour was detected in the green end. When the area was inspected, a leak was found at the tank connection on a nearby forklift. Further investigation showed the tank had a faulty connection.

Good Catch: An employee reported a propane odour near the layup line and gradeline. An inspection revealed the bleed-off valve on the forklift's tank in the gradeline had not been fully closed after refuelling. When the forklift was started, propane escaped through the open valve.

Injury: While refuelling a forklift, an employee sustained a minor frostbite injury when propane escaped through the bleed-off valve and contacted their right arm. The employee was not wearing the required personal protective equipment at the time.

SUGGESTED ACTIONS

- Perform thorough pre-trip inspections to make sure connections are secure, valves are in the correct position and equipment is in good condition.
- Report any issues to your supervisor immediately.
- Tag out defective or unfit equipment.
- Wear required PPE to prevent injury.



MOST IMPORTANT TAKE AWAY

All three incidents could have led to serious incidents including fire, explosion, frostbite and suffocation.

Always take the proper precautions to reduce these risks.

