

Learnt Lessons

Safe work during the connecting / disconnecting of the hoses at the loading station of LNG tanker

Do you know how important is to keep hoses emptied and depressurized before disconnecting them in the charger of tanker LNG?

Description:

While the disconnection of an LNG hose at the loading station of LNG tanker in Barcelona plant, a driver suffered splashes and minor burns on arms and legs.

After a loading problem on the scale at the beginning of the operation, it was decided to change the vehicle's loading position.

At first sight the loading appears to haven't started, so there was a wrong feeling that the lines were empty, so they did not do the usual 3 lines sweeps towards the tanker, only one towards the plant.

Besides this, it was not verified that there was no pressure in the LNG hose, by opening the purge valve of the tank manifold.

When the driver disconnected the hose with the bronze key, the LNG came out, hitting him.

The driver was wearing personal protective equipment, except the cryogenic apron.



Requirements and improvement proposals:

- Ensure that the alignment of the loader valves is correct before disconnecting the hoses.
- Make sure the hoses are empty and without pressure before disconnecting them., Drivers must confirm the absence of pressure opening its purge valve.
- Use a face shield, cryogenic gloves and apron, shirt sleeves rolled down while connection/disconnection, according to risk assessment.



After 10,000 loading operations per year, you should not relax.

IMPORTANT:

BEFORE DISCONNECTING THE HOSES, CONFIRM THERE IS NO LIQUID AND NO PRESSURE INSIDE.

