

Report of a Dental Lab Accident (2/09)

One USAF dental laboratory recently reported an accident that may be of interest to other dental labs. Following a recent renovation, a lab technician was waxing a crown with the Bunsen burner turned on. The gas hose feeding the burner suddenly disconnected from the burner and gas exiting the hose ignited. It was determined that the pressure in the facility's natural gas piping (7.25 psi) was much higher than normal (0.5 psi is typical) and the increased pressure resulted in the hose breaking free from the burner connection. While dental personnel are not required to monitor facility gas line pressure, it is good to be aware of this isolated incident.

