

Tools for Life – Weekly Health & Safety Meeting



Home Healthy - Home Safe

June 2021

Pressure Testing and Use of a Self-Tapping Screw

Do we have an on-the-job Lesson Learned?

Pressure testing happens nearly each day on an Apollo site somewhere.

The hazards associated with this can be from merely getting a little wet, to serious injury, hearing loss or even death.

Because we do so much of this activity, it can be thought of as routine, and complacency can set in. It is only through consistent application of procedures and strict adherence to them, that we will always be successful and safe each workday.

- Make sure all persons involved have the appropriate level of training and experience to understand how to install, and secure all parts of a test header, or testing equipment.
- Signage, and barricading if necessary, must be installed prior to start of the task.
- For High-pressure testing (Over 500psi) exclusion areas must also be planned for.
- Coordination with the GC will help with notifications necessary to other trades or workers in the area.
- Always walk the ENTIRE SYSTEM prior to bringing up to pressure or relieving any pressure. **NO SHORT CUTS!**
- When removing soldered on caps or crimped caps you **MUST** install a self-tapping screw, and then remove it, to visually verify no stored energy or liquids are present.

SAFETY REMINDER: Immediate pressure release can result in severe hearing damage.

Discussion Points/Quiz Questions:

1. Do you always need to install signage prior to starting a pressure test?
2. Why do you need to walk the entire system before testing?
3. What is the pressure threshold for creating exclusion areas when pressure testing?
4. What do you do if you remove the tap-screw and there is air or liquid being released?