

# Contractor Serious Mishap

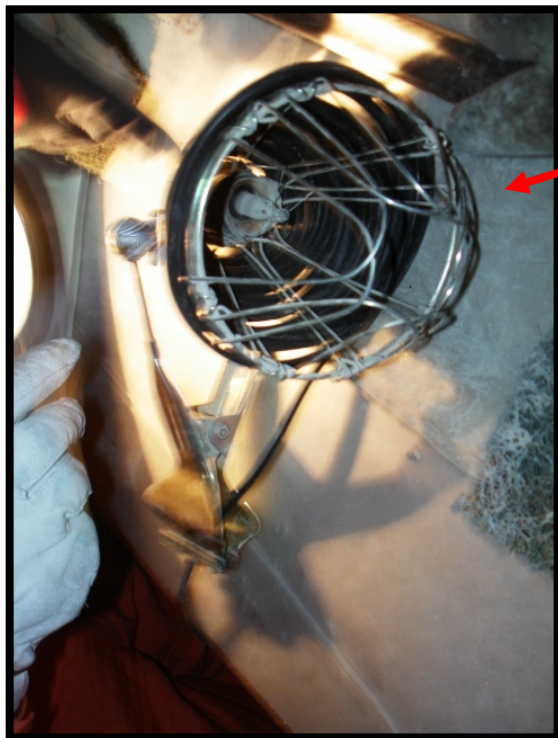
## Burns from Ignited Floor Mastic



- **Injury:** Severe burns to two contractor employees and minor burns to one contractor employee
- **Damage:** Approximately \$500,000
- **Activity:** Workers were removing asbestos floor tile mastic, using paint thinner instead of a pre-approved mastic remover, when a temporary light in the containment area fell causing a spark and igniting the thinner
- **Direct Cause:**
  - Failure to implement & comply with contract safety specifications
- **Root Cause:**
  - Insufficient controls in Design Build contracts to ensure the necessary contract requirements, drawings, safety plans, and personnel are provided
- **Lessons Learned:**
  - Entire execution team – contractor and government personnel – must read and fully understand all contract requirements
  - Prime Contractor and sub-contractors must be held accountable and responsible for initiating and maintaining a proactive safety program

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Example of temporary light fixture with clamp that was used inside containment area.



Charred temporary light fixture found inside burn area.

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### Fire Damage Photos



What can go wrong?

What can I do about it?

If I can't do anything about it, whom do I tell?