

Operating entity: Sasol Synfuels Operations : Gasification-east

Description of the incident:

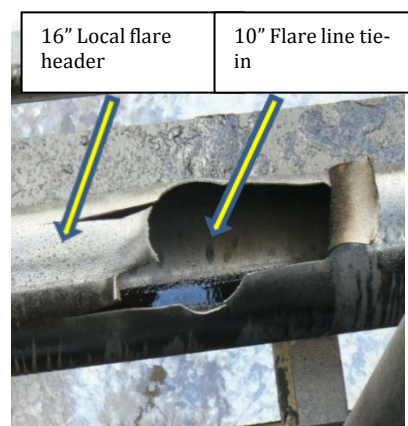
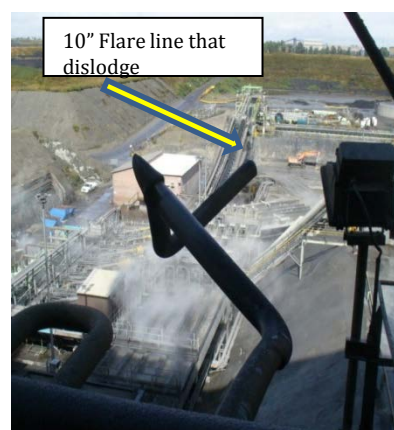
On 12 May 2017 , during normal operation the flare line of gasifier 17 dislodged from the local flare header and raw gas was released to the atmosphere.

Immediate and root causes:

1. Flare ECV opened which caused excessive high flow leading to line rupture.
2. The start-up procedure was not followed diligently to prevent the flare ECV (HV005) from opening as no electrical isolation was done after start-up (during normal operation).
3. Design intent of system failure mode not clear.
4. Isolation of ECV was not identified as a critical control during risk assessment.

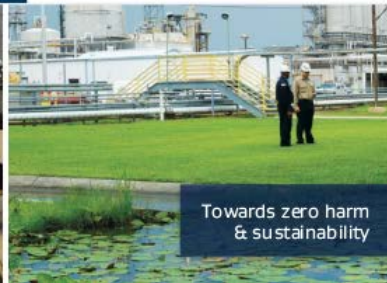
Relevant critical controls:

Adherence to start-up procedure.



Reporting of incidents and learnings arising from investigations into those incidents will now include environmental matters as well

It is required that the above information is shared, discussed, understood and acted on by the relevant people in your organization.

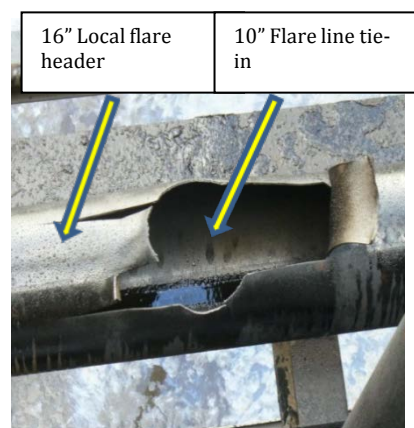
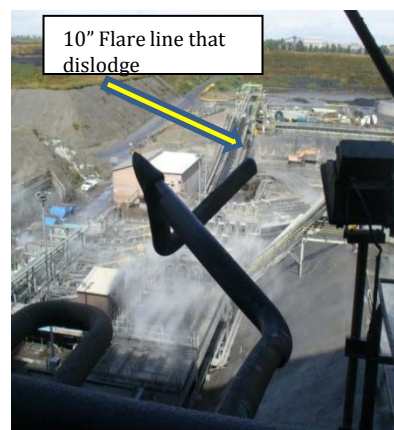


Towards zero harm
& sustainability

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Key learnings and opportunities for further optimization:

- Ensure emergency procedures address scenarios to minimise the consequences.
- Risk assessment identified critical control. A critical control left to be controlled by humans should be the absolute last resort.
- Discipline to adhere to procedures and checklists is very important. The repetitive nature of actions could lead to complacency.
- Ensure that critical steps are addressed when shift hand over is done during commissioning.
- Have assurance checks in place to prevent pressure safety valves (PSV) from pre and post lifting from set pressure. This should include handling, transportation and installation of PSVs.



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