

Safety Observation

8" Pipeline Nitrogen Displacement

Incident Description:

- Two Contractors were executing a displacement of Diesel on an 8" pipeline for maintenance activity, using a pig pushed by N2 Interface product (mix of N2 / ADO) was directed from pig trap to a drum using a hose.
 - After few minutes suddenly the hose disconnected and started to whip.
- One Contractor tried to catch the hose while the other correctly closed the valve to shut off the flow and stop the hose movement. No spill occurred (only N2 at this time)



Root Causes:

- Hose disconnected because was not properly tightened.
 - RCAF: In the past did not follow acceptable practices and no incident occurred
- Contractor failed to identify the risk because he perceived low risk, simple & quick operation.
- When asked why he tried to stop the hose by hand, the Contractor mentioned that the size of hose was small and not high pressure...
 - RCAF; Doing the job according to procedures or acceptable practice takes too much time or effort.
 - RCAF; Lack of skill or knowledge

Action Items:

- Coaching of involved personnel on potential consequences of temporary connections
- Refresher on Risk Tolerance to avoid similar events
- Incident sharing during monthly terminal Safety Meeting

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Hose “anti-whip” devices are available.

