



Quality Inspection Services, Inc.



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RECEIVED
REGION I
2000 NOV 14 PM 3:19

TO; United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission,
ATTN: Betsy O,Riche
FROM: Daniel Hoffman(R.S.O.)Quality Inspection Services Inc.
SUBJECT: Non-Monitored Personnel Exposure.
DATE:November 10,2000

On october 21,2000,Quality Inspection Services Inc.(Q.I.S.I.) was preforming feild radiography services of piping welds for United Refining Corp.(U.R.C.)at their facilities in Warren,Pa.

While making an exposure of a pipe weld in the welding shop at U.R.C.,Q.I.S.I.level 2 radiographer,Randall Mattson,was surveying barrier ropes on the west end of the building.As Mr. Mattson was surveying,a U.R.C.employee [redacted] approached and wanted to enter the work area to get into his locker,but was, but was warned by Mr.Mattson that the area was hot and he was not permitted to enter.AsMr. Mattson resumed surveying the barrier ropes,[redacted] went to the opposite side of the building and chose to cross the barrier there.

According to Mr. Mattson this employee was 10ft. away from an exsposed 49 curie Iridium 192 isotope for approximately 15 seconds.This isotope was also collumated and the exsposure was through 1 inch of carbon steel(contact exsposure).In this situation an accquired dose for [redacted] can be calculated to 4.8mr.

After speaking with the U.R.C. radiation safety officer Mike Shanshala, we investigated this incideny further to find that there were several witnesses see [redacted] ignore the warning and the barrier ropes and signs.

Mr. Shanshala also informed me that he had posted a"SAFETY ALERT" memos,see attached, as well as had safety meetings arranged with U.R.C. employees on radiography work to be done in the plant and that [redacted] was being reprimanded for his actions.

In conclusion,Mr. Shanshala informed me that U.R.C. will be installing barrier lights on every doorway leading into the welding shop to be used with our (Q.I.S.I.) barrier ropes and signs so as this unfotunate incident may never happen again.

Sincerly,

Daniel Hoffman (R.S.O.)

nmss/RGN-004

UNITED REFINING COMPANY

SAFETY ALERT

TO: Plant Personnel

FROM: M. J. Shanshala 

DATE: 1/6/00

SUBJECT: Radiography (X-ray) Work

ACTION: Post - Bulletin Boards
Conduct Tool Box Meetings

Radiography (X-ray) work in the plant is performed by contract personnel. They are licensed by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and are subject to explicit safety standards. One standard requires them to establish a restrictive boundary which prohibits personnel entry while the radiography isotope is active.

This Safety Alert is issued to advise any URC employee, contractor personnel or visitor that under no circumstance shall a restricted radiography area be entered.

If a plant emergency requires entry into a restricted area the radiographer must be told to deactivate the isotope. Entering a restricted area will result in radiation exposure with possible biological effects. Any incident or misconduct will be reported to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission who will conduct an on-site investigation.

Any comments or concerns may be addressed with Bob Hunter or myself.

Thank you.

MEMORANDUM

TO: T. E. Skarada

FROM: M. J. Shanshala 

PC: R. Hunter, RSO
F. Hunter
B. Dawes

DATE: 10/25/00

SUBJECT: Employee Radiation Exposure

The following facts were developed from our investigation into an employee exposure to a radioactive isotope.

Employee: 
Occupation: Welder
Age: 
SS#: 
Contractor: Quality Inspection Services, Inc.
Isotope: Iridium 192
Activity: 49 Curies
Radiographers: Randy Mattson, Ken Kopacki - QISI
Date: October 21, 2000
Time: 4:00 p.m.
Location: Pipe Shop – East Bay
Exposure Time: 15 Seconds
Dose: 4.8 mR
Notification: Nuclear Regulatory Commission, King of Prussia, PA
October 22, 2000 @ 2:30 p.m. by QISI
Investigation Team: R. Hunter & M. Shanshala – URC
Dan Hoffman, Frank Papalia, Randy Mattson and Ken Kopacki - QISI

Dialogue: On Saturday, October 21, 2000 Quality Inspection Services Inc. (QISI) were using Iridium 192, a radioactive isotope with an activity of 49 Curies to X-ray a pipe weld in the east bay of the Pipe Shop. The entire area was secured with warning signs and barrier rope to warn and prevent personnel from entering the shop complex. QISI personnel were monitoring radioactive emissions with hand-held instruments and posted a security person to monitor the work site.

At approximately 4:00 p.m.  entered the secured area via the Automotive Garage and Pipe Shop office and proceeded to his locker which was some 8' from the pipe weld being X-rayed. QISI and URC personnel called out to him to leave the area immediately, which he did. It is estimated that his radioactive exposure time was approximately 15 seconds. Our calculations indicate that he received radiation equal to 4.8 Millirems (mR) which is considered extremely low, and for a one-time exposure will not produce any health problems.

Following this incident we conducted an investigation with QISI, informed the Nuclear Regulatory Commission - King of Prussia, PA, and counseled  to have a baseline Complete Blood Count test at Warren General Hospital which he did.

Facts developed in the investigation have lead us to conclude that he was personally responsible for entering a secured area when a radioactive isotope was being used to X-ray a pipe weld.

MEMORANDUM

TO: [REDACTED]

FROM: M. J. Shanshala 

PC: T. Skarada R. Sleeman
F. Hunter L. Salapek
B. Dawes L. Loughlin
R. Hunter, RSO

DATE: 10/25/00

SUBJECT: Radiation Exposure

On Saturday, October 21, 2000 Quality Inspection Services Inc. (QISI) were using Iridium 192, a radioactive isotope with an activity of 49 Curies to X-ray a pipe weld in the east bay of the Pipe Shop. The entire area was secured with warning signs and barrier rope to warn and prevent personnel from entering the shop complex. QISI personnel were monitoring radioactive emissions with hand-held instruments and posted a security person to monitor the work site.

At approximately 4:00 p.m. you entered the secured area via the Automotive Garage and Pipe Shop office and proceeded to your locker which was some 8' from the pipe weld being X-rayed. QISI and URC personnel called out to you to leave the area immediately, which you did. It is estimated that your radioactive exposure time was approximately 15 seconds. Our calculations indicate that you received radiation equal to 4.8 Millirems (mR) which is considered extremely low, and for a one-time exposure will not produce any health problems.

Following this incident we conducted an investigation with QISI, informed the Nuclear Regulatory Commission - King of Prussia, PA, and counseled you to have a baseline Complete Blood Count test at Warren General Hospital which you did.

Facts developed in the investigation have lead us to conclude that you were personally responsible for entering a secured area when a radioactive isotope was being used to X-ray a pipe weld.

You are hereby cautioned and instructed not to enter any restricted radioactive work sites in the future.

Thank you.

MJS/kw