10 Process Equipment Burner and Combustion System Hazards That Can Cost You Your Life!

John R. Puskar
CEC Combustion Services Group Inc.
cwilliams@cec-consultants.com
www.combustionsafety.com

Abstract

Burner and combustion safety is crucial for the safe operation of fired heaters and boilers at process facilities. This paper discusses 10 of the most common burner and combustion system hazards that impact the safe operation of process equipment. The paper includes a discussion of three burner related explosion incidents that have occurred at process plants and how to avoid them. Strategies are also presented for training of maintenance and operations personnel on hazard recognition and avoidance. A protocol for walking down equipment prior to light offs is also presented as an extra safety step.

About the Author:
Mr. John R. Puskar, P.E., is principal of CEC Combustion Services Group Inc. Mr. Puskar’s company combats equipment risks by testing, training, and servicing fuels and combustion systems issues all over the world. Mr. Puskar is a degreed licensed Mechanical Engineer in Ohio and several other states. He has been practicing in the combustion area for over 24 years. He has authored over a dozen papers in the field and has lectured at over 100 workshops where he has trained thousands in combustion equipment safety.