

The ejection of a plug from a body vent valve



Description of Incident

Whilst attempting to remove a 1.5 inch plug from a body vent the plug blew out at high velocity.

Despite applying a soapy leak solution no gas was seen to vent from the plug as it was being loosened and it was noted that the plug was extremely tight to undo. The amount of gas passing the valve below the plug was negligible.

The plug that was ejected was examined and it was found that a liquid threadlock substance had been applied to the plug when it was last removed. The investigation found that due to the amount of this liquid threadlock substance that had been applied it would restrict the flow of gas past the threads while the plug was being removed.

Action

Please note the National Grid policy is that no liquid threadlock type substance should be used on any threaded joints. PTFE tape is the preferred jointing material when making threaded joints.

For further information regarding this Bulletin please contact your Line Manager or Tony Jackson on 07721 748058 for

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