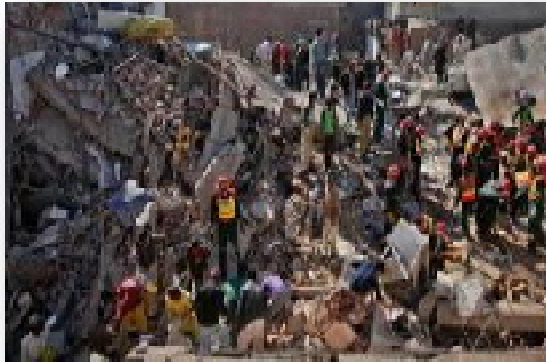


Boiler Safety – What we don't know can **"Kill"** us



Recently, seventeen people were killed and several others including women and children are trapped under the rubble of a three-storey building of a pharmaceutical company which collapsed due to a boiler explosion at Kharak Stop, Multan Road Lahore on Monday.

What can we do?

Following are basic precautions to be taken at all times but not limited to:

- Exterior shell and/or insulation. Look for indications of overheating.
- Leaks. Look for water on the floor.
- Fluegas leaks. Look for black dust (soot) around sheet-metal joints.
- Controls. Look for open panels, covers and signs of rewiring on floor or bottom of panels.
- Check for jumper wires and locked shutoffs.
- Safety Devices. Test all operating controls and safety devices for proper operation.
- Electrical. Ensure that covers are installed on over-limit switches, temperature sensors, and controls.
- Safety valves. Ensure that a safety valve is installed with full-sized discharge piping properly supported and directed to a point of safe discharge.
- Fuel sources. Check for the ability to shut off the fuel source to the vessel.
- Gages. Make sure temperature and pressure gages are operational and are located for proper monitoring.
- Hazards. Remove all fire hazards from the boiler room and do not use the boiler room for storage.
- Air openings. Check combustion air openings for obstructions.
- Proper piping. Check for proper supports and allowance for expansion and contraction.
- Operating certificate. Observe certificate, noting last date of inspection and expiration date, as well as when next inspection is required.