

# Safety Flash

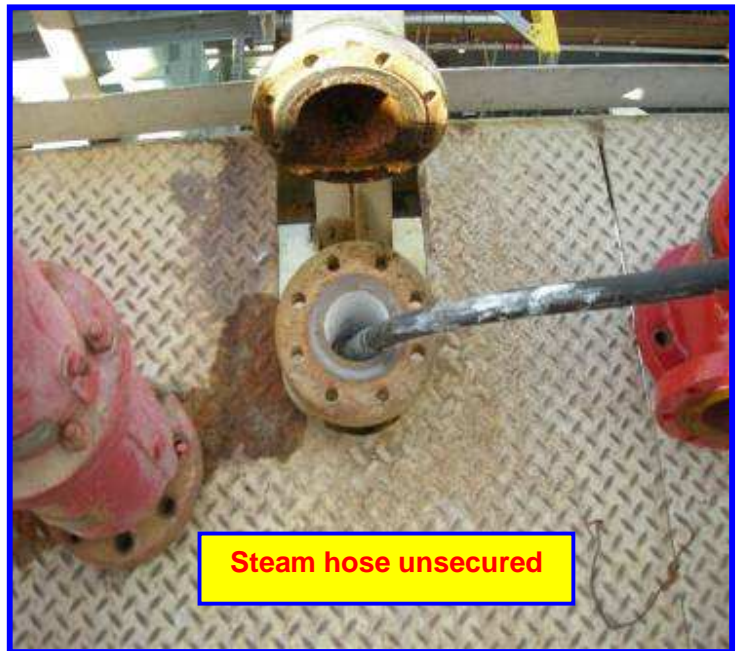
## **Baytown Refinery Contractor First Aid: Contractor Struck By Unsecured Steam Hose**

### **Incident Summary:**

On March 12, 2010, a contractor was struck in the face when an unsecured steam hose was energized and dislodged from a pipe (see photo at right). The steam hose was not secured in the pipe as required by SSS-4020, Utility Stations and Temporary Hose Connections. Per SSS-4020, **“Hoses shall be firmly secured, preferably to a fixed object (stanchion, piping, etc.). Attaching hoses to objects such as tools is not acceptable. Hoses shall be attached in a manner that shall prevent them from coming loose or moving in the event they are inadvertently bumped or the pressure changes.”**

### **Initial Investigation:**

- Primary cause of incident was **failure to follow the requirements of SSS-1040, Utility Stations and Temporary Hose Connections.**
- In addition, communications between ExxonMobil and the contractors working the job were less than adequate. ExxonMobil personnel failed to communicate to the contractor crew that the steam hose was going to be lined-up.



### **Work Group Discussion Questions:**

- The ExxonMobil Total Safety Culture (TSC) process focuses on “behaviors”. What at-risk behaviors were performed in this incident?
- Why do you think these at-risk behaviors occurred?
- What role did “risk tolerance” play in this incident?
- What is the worst thing that could have happened in this incident?
- Discuss the following: *“Just as the dangers associated with “assumption”, the importance of “verification” can never be over-emphasized.*