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Alert #: SA 01-16

Date: 2/19/2016

Air Compressor Safety



Air compressors are a vital part of industrial cleaning and constructions operations, however incorrect usage and maintenance can lead to fires and explosions that cause loss of life, property damage and destruction of the environment.

The main cause of explosions and fires in air compressors is overheating. The combination of fuel, heat caused by the running of the machine and oxygen generated by the air compressor bring together all the elements of the fire tetrahedron. Preventing these elements from mixing together in the proper amounts to generate a fire must be avoided at all cost.

Other causes include faulty parts or blocked passages which can affect the performance of the air compressor, as well as cause it to overheat. When an air compressor is unable to cool itself that's where the problems arise.

REMEMBER: PREVENTION IS KEY

- 1. Ensure all compressors are maintained according to manufacturer recommendations and that a log is kept.**
- 2. Perform a pre-use inspection on all compressors to ensure that lubrication and oil lines are functioning properly.**
- 3. When possible, remove compressors from trailers and barricade these devices from objects that can ignite such as cleaning pads, tool boxes etc.**
- 4. Always have at least one person in line of sight of compressor gauges when in operation in order to quickly identify any problems as early as possible.**

SAFETY ALERT