

Gas Flues Fatality File



Construction Worker Dies from Carbon Monoxide Poisoning in Winnipeg

In July 2023, a construction worker in Winnipeg, Canada, tragically lost his life due to carbon monoxide poisoning while working inside a home under construction. Emergency responders were called to the site after reports of an unresponsive worker. Upon arrival, paramedics' carbon monoxide detectors indicated dangerously high levels of the gas—approximately 2,000 parts per million—inside the building.

Investigations revealed that the source of the carbon monoxide was a gas-powered pump being used inside the enclosed space without proper ventilation. The lack of adequate airflow allowed the toxic gas to accumulate rapidly, leading to the worker's death. Two bystanders who attempted to assist the victim, along with two paramedics, also suffered from carbon monoxide exposure and required medical treatment.

This incident underscores the critical importance of proper ventilation when operating gas-powered equipment indoors. Employers and workers must ensure that such equipment is used in well-ventilated areas to prevent the buildup of hazardous gases. Additionally, the use of carbon monoxide detectors can provide early warnings of dangerous conditions, potentially saving lives.

Source: Thesafetymag.com