

INTERNATIONAL

(Since 1954)

INCIDENT NOTICE

(Kindly direct all correspondence to the Secretary General)

INCIDENT TITLE: Flashing mixture initiation

DATE POSTED 13 February 2021	REFERENCE IN 20-02	SOURCE Anonymous
INCIDENT OUTLINE		
When did it happen?	Jan 12, 2021	
Who experienced it?	Anonymous	
Where did it happen?	Safety fuse assembly plant	
What material was involved?	60g of flashing mixture (Zarcon, Boron, Nitrocellulose and Ethyl Acetate.)	
What happened?	The flashing mixture was prepared (mixed) and kept in a primary conductive pot that could hold up to 200g. The operator would take a small quantity on a secondary conductive pot for further handling. As the operator was removing the lid on the primary pot the flashing mixture initiated. When the incident occurred, there was approx. 60g of the mix in the pot.	
Why did it happen – theory?	Friction	
What was the impact?	Second degree burn to arms and first degree burn to face.	

COMMENT

A thorough investigation led to important learnings:

• The flashing mixture was not critical to field operation; therefore, it could be eliminated from the process.

Value of incident

 Management of change: It was noticed that the primary pot was adapted so the mixing spoon could be always kept on it (the spoon stem was longer than the pot and a hole was made on the pot lid to accommodate it).

Comment

DISTRIBUTED BY: Dr Pieter S J Halliday

Secretary General, SAFEX International

(www.safex-international.org)

(Tel): +27 825565351 |(Fax): +27117041743 e-mail: secretariat@safex-international.org