

## **Hazard Summary**

Risk of rupture on pressure vessels due to corrosion

On February 4, 2015, the Regional Boiler/Gas Inspector of the Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) conducted an annual inspection of pressure vessels at a mine process plant. The inspection revealed signs of corrosion between metal identification tags and the pressure vessel walls on a number of air receivers.

Further testing confirmed that the pressure vessel's walls were thinner in localized areas on three of the air receivers. To minimize the risk of a rupture, the Inspector requested that the air supply system be shut down. A 30 metre personnel exclusion zone was created to keep workers out of the area during repair.



shows deformation due to corrosion



Area of corrosion becomes visible once Vessel Identification Label is removed for non-destructive testing (NDT)

## Safe Work Practices:

- Conduct regular visual inspections of pressure vessels;
- Be aware of signs of physical damage or degradation to the pressure vessel;
- Remove suspect vessels from operation; and
- Verify unusual observations with non-destructive or ultrasonic thickness testing.

We commit to safety. For more information on workplace health and safety, call us toll-free or visit our website.

