

Preventing Fires Matter of Life—

Importance of 'Safety Tips'

The following safety practices on UPKEEP OF PLANT AND EQUIPMENT were supplied by the Standard Oil Company of California in their **MARKETING SAFE PRACTICE HANDBOOK** at a recent ANICA meeting in Kenai.

1. FIRE PROTECTION

A. It is your duty to guard against fire in every possible way; first, by proper handling of all combustible materials, and second, by elimination of all possible sources of ignition in the presence of flammable vapors.

B. "Strike anywhere" or non-safety matches and un-sheathed cigarette and torch

lighters are prohibited around the plant.

C. Smoking is prohibited within the plant yard, while driving delivery equipment, and during the delivery of products. Watch for smoking on the part of customers or the public and courteously warn them of the danger.

D. Report all oil, gas, vapor leaks, or other fire hazards you may observe to your supervisor. Oil spills should be cleaned up and gasoline spills flushed away with water immediately.

E. Good housekeeping is also good fire protection, especially in and around the warehouse, pump house, unloading headers

and loading rack.

F. Place paint or oil soaked rags in covered metal containers to prevent danger of spontaneous combustion. Containers should be emptied daily and contents disposed of in a safe manner.

G. Do not place bottles or similar glass containers in the direct rays of the sun where they may act as lenses and ignite adjacent combustible material.

H. Fire projection and fire fighting equipment after any use shall promptly be again made serviceable and restored to its proper location.

I. Maintain clear spaces around and ready access to fire extinguishing equipment.

2. FIRE EXTINGUISHMENT

A. Familiarize yourself with the location and correct use of various types of extinguishers as explained in the operating manual.

B. Water dispensed from a garden hose, equipped with an adjustable nozzle, can be particularly useful to wash away spills before fire occurs or to wash burning oils away from structures which might be endangered by fire.

3. FLOORS, PLATFORMS AND LADDERS

A. Keep floors, walkways, stairs and platforms clean and free from projecting nails, broken or splintered boards, broken handrails, etc.

B. Do not use defective or worn out ladders. When using ladders always face the ladder and have both hands free to grasp the stringers; do not attempt to perform work by reaching out from the side of a ladder. Either obtain a portable ladder, or if working from a portable ladder, move the ladder. All portable ladders shall be provided with some effective means to prevent slipping (ladder shoes or sharp points on feet). Ladders should not be used in doorways unless a second employee is guarding the base of the ladder. Portable work ladders should be kept coated with a hard transparent protective material, such as varnish or floor hardener rather than paint, as paint may hide defects.

There will be more to come in future Tundra Times articles on safety tips and practices.