

**Information Bulletin No. IB00-002**

**June 29, 2000**

**ALERT TO PRESSURE EQUIPMENT OWNERS**

**“MOLE SIEVE” TYPE PRESSURE VESSEL**

On May 24, 2000, a ruptured “Mole Sieve” vessel in an Ammonia Processing Unit at a Fertilizer Plant resulted in one death and ten injuries, five of them critically. Two who were injured died subsequently.

The accident in Donaldsonville, Louisiana, is under investigation by the jurisdiction authorities. Information received so far indicated that accident might be linked to the temperature, content as well as the material properties of the pressure vessel shell, together with the cyclic nature of the operation.

Please ensure that all pressure equipment you have in your plant are being operated safety and in accordance with design. With respect to the operation of similar "Mole Sieve" vessel(s) in your plant, special attention must be paid to the cyclic loading nature of the equipment and the impact of temperature and content on the vessel material.

We will monitor the investigation in Louisiana and post further information on our web-site (<http://www.albertaboilers.com>) when and if available.

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