



DECEMBER 12 — Ignition Prevention

Battery tools showed up in the ethanol tank farm — a place where vapor hangs around like a bad idea waiting for company. Overconfidence swaggered in with the tool; stress kept whispering, “Just get it done.” But sparks don’t care about your schedule.

In places where the vapors play,
One spark can steal the day away.
Choose your tools with sober mind
And leave unsafe ones far behind.

Using an unapproved tool in a tank farm is like running onto the football field without pads — you might last a few plays, but the first hit ends badly.

Hazards

- Vapor ignition
- Flash fire
- Explosion
- Permit violation

Stats

- **70%** of vapor fires stem from ignition-control failures
- Tools regularly exceed vapor ignition temps
- Tank farm incidents often exceed **\$1M** in damage

Words of Wisdom

Tools must be certified for flammable atmospheres.

Sparks and ethanol mix like matches and moonshine.

Crew Questions

Overconfidence happens when you believe a task is safer or easier than it really is. When you feel “too comfortable,” you skip checks, ignore hazards, or take shortcuts because you assume nothing will go wrong. That false sense of safety blinds you to real risks and sets you up for mistakes you didn’t see coming.

- “When’s the last time overconfidence pushed YOU toward a shortcut?”
- “How do flammable zones breed overconfidence?”
- “What’s one ignition control rule we NEVER skip?”