

Work at Wrong Location

EPSC Learning Sheet , April 2020

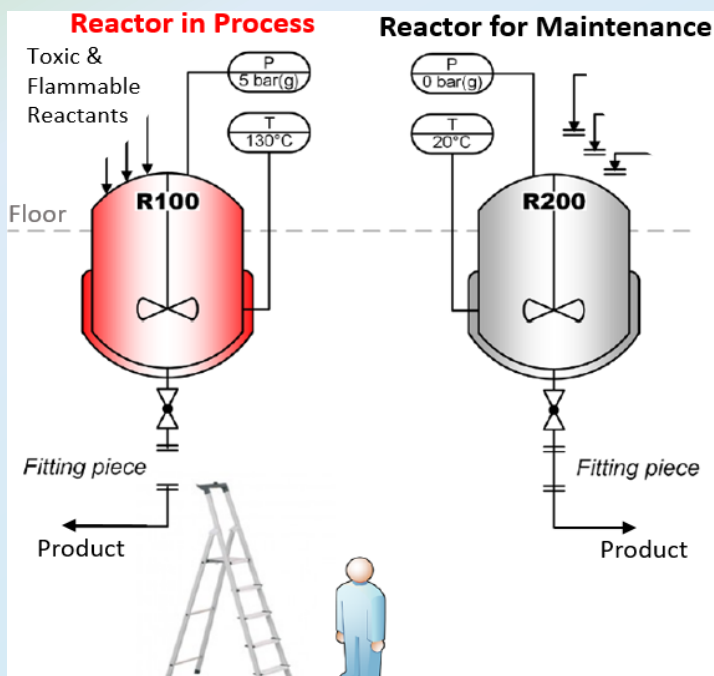


What Happened:

A mechanic was requested to remove the spool piece below a reactor that was well isolated for maintenance work. Unfortunately he went to the wrong reactor that was in use with hazardous chemicals.

Aspects:

- Mechanics & contractors are not as familiar with the plant as operators and can easily end-up at a wrong location
- It is the responsibility from operations that maintenance people and contractors work at the right equipment
- It is essential to instruct the mechanic at the work location in the field and assure the task is fully understood
- Make sure that critical flanges to be opened in the field are well indicated, e.g. by a label. In this case the reactors were not identified at the lower floor where the work was done
- Just a permit to work, without instruction at the work site, is not a good barrier for this typical mistake



Validate the right location in the field