

- 1. Location & Date of Incident: Goose Creek, SC January 2, 2014
- Personnel involved: Will Doerting, Justin Mounts, Dave Parry (working on opposite shift, not present at time of incident)
- 3. Incident as reported: Burner was set up on a stand with nozzle/cone inserted into a melter opening with an automated sliding door able to move up and down on a cable. Burner was chained to the door. This door was opened enough at the bottom to allow burner access. Before job start, Will and Dave spoke with plant contact to find out if there was a lockout system in place to de-energize the door while they were heating the melter. They were told that there was no lockout system to de-energize the door and that is was not necessary in order to proceed, so they went ahead and began firing.

[Note: All forklift drivers in the plant are given remote controls by which they are able to move melter doors up and down so that when the melter is in operation, they can quickly open the door, drop in their load of aluminum, and then close the door again.]

During night shift a few days into the job, a plant forklift driver in the vicinity was pushing buttons on his remote, and inadvertently closed the door on the operating burner. The weight of the door squashed the burner cone, which caused the bolts holding the cone to the burner body to break, separating the body from the cone. The cone was then forced out of the melter with the pressure from the door's weight. The burner body, still attached to the melter door, continued to fire, facing downward at the floor.

Both Will and Justin were watching the recorder on the opposite side of the melter when the burner came out, so they did not see it occur. However, they immediately noticed the drastic decrease in temperature from the three thermocouples in the vessel, and walked over to where the burner was firing to investigate the problem.

Seeing that the burner was firing at the floor, Will immediately shut off the gas on the 'T' to which the burner was directly linked, thus cancelling the burner operation.

- 4. Injuries: none
- 5. Property damaged: One roll of thermocouple wire linked to TC#3 was burned up when the burner came out of the furnace and flipped around.

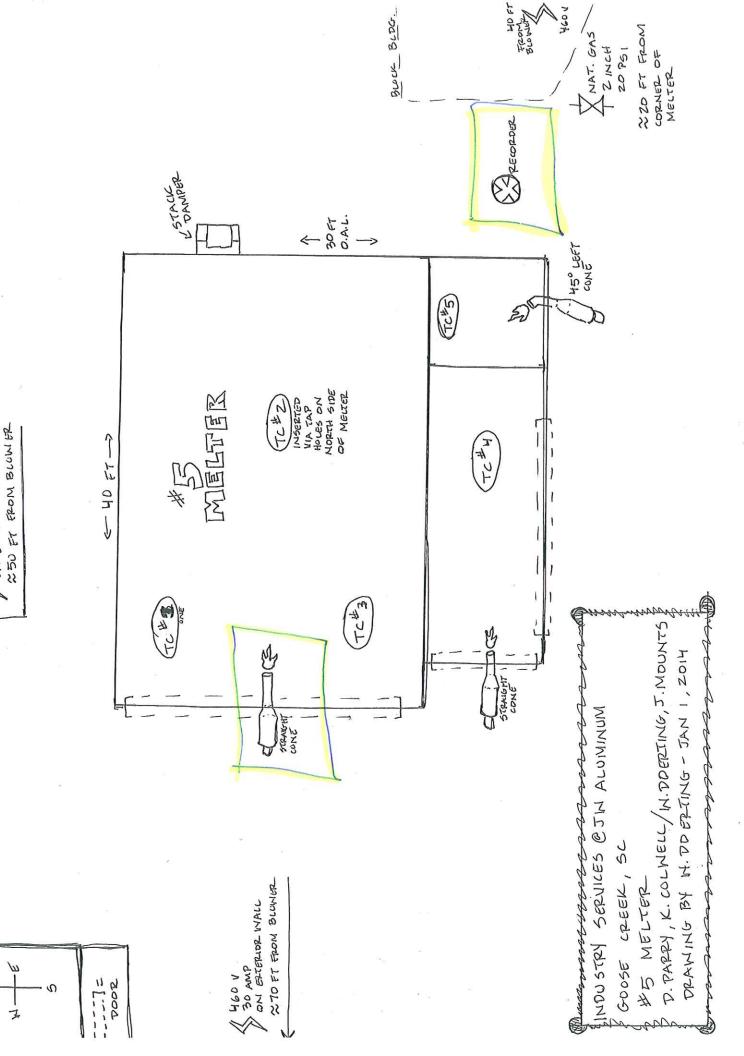


#### **Incident Investigation Report**

- 6. Remedial Action: Gas 'T' going directly to burner was shut off. Burner was put back in place and restarted 1.5 hours later after electrician came and remade electrical connection as the fuse for the blower had blown at the same time.
- 7. Prospective Long Term Solution/ Procedural Change: Use this instance as an educational awareness tool for technicians to relay the importance of lockout procedures when automated systems could potentially affect the vessel they are working to heat.

8. Reported by:		
Kari Evely, January 8, 2014,	Low Evel	
Printed Name, Date & Signature		
9. Reviewed By:		
Printed Name, Date & Signature		
Printed Name, Date & Signature		

- 10. Document Revisions:
- 11. Attachments: (Facility Report/Photographs/Medical report)



A \$ 30 AMP WALL WALL

NORTH

## **HOTWORK**

# Log Sheet

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## Log Sheet

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