

AIR HORN EXPANSION AND DAMAGE

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DESCRIPTION:

This incident occurred when an air horn exploded and broke an automobile windshield. Air horns can freeze if left in cold weather, rendering them inoperable. A worker required the equipment immediately and placed air horn directly on heat source to quickly thaw. The air horn canister expanded so quickly it exploded and shattered the windshield.



CAUSE OF INJURY OR LOSS:

Quick heating of a frozen air horn.

CONTRIBUTING FACTORS:

- Worker required the air horn immediately, and hoped it would thaw using this technique. Worker was not aware of potential risks of explosion.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS:

- Keep air horns in a temperature regulated environment
- If air horn becomes affected by cold temperature, ensure you warm it slowly to keep it from expanding.