

OME SHE Learning

Learning number R067 – 23/24

Operating Entity Regional Operations and Assest Services, Sasolburg Site Services, Welding Hub

Date of incident 28 March 2024

Incident type	Occupational Safety	Process Safety	Environment	Product Transportation	Health	Security	Equipment Damage	PSF
	X							

Relevant Life Saving Rules											
	X										

Relevant Process Safety Fundamentals												

Key Undesirable Event Person falling from elevated position

Description of the incident While two employees (a welder and a boilermaker) were busy tacking the HTR103 cone in preparation for welding on the scaffolding platform, the scaffolding collapsed resulting in one of the two employees falling onto the scaffolding platform 1m lower.

Underlying and root causes

Underlying Causes:

- Incomplete scaffold erected and incorrectly green tagged. The handover certificate was also issued indicating the scaffold is safe to be used.
- Employees assumed that the scaffold was safe, because of the green tag on the scaffold.
- Steel boards on a second platform was not supported correctly.
- V-press broke off, while employees were busy working on the platform of the scaffold.

Root Causes:

Management Process Failure

- The service provider's management system failed in ensuring SANS standards (10085-:2004) are maintained and the obligations contained in the 37.2 contractual agreement with Sasol is complied with
- The scaffold material integrity was not maintained
- Integrity of the weld was compromised during manufacturing
- The modification and inspection was not done in accordance with the SANS standard (10085-1:2004) requirement

Key learning and control improvement recommendations	• Service providers need to ensure they have systems in place to fulfil their 37.2 contractual agreement • Service providers are deemed employers in their own right and need to have a management system in place to verify other service providers risks in their work environment to fulfil the 37.2 obligations. (eg.,welding service providers to check if the scaffold is safe to be used) • Service provider maintenance strategy for scaffolding material needs to ensure the original design intent is maintained. • Timeous response to the precursor/deviations process will prevent serious incidents.
Identification of standard or good practice related to the incident	• Open and honest communication during the investigation to determine the true root cause. • There are other contracted AIP service providers in the AIP who are in full compliance of all standards.
Pictures	 Scaffold V-press that broke off from the upright A fused part that held V-press
To prevent future incidents, it is recommended that this incident learning is appropriately shared and implemented by relevant persons in your Operating Model Entity, where applicable.	

Together towards ZERO HARM and SUSTAINABILITY