



# Individual scalded during heated produced fluid transfer

## SAFETY ALERT

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### Enform

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For more information on this event, please contact: [safety@enform.ca](mailto:safety@enform.ca)

## Description of Incident:

A pressure truck operator was rigging up to load hot produced water from a field production tank. Standard procedure for this operation is to make use of a portable safety device, consisting of a valve connection that includes a bypass valve. In normal operation, the bypass valve must be rotated into the *OPEN* position to check for pressure across the valve before the camlock fitting arms can be lifted and the fitting disconnected (see Figure 1).

The worker was unable to connect to the tank using the company supplied safety device because the load valve had a male camlock fitting installed. The operator had a changeover fitting (see Figure 2) in his truck and used it in place of the safety device to connect to the load valve. This configuration resulted in 2 sets of camlock arms being required to make the connection. On investigation it was determined the operator failed to properly secure the camlock arms for the large diameter (4") side of the changeover. This resulted in the hose coming off the load valve camlock fitting and spraying the worker with hot produced water. In spite of his injury, the worker was able to secure the tank at the main valve and prevent a large spill of produced water.



**Figure 1**  
Safety Device



**Figure 2**  
Changeover Fitting

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### What Caused It:

The tank load valve had a fitting pre-installed that prevented the worker from using the safety fitting (which was specifically designed to warn of pressure and attach properly to the tank). The operator followed a non-standard procedure to circumvent this problem. The non-standard procedure introduced additional risk to the operation, culminating in the load hose separating from the tank load valve and hot produced water being sprayed onto the operator.

### Corrective/Preventive Actions Taken By Submitting Company:

- For tanks with no integral safety fittings, portable safety devices must be used when transferring heated dangerous goods and heated produced water with **no exceptions**.
- If the safety fitting cannot be attached for any reason when transferring heated dangerous goods or heated produced water, the fluid transfer must not be done.
- Immediately notify district office/dispatch that you cannot use the portable safety fitting to do a heated dangerous goods or heated produced water fluid transfer.

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