



H S E

HEALTH SAFETY ENVIRONMENTAL



Alert #: SA 40-22

Date: November 15th, 2022

Wires Damaged by Blasting Equipment

Yesterday morning we were notified that while working on a client facility, one of our team members had damaged wires while performing blasting operations.

Review of the task

Prior to the job starting, the supervisor, inspector and Team Lead walked down the work area. The wires for a flare control panel were masked off with plastic and spray painted indicating to stay 1-2 feet away from it. Normally, thicker matting is utilized to protect wiring and other important equipment however this particular area was not in the scope of work and thought to be out of the line of fire. While our team member was performing his task, he was approached and tapped on the shoulder by someone who was not in protective gear which startled him. As he disengaged his wand and lifted his hood to communicate with the person tapping him, the wand took an additional rotation and crossed over the masked off area damaging some wires. The wires were able to have heat shrink applied and work resumed in the area once complete without further issue. No injuries to personnel nor additional damage was reported.

What did we learn from this incident?

- The area was identified however was thought to be in a safe area and out of the way from possible exposure to blasting media.
 - Moving forward, it may be a good idea to utilize rubber matting on sensitive areas in the immediate area of work to ensure we do not make accidental contact.
- The Technician that tapped our team member, did not have on the proper PPE.
 - We need to communicate with all personnel working in the area that proper PPE must be worn in the work zone.

What can we do better to protect our team members and our client's property?

- Make sure everyone in the work area knows where the blasting work zone is and the proper PPE required to enter that area.
- Take time to properly mask off sensitive areas that may potentially come into contact with blasting media.
- The UHP unit should have been depressurized prior to interrupting the blaster.
- During planning, an alert to get the blaster's attention could be assigned to prevent personnel from entering the area (such as an air horn).
- Keep focus on situational awareness while working.
- Focus on wand placement and making sure that the wand is completely depressurized prior to lifting/resting.

Lastly, we want to remind everyone about proper reporting. Regardless of the incident, ALL incidents MUST be reported to the Corporate HSE department by emailing form LLCF-001 to incident@gisy.com. Your manager/direct supervisor can be cc'd in the email, however the HSE department must be notified as soon as possible. A copy of the incident report (LLCF-001) is included and can also be found on the Safety Portal.

If you should have any questions, please contact the Corporate HSE department.

Report all incidents immediately to the GIS Hotline 1-855-543-5163.

SAFETY ALERT