

NINA NO INJURIES NO ACCIDENTS AT WORK

A SELECTION OF DIFFERENT EXAMPLES FROM THE EVERYDAY EXPERIENCE OF BOSKALIS | OCTOBER 2014

PRESSURE ON PIPES



Arjan Tanis, CTD Plant Development

"Arjan, we have to maintain pressure over a long distance, and the pressures can reach 30 bar. The question is how can we do so safely using the supplies we keep on site? 'Arjan, some of the pipes are extremely corroded. Does the corrosion affect the strength of the pipes? If so, how can we restore them to their normal strength?"

I receive these kinds of questions regularly. Maintaining pressures over increasingly longer distances with higher capacities and at higher pressures has become a trend in the projects. However, not all valves or sections of pipe are made to withstand these conditions, which can cause dangerous situations. People are then faced with a dilemma. Therefore, I recommend investigating the available components in the preliminary phase of a project to find out whether they can be safely used. In many cases, they will prove to be basically safe, but in need of reinforcement, or they will be declared unfit for use earlier than usual.

We've invested a great deal in learning more about assessing and calculating the effects on the components of a dredging pipe. We also joined forces with DDD to investigate water hammer and the pressure peaks it can cause inside the pipes. We are happy to share this information with you, so don't hesitate to submit your questions!"

INFORMATIVE JHA TRAINING IN QATAR

Sharing information in a JHA is one way to work on safety.

"Before starting on a job, I can see in my mind's eye how it's going to go: step 1, step 2, etc.", says marine superintendent Mike Mayer. "Then I have to convey those images to the guys I work with. When they know exactly what's expected of them, you can prevent unpleasant surprises."

However, many supervisors apparently don't share with their staff how they envision approaching the job. At a special JHA training course in the Coast Guard project in Qatar, they were taught how critical it is for safety to fill out a JHA, because it forces you to describe each and every step. Then, the JHA serves as a starting point for discussion in the prestart meeting. According to Mike, "Amid our habit of 'eat-sleep-work', we run the risk of getting too used to our routine. This training course brings you back to planet earth and reminds you to pay attention at all times!"

JHA training on board the Taurus with Mike Mayer (second from the left)



LEARNING FROM AND WITH EACH OTHER

Boskalis is working on a site next to the Dolphinarium in Harderwijk, the Netherlands. Project manager Kees de Boer organized a NINA training course that included staff from the crowded marine mammal park.

"We take the same approach to risks", says Kees. "The animal trainers showed us as much during the NINA day; increasing awareness and preparation are key. All participants got the message; we've noticed that people have become more pro-active. For example, we will be cleaning up soil that could contain explosives. Although there is a special procedure, employees come to us with their questions anyway on their own initiative. They realize that being well informed is important for their safety."



According to Martin Foppen, Dolphinarium director: "The Dolphinarium and Boskalis have a very solid working relationship and have now found further common ground in the subject of 'safety'."

Dolphinarium director Martin Foppen, who found the NINA session useful, says, "It was wonderful to see that we can learn so much from each other: it's extraordinary to see crane operators and dolphin trainers exchanging ideas!"