

Information Bulletin No. IB18-016

July 26, 2018

ALERT
Technical Safety BC releases
Fernie Investigation Report

This Information Bulletin is intended to promote awareness of the investigation findings and recommendations reported by Technical Safety BC.

“24 July 2018

On October 17, 2017, there was an ammonia release at the Fernie Memorial Arena which tragically resulted in three fatalities, as well as the evacuation of 95 residents from 55 nearby homes.

On July 25 Technical Safety BC held a press conference and released its Investigation Report into the ammonia release. The report provides an overview of the incident, the scope of the investigation, and key findings regarding contributing factors. Technical Safety BC also made 18 recommendations to further improve safety in ice rink refrigeration systems, and discussed a number of regulatory actions taken in recent months to prevent similar incidents. “

The investigation report and related documents may be accessed on the Technical Safety BC website:

<https://www.technicalsaftybc.ca/ferniefincident>

Owners and operators of ammonia refrigeration systems are encouraged to review this report as a case study from which learnings may be taken to help improve safety.

<original signed by>

Mike Poehlmann, P.L. (Eng.)
Administrator, Province of Alberta Pressure Equipment Safety
Chief Inspector, ABSA the pressure equipment safety authority

TYPE: ALERT	DESCRIPTION: FERNIE AMMONIA RELEASE INVESTIGATION REPORT	
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