

Risk Element

- Spread of fire;
- Exposure to fumes;
- Eye injury;
- Burn injury;
- Exposure to toxic fume;
- Skin contact.

Initial identification

- Check if documentation exists which can show if compressor was used for ammonia.

Degassing process

- When a compressor is received which is known or suspected of being used with ammonia, (these will normally be large open drive units) it is to be placed outdoors. A fitter, wearing a respirator, will open the compressor up sufficiently to allow gas residues to escape, whilst ensuring that any oil draining from the compressor is recovered;
- The compressor must be left until gas has cleared from the compressor.

Strip down process

- When the residual gas has vented thoroughly from the compressor the compressor can be removed to the strip down area to complete dismantling;
- As ammonia can persist in oil and in bolt threads the fitter should have a respirator to hand.