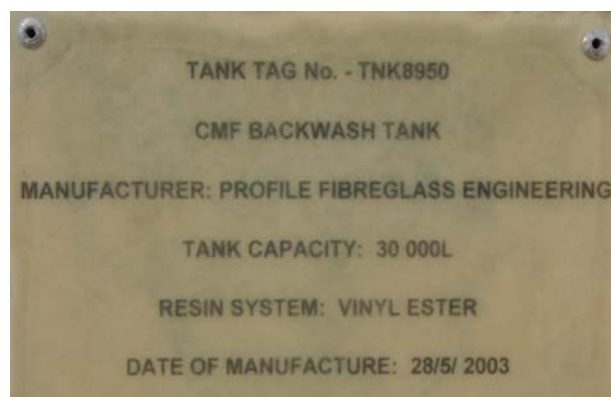


safety alert

Chemical Tank Failure

Alert No: 2 - 2008

Date: August 05 2008



Description of what happened:

A Sodium Hydrochloride Tank burst spilling the entire contents into the bund area.

Location / Who it affects / issues / outcomes:

The Incident occurred at Wollongong STP and affected Sydney Water personnel, contractors, visitors & the environment.

It has implications for any Sydney Water site that has tanks fabricated by "Profile Fibreglass Engineering" with Manufacturing date approx. 2003.

Immediate actions:

Plant Managers to conduct a site audit to verify if similar tanks are in operation. If possible tanks should be isolated and taken out of operation with tank contents removed. If this is not possible then an exclusion zone should be set up with barrier fencing and appropriate signage. The exclusion area should be based on the risks associated with the tank's contents, and the consequences if failure should occur. For eg a tank containing sulphuric acid should have an exclusion zone preventing any possible contact with personnel.

Corrective actions

Arrangements have been made by plant management at Wollongong to carry out a structural assessment of the failed tank and similarly constructed tanks at the Wollongong STP. Subject to the findings further actions will follow.

Issued Gino Belsito - Manager, Health and Safety. 9350-5235

Expiry date : 05 Feb 2009