



# HAZARD

# ALERT

## HAZARD SUMMARY:

Recently on PEI a plumber received second degree burns while changing the head on a low water cut off valve on a commercial boiler. While he was removing the head gasket, hot, pressurized water sprayed causing burns to his upper body.

In preparation for the work the plumber had closed the water feed to the boiler and opened the drain valve for the low water cut off to relieve boiler pressure. A small amount of water did drain from the valve so the plumber was under the impression that the boiler pressure was relieved. When he disassembled the head pressurized boiler water at operating temperature sprayed from the valve burning him.

## HAZARD LOCATION:

Commercial hot water boiler systems

## CAUSE:

A sediment build up in the drain valve of the low water cut off prevented complete drainage. Pressure was not completely relieved from the system.



## RECOMMENDED PRECAUTIONS:

- ◆ Ensure all boiler pressure is relieved before disassembling any water transfer components.
- ◆ Open pressure relief valve to ensure pressure is completely relieved off boiler. Don't rely on the tridicator.
- ◆ Open drain valve off the low water cut off periodically to clear any sediment build up and check operation of low water cut off valve.

For further information, please contact the **Occupational Health & Safety Division** at (902) 368-5697 or visit our website at [www.wcb.pe.ca](http://www.wcb.pe.ca)



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