

Whale Factory - Vessel No.388.

Fracturing of swept T piece in  
Deck Steam Line on 1st Nov. 1945.

The "swept" tee piece, shown on the attached sketch, was fractured close to the flange as indicated.

Steam was being supplied to this line through a flexible hose from a whale catcher lying alongside, at 150 lbs per sq. inch. This pressure being checked immediately after the fracturing of the tee piece.

The cast iron tee piece and the parted flange have been examined superficially and the casting appears to be normally concentric and homogeneous. Immediately prior to the explosion the engineers procedure is reported to have been as follows:-

The charge-man instructed the fitter to go along the line and ease back all drain cocks on the line in question. The charge-man then "cracked open" the steam supply valve to this line. The fitter is reported to have gone along the line opening all drain cocks and stated that the drain cock indicated on the enclosed sketch was left open till steam came through, after which it was again closed. Immediately this drain cock was closed the cast iron tee piece fractured at the neck as indicated.

The fractured tee piece had been previously tested by hydraulic pressure and found satisfactory.

The flange broken away from the "T" piece is now in the Middlesbrough office.



© 2021

*Lloyd's Register*  
Foundation

004785-004788-0180