December 27, 2021

To whom it may concern

Fire Accidents at the Toyama Plant (2nd Report)

Toyama Plant (Sasakura 635, Fuchu-Town, Toyama City, Toyama Prefecture), which manufactures chemicals and other products, was caught in a small fire at about 11:30 am on December 9th.We deeply apologize for the great inconvenience and concern caused to the residents in the neighborhood and all those involved. We have reported to the firefighting authorities on December 16th and would like to provide an update on the current situation regarding this matter.

(Reference: Fire Accidents at Toyama Plant 1st Report on December 13th, 2021
https://www.nissanchem.co.jp/eng/news_release/release/en2021_12_13.pdf)

1. Date and Location of the occurrence

On Thursday, December 9th, at around 11:30 a.m., Melamine manufacturing line in Toyama Plant

2. Response to ignition

A heat medium (mixture of nitrate and nitrite, approx. 400°C) used in the production of melamine leaked from the shaft seal of a valve (diameter 150mm, made of stainless steel) and ignited from the heat insulator in contact with the heat medium ignited.

The fire was extinguished by ab employee with fire extinguishers, and the fire was calmed around 11:40 a.m. on the same day.

3. Damage status

Human damage: None

Property Damage: None

4. Environmental Impact

None

5. Neighborhood Impact

None

6. Cause

(1) Defective packing material of the valve shaft seal at the leakage point

Inappropriate packing material with heat resistance temperature lower than that of the heat medium was mistakenly used for the valve, resulting in deterioration of the packing and leakage. We failed to give proper instructions to the maintenance workers and to check their maintenance records.

(2) Inadequate selection of heat-insulating exterior material

Since a heat insulating exterior material with a low ignition temperature was used, we presume that high temperature heat medium leaked from the valve and ignited when it adhered.

7. Countermeasures

(1) In the maintenance of valves, instruct maintenance workers to use proper packing, keep maintenance records, and otherwise strengthen management.

(2)In areas where leakage of heat transfer fluid is a concern, prevent ignition by changing to alternative materials with heat resistance or by curing with heat resistance.

8. Production impact

No impact

9. Future actions

In order to prevent a recurrence, we will thoroughly implement countermeasures. In addition, we will share this information with all our other plants and we will work on safety activities.

Contact information for inquiries on the above
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