



Safety Alert

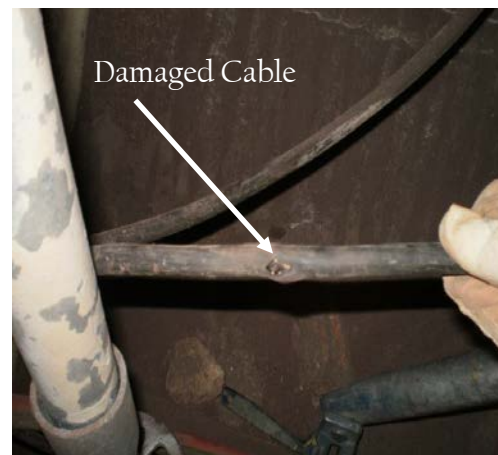
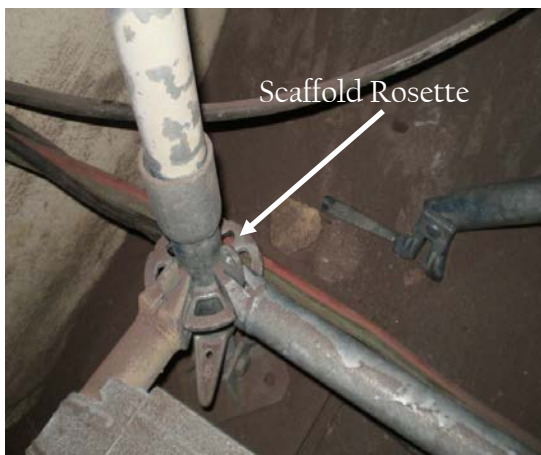
From the International Association of Drilling Contractors

ALERT 12 – 27

HIDDEN WELDING LEAD RESULTS IN MINOR ELECTRICAL SHOCK

WHAT HAPPENED:

Two scaffold builders were assembling a covered scaffold inside a boiler while concurrent welding and blasting activities were taking place. Scaffold builder “A” used his hammer to line up an angle support and unknowingly contacted a welding cable which was hidden below the scaffold post rosette. The scaffold post contacted the exposed wire which resulted in an electrical arc to travel up the post to a scaffold support brace which was being held above by scaffold builder “B”. Scaffold builder “B” received an electrical jolt from the current traveling through the brace.



WHAT CAUSED IT:

- Earlier, the scaffold builders identified the welding cable as a tripping hazard and had inadvertently placed it in the hammering line of fire when they moved it.
- The scaffold builders did not recognize the electrical hazard of the cable.
- Lighting inside the covered scaffold was inadequate.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS: To address this incident, this company did the following:

- All trades working inside the boiler were reminded that all electrical cables and cords should be placed so that they cannot be damaged by the work activities.
- All trades were reminded to communicate with other companies in their work area before and during concurrent work activities. This should include Life Saving Actions - Work Authorization, pre-job planning and hazard identification.

The Corrective Actions stated in this alert are one company's attempts to address the incident, and do not necessarily reflect the position of IADC or the IADC HSE Committee.

This material is presented for information purposes only. Managers & Supervisors should evaluate this information to determine if it can be applied to their own situations and practices

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