

Projector Beam Causes Near Miss

While preparing for a presentation, a Laboratory employee placed a notepad in front of a small desktop projector's light beam (Optoma model EP755) to dim the projector's light. See Figure 1.



Figure 1. Projector with notepad

A few minutes later the worker stepped out of the office for a short period of time. When the worker returned to the office, smoke was rising from the notepad and the projector. The projector lamp had burned a nickel-sized hole through notepad's cardboard backing and several pages of the tablet paper. See Figure 2.

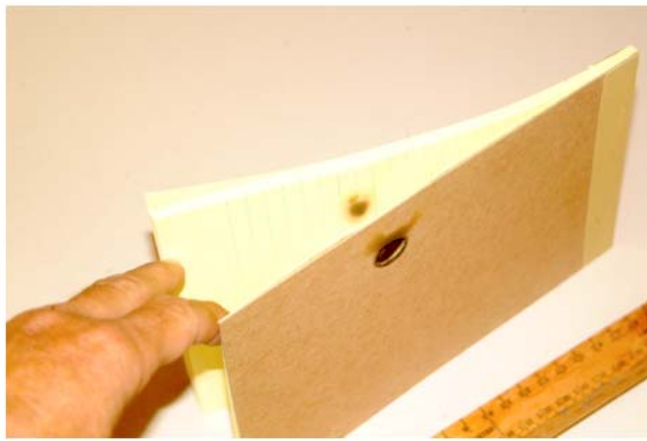


Figure 2. Burned notepad

Had the employee been delayed in returning to the office, a much more significant fire may have resulted.

What Was Learned

- Projector lamps become very hot when left on.
- Objects placed on or near a lit projector lamp may ignite.

Recommended Action for LLNL Employees

1. Never place an object in front of a projector's lamp when the beam is on.
2. Never leave the projector's beam on when you are not present in the room.

Where to Get Help or More Information

To search for other LLNL Lessons Learned, go to the "ES&H Program at LLNL" web page at [esh](#). Click on "Lessons Learned," and select the Lessons Learned topic of interest, or click on "Search" and enter the desired search term.

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