

Storage tank on Fire

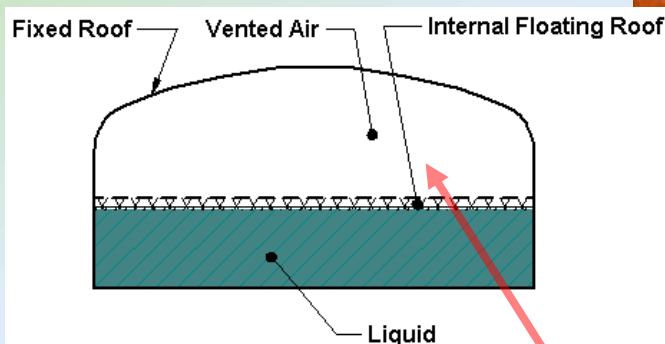
EPSC Learning Sheet - April 2018



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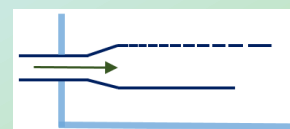
What Happened:

A storage tank with an inner floating roof got on fire while being loaded from a tanker with gasoline.



Aspects to discuss:

- Floating roof of flammable liquid storage tanks are zone 0, that require elimination of all ignition sources
- Hydrocarbons can accumulate here and need to be vented
- In this incident, it seems that a spark generated around the floating roof seal started the fire
- Check seal performance with e.g. an explosion meter or FLIR
- Assure that the internal floating roof is well bonded
- Minimise trembling & static charging due to gas bubbles from filling, by inlet pipe design
- Automatic extinguishment of rim fires is good practice
- Good design and fire protection needs to avoid domino effects from heat radiation, use QRA and apply safe distances



Avoid fires on floating roof tanks