

Notice No. 4
January 29, 1981

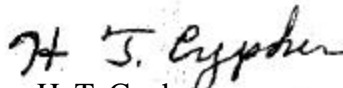
WELDING - FIRE

A fire recently occurred on an offshore production platform during welding operations. Hot slag from welding on a hand rail dropped to a lower deck onto a drop cloth covering an empty 55-gallon drum that had contained paint thinner. An explosion and fire ensued.

The fire was extinguished quickly with dry chemicals and water. There was no injury to personnel nor damage to the platform.

The area had been inspected prior to the welding but the drop cloth concealed the open paint thinner drum.

To prevent recurrence of this type of accident, the Operator will remove all such materials to a safe storage area and clear the welding site prior to welding or burning.



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