

HYDRAULIC ACCUMULATORS: BEWARE!

One maintenance worker was killed at a mill a few months ago, and two others were injured, when they began to dismantle a hydraulic accumulator still charged with compressed gas.

An accumulator is an energy-storage device used to multiply the pressure of hydraulic systems. On one side is non-compressible hydraulic fluid, and on the other side is compressed inert gas, usually nitrogen. The gas is released to push the hydraulic fluid into different systems.

You may have these cylinders on equipment in your operation. They sometimes come in scrap loads. They can be small, but pack a big punch.

Never try and dismantle these accumulators unless you have been trained as a hydraulic system expert.

Never torch an accumulator or any other enclosed vessel.

Seek expert advice from your local hydraulic service for help in dealing with these potentially deadly devices.



“3000 PSI”

Accumulators in Scrap

Produced by the Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries

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Comments/questions?

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