

For issue to Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks (Employees and Contract Partners)

SHE COMMUNICATION

Incident Involving Disposable Canister Blow Torch

What happened?

Before completing standard heat shrink activities on site, our joiner, as expected began to inspect and test the disposable canister blow torch equipment before use. During this process, some residual gas ignited without warning with the resultant fire being successfully extinguished with no injuries to anyone. The nozzle from this incident has been taken away for further inspection by the supplier.

Learning Points?

This incident is a reminder to us all to be cautious and check the condition of our equipment before use.



- Check and ensure this type of blow torch is equipped with gas control valves and sealing rings before use;
- Check the thread is correctly aligned and both sealing ring and control valve are in good condition;
- Read carefully and follow the safety instructions shown on the cylinder;
- Before connection, make sure the igniter is turned off and the blow torch fits the cylinder well;
- After connection, check and ensure that there is no smell / sound of a gas leak from the cylinder connection;
- Ensure all blow torches are kept in a well-ventilated location away from flammable materials and securely stored when not in use.

If you spot any issues with your gas blow torch, do not use it, quarantine the item and consult your line manager.

At Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks – if it's not safe, we don't do it.

Communication by (✓)	Managers	✓	Notice board	✓	Tool-box talk	✓	Team brief	✓
Communication complete by (✓)	1 week	✓	2 weeks		1-month		2-months	
Issued by: James Reeve, Occupational Safety Advisor						Date of issue: 29/08/2019		