Ammonia Burns Food Plant Worker

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One worker was killed and another hospitalized after an ammonia gas leak at the Tyson Foods Inc. plant in Kansas.

A 51-year-old man died and a 55-year-old man was hospitalized with chemical burns after the incident.

The men were refrigeration workers. They came in contact with ammonia gas after a refrigeration line broke outside of the main plant. The plant's first-responder team rescued the men.

The plant produces pizza toppings for food service customers.

Chemical burns are just one of many potentially lethal hazards in workplaces where chemicals are used. Engineering, work practices, training, communication and personal protective equipment are just some of the safeguards. Could a fatality like this happen in your work area? What could be done to prevent it?

Source: Capital-Journal, Topeka, Kansas, November 2006