Unforeseen Hazard – Pressure Testing



This incident demonstrates what can happen to anyone entering an unsafe environment that is not under control. The following description is what is believed to have taken place, as no formal investigation report has been released.

Unforeseen Hazards

An employee from an unrelated project walked past the pressure-test area when the Testing Flange blew off and struck the employee in the head.

What Leads to Fatality

At a workshop a furnace module to be sent to Nigeria was being fabricated. The company conducted a pneumatic coil test at approximately 100 Bar. At the same time, an employee from an unrelated project walked past the pressure-test area when the Testing Flange blew off and struck the employee in the head. The blow was so violent that the man was instantly killed.

WHAT went WRONG!!!

- The area around the pressure test had not been identified in any way: there were no barricades, no warning signs, no standby person keeping watch to warn passers-by, also, there had been no general warning of any testing taking place.
- UnAware; the employee who walked past the testing area was completely unaware of what was happening!

Lesson Learnt

The message to everyone is to remain alert at all times and anticipate any potentially hazardous circumstances around you. This is particularly important when you are in and around a workshop, or construction site, where pressure testing could be taking place.











FIGURE On one hand it is very sad to hear that someone loss his life ,but on the other hand, put our hands on our heart and ask have we all done enough to avoid some one to be killed?

RESOURCE KEY

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