

Case involving carbon monoxide poisoning due to incomplete combustion in gas oven

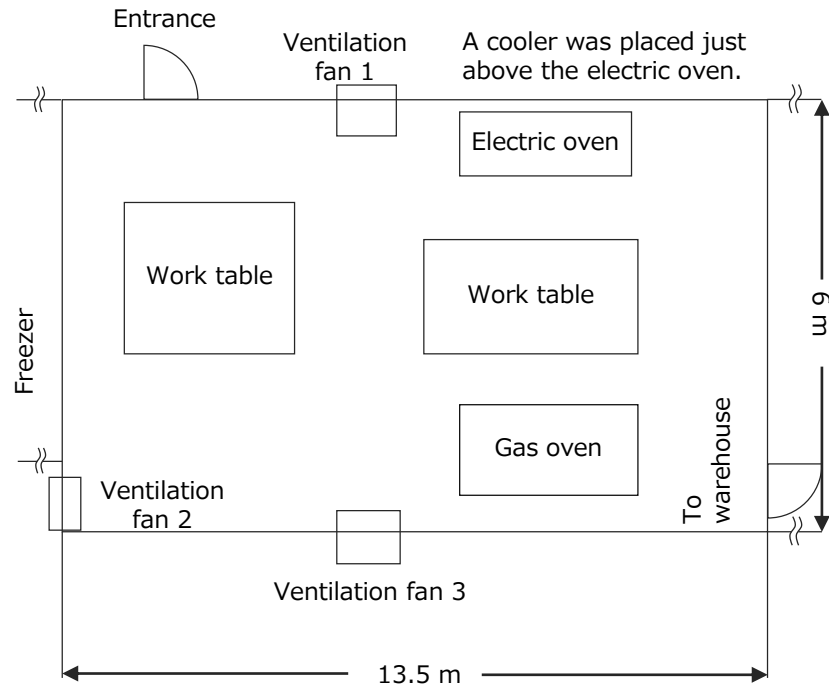


Figure: Work area

[Location of accident]

Work area with gas oven in a confectionery manufacturing factory

[Cause of accident]

The gas oven used lacked a duct to vent combustion gas (LP gas) after combustion. The workers worked in the room without turning on the ventilation fans and with the windows and entrance closed, except when entering/leaving the work area. The workers were exposed to the carbon monoxide generated by the gas oven.

[Damage/injuries]

The workers complained of feeling unwell, including headaches and nausea. They were rushed to the hospital and diagnosed with carbon monoxide poisoning. Workers with severe symptoms took sick leave for a day.

Extract from [Preventive measures]

- [1] An oven exhaust system must be turned on before using gas ovens [...] to prevent carbon monoxide buildup. Note that caution is required. Exhaust systems and [...] may cause carbon monoxide buildup within a room.



Riken Keiki Recommendations

Carbon monoxide is a tasteless and odorless gas.

Measure gas concentrations in the work environment to confirm that no gas is being produced or accumulating.