

SAFETY ALERT - #16-2004  
BOILER COMPOUND INGESTION  
RELEASE DATE: APRIL 1, 2004



**Injury:** Incident

**Date:** March 13, 2004

**Description:**

The rig personnel realized that they were getting low on boiler compound and ordered more. They had always used powdered boiler compound. When the new order came in it was in the form of a five gallon pail of dark brown fluid. The motor hand placed the pail into the boiler and told his relief to put some boiler compound in a smaller jug so to make it easier to handle. Shortly after crew change, the cross shift motor hand went to the Rig Managers shack and asked him if he had any empty bottles, without explaining what he wanted them for. The Rig Manager gave him an empty 3.78 litre jug which previously held "white cranberry juice" without asking him what it was to be used for. The motor hand went out to the boiler and filled the cranberry juice bottle with boiler compound and used the smaller container to add boiler compound to the chemical pot on the boiler. The motor hand then placed the cranberry juice jug on the shelf in the corner of the boiler shack near the entrance and left. The derrick hand then came into the boiler and noticed the jug that still had the "white cranberry juice" label on it filled with the dark brown fluid, and assuming it was cranberry juice took a drink. The derrick hand then realized that this was not cranberry juice and immediately sought medical attention.



**Recommendations:**

1. All crews will be informed of the WHMIS regulations on decanting hazardous products. Crews to be instructed that if they transfer a hazardous product from a marked container to a smaller unmarked container, that they clearly mark the container as to its contents.
2. Crews are not to transfer hazardous products into containers that were previously used for drinkable products, i.e. pop or juice containers.
3. All worksites are to be inspected to make sure there are **no** containers on their site that are unmarked as to their contents. If their contents are unknown, dispose of product and container.

**Contact:**

Wayne Wait  
Nabors Drilling  
Email: [Wayne.Wait@nabors.com](mailto:Wayne.Wait@nabors.com)  
Phone: (780) 955-5238

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