

Italy

Type of incident : ignition & fire

Summary:

The episode happened during heating of a cover for the mechanical assembly of bearings on crankshaft of a vertical reciprocating compressor; such a cover has been by mistake located onto a wooden pallet inside the oven for three hours at a temperature of 180°C: an operator discovered that an external temperature monitor was indicating 300°C, thus signalling presence of internal fire. At that moment, He saw smoke escaping from the electric oven; erroneously He opened a little the door of the oven: flames almost reached Him. The operator put out the fire with two portable fire extinguishers; the wooden pallet which was inside, has been caught by fire.



Root Causes:

- ✓ No adequate metallic structure has been used for heating;
- ✓ lack of knowledge of combustion and fire fighting risk.

Actions Taken Thus Far: Next Steps

- ✓ Manufacturing of a metallic structure;



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ICAAMC
International Compressed Air
& Allied Machinery Committee