



# Near Miss - Adams Strainer

Deterioration of Water Piping in Feynman Computing Center

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# [ Routine Maintenance ]

- On 12/05/07, routine maintenance was scheduled for the Adams Strainer in the FCCE Utility area.



# [ Casey's Pond Water ]

- The strainer filters out much of the coarse impurity of the ICW from Casey's Pond.



# [ Reliance on ICW ]

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- Feynman Computing Center is totally dependent on the Industrial Chilled Water (ICW) for cooling in the building and computer rooms which house the Laboratory's critical computing (email, networking, storage and scientific computing).

# [ Accident in the Making ]

- During the maintenance of the strainer, deterioration of a nipple was discovered on the vent ball valve.



# Failure of Aging Infrastructure

- During the maintenance, the end of the nipple twisted off with minimal force. The nipple was severely corroded.



## [ Near Miss – Adams Strainer ]

- We were fortunate that the deteriorated piping was discovered during routing maintenance.
- The pond water might well have shot into the air and all around the strainer affecting electrical and mechanical equipment in the area.