

and seven distorted. All 18 cans tested were over-pressurized at 70° F. and those cans that did not leak or burst prior to 130° F were also over-pressurized.

A person who possesses a can of HC-12a® described in this safety notice should ensure that the can is not offered for transportation or transported and that it is stored in a cool or refrigerated location. If you have further questions, please contact Mr. LaMagdelaine.

Issued in Washington, D.C. on November 5, 1997.

Alan I. Roberts,

Associate Administrator for Hazardous Materials Safety.

[FR Doc. 97-29720 Filed 11-10-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Research and Special Programs Administration

Potential Failure of Check Valves Following Remanufacturing

AGENCY: Research and Special Programs Administration (RSPA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice; issuance of advisory bulletin.

SUMMARY: RSPA is issuing an advisory bulletin to owners and operators of Hazardous Liquid and Natural Gas Pipelines. The bulletin advises the industry about potential failure of check valves following remanufacture.

ADDRESSES: This document can be viewed on the Office of Pipeline Safety (OPS) home page at: <http://ops.dot.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Linda Daugherty, (202) 366-4577.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

In a recent accident, a hazardous liquid pipeline cleaning pig was late arriving at a pump station. The pig was thought to be lodged in the check valve due to the noise level at the valve. The valve was equipped with a lock open device and the wrench was locked in the open position by a bolt intended for that function. An attempt was made to remove the bolt from the operating handle on the check valve in order to exercise the valve and dislodge the cleaning pig. The wrench locking bolt was moved about one-half of a turn and the shaft unexpectedly blew out of the valve releasing liquefied petroleum gas into the environment. The on-site valve inspection indicated that the valve stem was held in place only by the locking bolt. The clapper and hinge were

detached and the set screws were missing.

II. Advisory Bulletin (ADB-97-05)

To: Owners and Operators of Hazardous Liquid and Natural Gas Pipelines.

Subject: Potential Failure of Check Valves Following Remanufacturing.

Purpose: Inform system owners and operators of the need to inspect/test remanufactured check valves.

Advisory: Recent information discovered during the course of an Office of Pipeline Safety (OPS) accident investigation indicates certain older check valves were not remanufactured within specified tolerances. Significant differences were found in several of the same type of remanufactured check valves. All of the shafts were different and none of the valves appear to match the description given in the check valve remanufacture procedure. Additionally, the valves were assembled differently. Evaluation of other remanufactured check valves also shows evidence of improper reassembly.

Remanufactured check valves should undergo a thorough quality assessment to assure tolerances are within design parameters, particularly valves where the shaft is retained inside the valve by set screws. Operators should consider including testing or inspection as part of the quality assessment. Remanufactured check valves currently in service are included in this advisory because damage to a pipeline and release of pressurized product may occur as a result of improper remanufacturing of check valves.

OPS recommends operators also be aware of an October 20, 1997, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Occupational Safety and Health Administration Joint Safety Alert (Alert) concerning a similar but unrelated problem with certain types of check and butterfly valves. According to the Alert, certain types of check and butterfly valves can undergo shaft-disk separation and fail catastrophically or "blow-out". For more information on the Alert, visit the EPA CEPPPO home page at <http://www.epa.gov/swercepp/> or contact the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Hotline at 1-800-424-9346 or 703-412-9810.

(49 U.S.C. Chapter 601; 49 CFR 1.53)

Issued in Washington, D.C. on November 5, 1997.

Stacey L. Gerard,

Acting Director for Program Development.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Surface Transportation Board

Release of Waybill Data

The Surface Transportation Board has received a request from Covington & Burling on behalf of Union Pacific Corporation (WB468-4-10/28/97), for permission to use certain data from the Board's Carload Waybill Samples. A copy of the request may be obtained from the Office of Economics, Environmental Analysis, and Administration.

The waybill sample contains confidential railroad and shipper data; therefore, if any parties object to these requests, they should file their objections with the Director of the Board's Office of Economics, Environmental Analysis, and Administration within 14 calendar days of the date of this notice. The rules for release of waybill data are codified at 49 CFR 1244.8.

Contact: James A. Nash, (202) 565-1542.

Vernon A. Williams,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-29767 Filed 11-10-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-00-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Customs Service

Quarterly IRS Interest Rates Used in Calculating Interest on Overdue Accounts and Refunds on Customs Duties

AGENCY: Customs Service, Treasury.

ACTION: General notice.

SUMMARY: This notice advises the public of the quarterly Internal Revenue Service interest rates used to calculate interest on overdue accounts and refunds of Customs duties. For the quarter beginning October 1, 1997, the rates will remain at 8 percent for overpayments and 9 percent for underpayments. This notice is published for the convenience of the importing public and Customs personnel.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 1997.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ronald Wyman, Accounting Services Division, Accounts Receivable Group, 6026 Lakeside Boulevard, Indianapolis, Indiana 46278, (317) 298-1200, extension 1349.