

# SAFETY ALERT

## Compressor Fire – October 2011

### PURPOSE OF THE ALERT

On 26<sup>th</sup> October, an Ingersoll Rand 250cfm Compressor caught fire on the main A1 Belfast to Dublin Road while being towed back from a job site.

After investigation, it is believed that the ignition source was from a spark from the two jack-hammers being carried inside the compressor shorting out the battery as they were sitting against it.

The driver of the towing vehicle spotted the fire and managed to pull off the dual carriageway into a lay-by and extinguished the fire without too much disruption to the passing public.

Thankfully no-one was injured, although the compressor (approx £10,000) and the two jack-hammers (approx £1,500 total) were damaged beyond economic repair.

This alert is therefore to remind those transporting compressors with associated tools to ensure the tools are either stored in a proprietary section of the compressor (where provided) or within the towing vehicle, and that extinguishers continue to be provided.



Photos of the burned out compressor



Photo of one burnt jack-hammer

**If there are any questions, please contact a member of the SHEQ Department**