

Lessons Learned



— MECHANICAL CONTRACTORS —

Date: 2/19/21

Region: Seattle, WA

Project: Dave and Busters

Incident Title: NIBCO Valves

Summary

Workers installed a 2 ½" NIBCO copper valve to the rest of the system using a Rigid Pipe Press Tool (seen right). When testing the system, the connection failed, and the pipe blew out.

After further investigation, the instructions state to only connect NIBCO Valves 2 ½" or larger with **ONLY** the approved NIBCO Pressing Tool. The caution label seen in the installation instructions (shown to the right) is the only warning label for this hazard.

CAUTION

NIBCO 2½", 3" & 4" Press Fittings and Valves to be installed **ONLY** with:

- NIBCO PC-100 or PC-280 Pressing Tool
- NIBCO PC-5 Adapter Jaw
- NIBCO Pressing Chain - 2½" (PC-2), 3" (PC-3), 4" (PC-4)



What Went Right?

- Area was clear of people while pressure testing, no one was injured

What Went Wrong?

- Wrong Pressing Tool used for NIBCO Valve

Lessons Learned

- When using NIBCO valves, always use the approved NIBCO pressing tool
- Check the manufacturer's instructions before using any new materials or equipment
- Check all Caution and Warning labels, they aren't always as emphasized as they should be

REMINDER: Pressing Tools need to be Calibrated. Check the manufacturer's instructions for Calibration Intervals