

Engineering Bulletin (Gas) EB/693

Published: 03/08/2020

Review date: 31/12/2020

OPERATIONAL ALERT

Purge Vent Pipe Selection.

Introduction

This engineering bulletin has been necessitated resulting from concerns raised by the HSE following a recent incident.

NB. This EB is not advising of any change to existing procedures but serves as a reminder to undertake works in accordance with existing Cadent approved procedures.

Background

All operatives are reminded of the requirements and obligations placed upon them within existing Cadent approved documents including but not exclusively;

- GD/PM/MSL/1 Mar 2020 – Management and Work Procedure for Main Laying and Service Laying on systems operating at pressures up to and including 7bar.
- GD/PM/SCO1 - Management Procedure for Safe Control of Operations

In addition to the general obligations and requirements of these documents, operatives are reminded that they **DO NOT** have the authority to deviate from the conditions and stipulations set out within these procedures.

Your attention is drawn specifically to;

1. GD/PM/MSL/1 Section 38.0.3.4. Purge Vent Pipes.

Purge vent pipes shall be fitted at the far end of the main to be purged and shall be manned whilst venting.

Purge vent pipes for pipelines and mains shall:

- Discharge vertically into the open air not less than 2.5m above ground level
- Be sited where possible not less than 5m downwind of possible sources of ignition
- Be sited where purged gas is unlikely to drift into buildings
- Be firmly supported
- Be metallic
- Include a full-bore control valve and a sample test point
- Not include a flame trap; (which would restrict velocity)
- Be adequately earthed if connected to a PE pipeline or main

2. GD/PM/SCO1

- Section 5.7.1 Deviation from Safe Control of Operations Procedures. The Competent Person has **NO** authority to deviate from the written Safe Control of Operation procedure unless the Authorising Engineer has granted authority.
- Section 5.7.2 The Competent Person has **NO** authority to deviate from current Engineering Procedures. If the work cannot be undertaken in accordance with current company procedures, the situation shall be referred to the Authorising Engineer.

Note: Shall - Indicates a Mandatory Requirement.

Information for first line managers and operatives

- i. Competent Persons (CP's) as defined within SCO suite of documents are reminded that they shall undertake operations in accordance with the approved Cadent Management and Work Procedures and shall not deviate without prior approval from these procedures.
 - ii. AE's are reminded of their obligations within the SCO suite to undertake inspections of 10% of approved SCO operations. These inspections should be undertaken regularly throughout the year and ensure that an operation undertaken by each CP is inspected at least annually.
 - iii. 10% inspections shall be undertaken on site not as a desk top exercise and shall record all findings of non-compliance. iv. Inspections shall be returned to both the .box.AEInspections@cadentgas.com and Network Control for review and collation.
3. The Heads of Safety and Assurance within each Network are requested to instigate appropriate compliance inspections to ensure that the requirements of Cadent's Management and Work Procedures are being complied with. Non-compliance findings are requested to be forwarded to Network Control for further review and trend analysis.
 4. Heads of Contract shall confirm that this EB has been issued to and briefed by the GDSP's and Contract Services by 31st August 2020.
 5. Network Control shall provide feedback from AE 10% and Compliance Officer Inspections to the Engineering Forum for discussion.
 6. This EB shall be reviewed by Engineering Services no later than 31st December 2020.