

Safety Alert

Issue: Near Miss

Date: 2018-07-11

Location: Maintenance Shop #7

Department: Buildings

Incident Details:

On Tuesday, July 10, a painter was mixing four (4) aerosol cans of Rust-Oleum Striping (Line) Paint using the paint shaker. The cans dislodged and fell to the bottom of the shaker, puncturing one of the cans. The cans could not be removed without dismantling the shaker. Four more cans were placed on the shaker, and when the painter turned the machine back on, there was a blue flame and a swooshing noise (described as similar to lighting a barbecue with the cover closed). The painter grabbed a fire extinguisher, but the fire had already extinguished itself.



Cause:

The Rust-Oleum Striping Paint is a highly flammable paint, and the electricity in the paint shaker ignited the gases from the punctured paint can at the bottom of the machine.

Corrective Actions:

- Aerosol paint cans shall not be shaken using the paint shaker. This type of paint shall be mixed as per the directions on the can.
- Workers using the Striping paint (and any WHMIS-controlled products) shall read and understand the safety data sheet prior to using the product.
- A safe work practice / job procedure will be developed for using the paint shaker, and all users will be trained prior to using the shaker.