

Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network

Release 2010 – 616 Newsy Stuff

<http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/DangerousGoods>

June 28 2010

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USA, TX, HOUSTON, JUNE 21 2010. FIRM PROPOSES OIL INDUSTRY CLEANUP GROUP >> HOUSTON'S HELIX WANTS TO LEAD EFFORT TO FORM RESPONSE ORGANIZATION

monica hatcher

Houston-based Helix Energy Services Group, an energy company with three vessels involved in BP's oil containment efforts in the Gulf, plans to push for a new consortium to tackle deep-water well challenges should another spill occur. CEO Owen Kratz proposes an industrywide effort to design and fabricate a toolkit that would be ready to respond immediately in the event of a loss of well control where other backup systems fail. Such systems might be refinements of some of the mechanisms BP has devised hastily in its frantic effort to contain the Gulf oil spill, but would be pre-engineered, tested, built ahead of time and staged for ready deployment. Company officials will go to Washington this week to pitch their idea to lawmakers. Kratz said it's too soon to say what form the organization might take or how it might be funded. One possibility could be to model it after the nonprofit Marine Spill Response Corp. the industry formed after the 1989 Exxon Valdez tanker spill in Alaska's Prince William Sound. The Oil Pollution Act of 1990 required oil companies, including refiners and transportation and marketing firms, to contract for the personnel and equipment to contain and clean up oil spills. Partly driving the Helix effort is a concern that regulators are poised to erect steep new financial hurdles to drilling in the Gulf of Mexico, including raising or removing caps on oil spill liability, and requiring that companies post large bonds to operate. "A more prudent approach would be for there to be an effort like this to have a fast response that limits the impact so that you don't need to burden the industry with a huge liability exposure," Kratz said. "If you have a reasonable chance of containment, then that need goes away." BP has contracted with Helix for three multipurpose vessels that are playing key roles in the evolving strategy to intercept the torrents of oil flowing from the Macondo well. The Q4000, a mobile offshore drilling unit capable of operating in 10,000 feet of water, was first used in the unsuccessful "top kill" procedure, in which heavy drilling mud was pumped into the well in hopes it would overcome the oil flow. That system was modified to draw oil out of the well, and the Q4000 was equipped with Schlumberger's EverGreen burner, which is flaring 10,000 barrels of oil a day. The Helix Express, a subsea construction vessel, is laying flexible pipe and manifolds on the seabed. The company is also involved in fabricating and installing a free-floating riser pipe to carry oil from the wellhead up to the company's Helix Producer I, a production vessel that can disconnect from the riser in the event of a hurricane evacuation. Kratz said Helix's involvement in the Gulf response makes it a leading candidate for spearheading the proposal to make use of the lessons learned so far from the trial-and-error Macondo containment. "We're interested in leading an effort, but not being the sole participant, to provide a future fast-response system for containment and well control," Kratz said.

<http://www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/business/deepwaterhorizon/7063412.html>

USA, WA, SEATTLE, JUNE 22 2010. ROBBER ACCIDENTLY SIPHONS SEWAGE TANK INSTEAD OF GASOLINE TANK

In Seattle Washington a man was looking to steal some gas. He went to a local motor home park and attempted to siphon gasoline from a motor home parked on the street. Sorry to say he got alot more than he bargained for. The owner of the motor home called the police and when they arrived at the scene they found the man curled up next to a motor home near spilled sewage. A police said that the man admitted to trying to steal gasoline and plugged his hose into the motor home's sewage tank by mistake. He got a mouthful that's for sure. Some robbers really crack me up.

<http://asthepointsturn.gather.com/viewArticle.action?articleId=281474978315162>

CHINA, HENAN PROVINCE, PINGDINGSHAN, JUNE 22 2010. BLAST KILLS 47 IN CENTRAL CHINA COAL MINE



Rescuers prepare to get into the well at the Xingdong No.2 Mine in Weidong District of Pingdingshan, central China's Henan Province, on June 21, 2010. At least 47 people died after an explosion struck the coal mine early Monday in Henan Province, the local government said.

Forty-seven people are dead after an explosion at a coal mine early Monday in Henan Province, the local government said. A total of 75 miners were trapped after explosives detonated in the powder magazine of the Xingdong No.2 Mine in Weidong District, Pingdingshan City, at about 1:40 a.m. The municipal government of Pingdingshan confirmed that 28 miners emerged from the mine alive, but the other 47 were killed.

Many bodies of the victims have been lifted to the ground. Zhou Li, kneeling at the exit of the shaft, insisted on waiting for her husband Guo Xiujun. The young couple moved to Henan in February from the eastern province of Shandong to earn more money. "He is just 29. How can I and my son survive without him?" said Zhou, weeping. The privately-owned mine has an annual production capacity of 90,000 tonnes. Its mining license expired on June 6, but

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owner Liu Jianguo illegally resumed operations, according to an initial police investigation. Police have detained Liu at his work premises and the mine's bank account has been frozen. The cause of the blast is under investigation. President Hu Jintao and Premier Wen Jiabao Monday ordered those who came to the rescue to use "every possible means" to save the miners right after the incident. Both Hu and Wen urged measures to prevent possible secondary disasters, and efforts to determine the cause of the explosion. Entrusted by the Central Committee of Communist Party of China and the State Council, State Councillor Ma Kai was heading to the site to visit the families of the dead and injured.

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/china/2010-06/21/c_13361258.htm

USA, N.C, OCRACOCKE, JUNE 22 2010. FATAL EXPLOSION CAUSES OCRACOCKE TO CANCEL FIREWORKS

A beach community in North Carolina where four people were killed as they unloaded fireworks a year ago won't have a July 4th fireworks display this year. Hyde County spokeswoman Jamie Tunnell said the Ocracoke Island community decided to forgo fireworks this year out of respect for the victims. Last year, four people from Wayne County were killed and a fifth person was injured as they unloaded fireworks from a truck on Ocracoke Island. Survivor Martez Holland, 27, said he and four co-workers were contracted by South Carolina-based Melrose South Pyrotechnics to set up the island's pyrotechnics display. Terry Holland, 49, Mark Hill, 21, Charles Kirkland Jr., 49, and Lisa Simmons, 41, were inside a truck working on fuses when it exploded. State and federal officials ruled the explosion accidental. Tunnell says Ocracoke will hold its usual parade, which will end with a memorial for the four killed. A flag-raising ceremony, sand sculpture contest and antique car show will also go on as planned.

Related Links

- [Fireworks safety tips](#)
- [12/11/09: State cites firm in fatal Ocracoke fireworks blast](#)
- [07/07/09: Victim says fireworks blast was without warning](#)
- [07/06/09: N.C. fire marshal wants pyrotechnic regulations](#)
- [7/5/09: Fireworks explosion ruled accidental: victims identified](#)

http://www.wral.com/news/news_briefs/story/7821738/

USA, MA, PEABODY, JUNE 22 2010. PEABODY MULCH FIRE ENGULFS OIL TANKER

ira kantor

 **Watch the Video** <http://www.myfoxboston.com/dpp/news/local/fire-rages-in-peabody-20100620>



Smoke Screen: Cars grind along Interstate 95 in Peabody yesterday after a stubborn fire at a mulch yard, top, closed the Route 128 exit.

A quick-moving fire tore through a Peabody mulch yard yesterday, consuming an oil tanker and blocking traffic on local roads for hours. The fire broke out around 4 p.m. at J.D. Raymond Co., whose property holds tons of mulch and wood chips, WCVB-TV (CH. 5) reported. Peabody fire officials could not be reached. The fire later spread to nearby equipment used for handling the mulch, including an oil tanker, the TV station reported. The ramp from Route 95 South to Route 128 North was closed for hours yesterday because of smoke, state police said. A firefighter was taken to an area hospital with smoke inhalation, WCVB reported. The land is adjacent to the intersections of Routes 95 and 128. The fire's cause is under investigation

http://news.bostonherald.com/news/regional/view/20100621peabody_mulch_fire_engulfs_oil_tanker/srv=home&position=also

NETHERLANDS, AMSTERDAM, JUNE 22 2010. PROSECUTOR URGES TOP FINE FOR TRAFIGURA TOXIC WASTE

harro ten wolde

The Dutch public prosecutor is seeking a maximum fine for commodities trader Trafigura, saying it violated environmental laws when transporting toxic waste that ultimately ended up in the open air in Ivory Coast. The prosecutor said Monday the privately-held company should pay 2 million euros (\$2.5 million) in fines, charging it with exporting waste, concealing its harmfulness and forgery. "Trafigura has let its own interests prevail above health and the environment ... Other choices could have been made but haste, speed and money have prevailed," public prosecutor Renske Mackor told an Amsterdam court. Chartered by Dutch-based Trafigura Beheer BV, the ship Probo Koala had wanted to dispose of hundreds of metric tons of chemical slops in Amsterdam in July 2006 but decided not to after being told it would have to pay clean-up costs. About a month later, the material was dumped in the Ivorian economic capital Abidjan and thousands of residents of the city

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complained of illnesses. The government of Ivory Coast said 16 people died but a British judge said last September there was no evidence the waste had caused anything more than "flu-like symptoms." [ID:nLN607675] Public prosecutor Mackor and colleague Luuk Boogert concluded after a 3-hour closing argument, in which they were citing from internal Trafigura e-mails, that Trafigura was guilty of three offences. The 2 million euro fine is the maximum allowed under Dutch law, which lets prosecutors fine companies as much as 670,000 euros per offence. Trafigura denies any wrongdoing for events in Ivory Coast and the Netherlands, and will conduct its case from Thursday. The events in Ivory Coast are not part of the prosecutors' charges nor are they part of the investigation, but the prosecutors accuse the parties of violating environmental or criminal laws in the Netherlands. The prosecutor also charged Amsterdam Port Services BV (APS), a former APS director, the ship's captain, a Trafigura employee, and the city of Amsterdam of offences including forgery, complicity or illegally handing over waste. The prosecutor asked for prison sentences of up to 12 months, and demanded a 150,000 euro fine against the city of Amsterdam and 250,000 euros for APS. Hearings are due to take place until July 9, while a ruling is scheduled for July 23.

<http://planetark.org/wen/58498>

USA, UT, WOODS CROSS, JUNE 22 2010. UTAH REFINERY HIT WITH \$1M IN FINES FOR EXPLOSION

paul beebe & mike gorrell

Violations Refinery Fire in Utah

- The Utah Occupational Safety and Health Administration found 71 violations. Sixteen safety violations were classified as 'willful;' another 55 were classified as 'serious.'

Silver Eagle Refining Inc. said Monday it is appealing the results of a state investigation that produced 71 violations and fines exceeding \$1 million for a November explosion at its Woods Cross refinery. The Nov. 4, 2009, blast unleashed a fireball and vibrations that knocked down four workers, blew one house off its foundation, caused severe damage to 10 others and impacted almost 300 nearby property owners overall. Though no one was injured, the Utah Occupational Safety and Health Administration (UOSHA) said its investigation produced one citation containing 153 pages documenting the 71 violations that singled out problems with equipment, safety procedures and record keeping, director Louis Silva said Monday. Silva said Silver Eagle knew about 16 safety violations, which he called "willful," meaning the company either intentionally violated state law or was aware of serious safety violations but did not act to correct them. Another 55 violation were "serious," Silva said. "From the (number of willful violations), you can deduce the severity of the conditions that we found. Willful is higher than serious, and serious can cause harm or death." The agency issued the preliminary citation and notification of penalty April 28, advancing a lengthy investigatory process in which Silver Eagle will answer each allegation in detail. In a statement released Monday, Silver Eagle confirmed it was cited for 16 willful violations. The company said it was cited 34 times for serious violations. It was unclear late Monday why there was a discrepancy. "Silver Eagle Refining's team of specialists will review this initial document and will respond to the items in it," said Mike Redd, the company's vice president of refining and operations. Cindy Gubler, a spokeswoman for the refinery, said the company is formally contesting the citations. "This is a typical process, we're just at the initial stage, and it might take a while to get to an agreement with UOSHA. "Silver Eagle will provide them with more information. There might be some citations where we say, 'You're right,' and others where Silver Eagle says, 'No, there's some more information you need' " to reach an appropriate conclusion. Within days of the explosion, an investigation by the U.S. Chemical Safety Board blamed the "catastrophic failure" of a 10-inch pipe containing hundreds of pounds of pressurized hydrogen. What caused that failure was not immediately certain. The refinery was processing about 10,250 barrels of crude per day before the explosion damaged one unit badly. Silver Eagle shut down voluntarily to examine all of its refining units. The unit restarted Feb. 17, processing about 4,000 barrels of oil per day into gasoline, diesel and wax. Redd emphasized Silver Eagle's refinery is operating "smoothly and safely," and that the company is doing its best to "make things right with residents. "We've made good progress and things are on track, although we still have plenty of work to do," he said. "We have been putting a lot of emphasis on ensuring that we have safe operating procedures and processes in place. We want everyone who works at the refinery to have a strong safety attitude." Redd said a section of the ruptured pipe has been sent to a laboratory for analysis and that company engineers are reviewing that data. It will take months for any definitive findings to emerge, he added. In the meantime, 296 insurance claims were filed. Redd said Silver Eagle settled 233 of those and another 57 are being settled, leaving a half-dozen in dispute. Silva said Silver Eagle cooperated with UOSHA inspectors throughout the investigation that led to the citation. "They were very open. I have to admit that," Silva said.

Updated:

- [Utah refinery hit with \\$1M in fines for explosion](#)
- [USADA finds 7 rules violations in 2010 1st quarter](#)

<http://www.sltrib.com/sltrib/money/49802403-79/eagle-silver-violations-company.html.csp>

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AUSTRALIA, QUEENSLAND, DALBY, JUNE 22 2010. QUEENSLAND ETHANOL PLANT PUT INTO ADMINISTRATION

fidelis rego

Map: [Dalby 4405](#)



Dalby Bio-Refinery receiver and manager Adam Nikitins (left) discusses the future of the plant with chief executive officer Kevin Endres.

Australia's first grains-to-ethanol plant at Dalby in southern Queensland has gone into voluntary administration. The owners of the Dalby Bio-Refinery went into administration on Friday and creditors have now appointed Ernst and Young to review the business. Receiver Adam Nikitins says the bio-refinery owes more than \$80 million to creditors. "The current strategy is to certainly continue operations at the plant - there are no planned redundancies," he said. The plant began production only 18 months ago, converting local sorghum crops into ethanol. The Western Downs Mayor Ray Brown says the announcement has come as a surprise. "Our understanding earlier this year was that it was quite financial," he

said. Ernst and Young says it is preparing the business for a possible sale later this year.

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2010/06/22/2933724.htm>

USA, KY, LOUISEVILLE, JUNE 22 2010. DOW CHEMICAL LEAK INVESTIGATED BY LOUISVILLE AIR DISTRICT

james bruggers

The Louisville Metro Air Pollution Control District is investigating the cause of a rail car leak last week at the [Dow Chemical Co.](#) plant in Rubbertown. Leaking vapors on June 13 prompted emergency management officials to sound an alarm signaling residents nearby to go inside their homes and close doors and windows as a precaution. No injuries were reported. Lauren Anderson, executive director of the district, said officials want to find out how the leak occurred to prevent something like it from happening again. She noted it was the second problem with a leaking rail car on the plant's property in about two years. She cited a leaking rail car in 2008 at the plant when it was owned by Rohm and Haas. That leak, which factored into a \$49,500 penalty, led to a reaction that turned the car's liquid contents into a solid plastic, company officials said at the time. Both leaking rail cars contained two chemicals - methyl methacrylate and ethyl acrylate - used in making paint and acrylic materials. Anderson said Monday that she doesn't yet know exactly what happened inside the car last week, but she said she's been told the chemicals were reacting with each other. She also said the day's excessive heat did not appear to be a factor in the leak. Dow spokesman Greg Baldwin in Michigan said Monday that he was trying to determine whether the two incidents were similar. Sunday, families living near Rubbertown and their supporters rallied for more transparency and better notification of residents during toxic chemical leaks. Some residents who were instructed to "shelter in place" did not understand what that meant, according to the group Rubbertown Emergency Action.

[http://www.courier-](http://www.courier-journal.com/article/20100621/NEWS01/6210367/Dow+Chemical+leak+investigated+by+Louisville+air+district)

[journal.com/article/20100621/NEWS01/6210367/Dow+Chemical+leak+investigated+by+Louisville+air+district](http://www.courier-journal.com/article/20100621/NEWS01/6210367/Dow+Chemical+leak+investigated+by+Louisville+air+district)

USA, OH, GATES MILLS, JUNE 22 2010. OIL WELL IN GATES MILLS LEAKS 1,000 GALLONS INTO CHAGRIN RIVER TRIBUTARY

Watch the Video <http://www.fox8.com/news/wjw-oil-spill-gatesmills-txt,0,1359205.story>

Watch the Video <http://www.wkyc.com/news/local/story.aspx?storyid=138233&catid=45>



Crews spent the past two days cleaning up an estimated 1,000 gallons of oil that had leaked from a ruptured valve on a gas well at the intersection of Dorchester Road and Ohio 91. Oil from the well seeped into streams and storm water sewers that flow into the Chagrin River. No oil reached the Chagrin River, which empties into Lake Erie. The well started leaking Sunday. By Monday evening, crews made up of village firefighters, well owner staff, Ohio Department of Natural Resources and Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, had removed the oil and replaced any contaminated soil, said Gates Mills fire chief Tom Robinson. Floating booms were left in the streams to catch any residual oil, he added. The oil erupted from a ruptured valve on a well owned by Pursie E. Pipes at the corner of Dorchester Road and Ohio 91, Robinson said. The well was dug three years ago. The ODNR is still investigating what caused the valve to rupture. The well inspector for

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Cuyahoga County, Norbert Lowder, was unable to comment Monday about the investigation. Robinson said the oil well valve probably leaked because of equipment failure or faulty installation. Pipes could not be reached for comment. Residents more than a mile away on Gates Mills Boulevard reported the leak. "They smelled the oil, and dipped water bottles in the stream and brought it to the police station," Robinson said. He added that there was no report of odor from the location of the leak, which is why many of the residents on Dorchester were not informed. Dorothy Roesch, 83, and her daughter Mary Kokal, 48, learned about the leak from news reports, despite living across the street from the oil well. "There were no messages, none on the answering machine," Kokal said. "No one called, so I called the police." Roesch said she did not have any information about the oil well, even when it was being built. "Nobody does," Kokal added. "That's the thing." Dissatisfaction with oil wells in the community has been an ongoing issue in Gates Mills for the past several years. As of 2008, there were 20 safety problems with oil wells, according to a Plain Dealer report. A moratorium has been placed on drilling in public areas. The village has 55 active oil wells, said Kelly Barrett from ODNR. Community dissent has been unable to stop drilling on private properties. In March, Gates Mills gas well safety committee requested more regulations on drilling in populous residential areas, to prevent situations like the one, according to previous staff reports. "It's the push we would've liked," Robinson said. "We want the state to put a moratorium until the issues (of drilling) have been addressed."

http://blog.cleveland.com/metro/2010/06/oil_well_in_gates_mills_leaks.html

EGYPT, HURGHADA, JUNE 22 2010. RED SEA OIL 'COVER-UP' >> GOVERNMENT ACCUSED OF HIDING INFORMATION ABOUT SPILL REACHING BEACHES



Oiled gravel is seen on Red Sea Shores, Hurghada, Egypt, June 20, 2010. Oil spots were first discovered Friday on the beaches of Hurghada, extending about 20 kilometers, Egyptian environmental authorities say the source of the oil leak remains unknown, though some people suspect the oil may have come from a vessel transporting oil products by sea.

The Egyptian government has been accused of trying to cover up a major oil spill in the Red Sea that has affected holiday beaches along the resort coast of Hurghada. Environmentalists monitoring the area have taken pictures of oil-encrusted beaches and tracked the spill to an offshore rig operated by a subsidiary of the state petroleum company. But Petroleum Minister Sameh Fahmy claimed that the cause of the "leak" is unknown. Private laboratory tests completed yesterday revealed that

the oil found on the beaches and the oil leaking from the rig were from the same source. The rig is offshore, near the island of Geisum, a rocky outcrop 35km from the Egyptian coast. It is operated by state-owned Geisum Oil. Officials of the company implied that Geisum Oil was responsible for the spill yesterday when they said the leak had been capped. The government's environment and tourism ministries later officially noted that the spill had been contained and that measures were being taken to "deal with the pollution caused". But even the government-aligned Hurghada Environmental Protection and Conservation Agency has labelled the damage caused by the spill as "catastrophic". The agency's head, Amr Ali, has called for "stringent action" following a visit to the polluted beaches by Fahmy and Junior Environment Minister Maged George. They were to take charge of a hurried, land-based, clean-up operation that now extends to Al Gouna, 50km south of the initial pollution. Ali has admitted that the spill was first noticed around the legs of the offshore platform "four or five days" ago, but that no notification was given. And there were no attempts to contain the spillage. An environmental monitor who has examined the coastal damage claimed yesterday that "the government is planning a cover-up". He reported that hundreds of birds and turtles had been killed by the oil since the spill began. Dolphins, which frequent the area, are also affected. Disasters of this kind, whether resulting from the activities of state-owned enterprises or private companies, are seldom officially acknowledged by governments. Resort owners and diving centres along the coast say they have lodged complaints with Prime Minister Ahmed Nazif but he has made no comment. Egyptian officials are particularly concerned about cancellations by European tourists if news of the extent of the damage to the beaches become widely known. Of particular concern is the potential damage to the resort town of Al Gouna, the brainchild of billionaire investor Al Gouna. It is the site of the largest residential investment in Egypt.

Related articles

- [Egypt confirms oil leak from rig off Red Sea coast](#)
- [Egypt Still Looking for Source of Oil Spill](#)
- [Red Sea oil spill successfully cleaned up](#)

<http://www.timeslive.co.za/africa/article513812.ece/Red-Sea-oil-cover-up>

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USA, FLA, ST PETERSBURG, JUNE 22 2010. ETHANOL-BLENDED GAS COSTS BOATER THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS IN REPAIRS

isabel mascarenas

 **Watch the Video** <http://www.wtsp.com/news/local/story.aspx?storyid=134342&catid=8>



Summertime means more boaters are heading out on the water, and more of us are working on our yards. But if the boat begins stalling or the lawn mower dying, it may be the gas that's being used. Boat owner Leo Calzadilla shakes dry reddish colored flakes from inside a fuel line. "That is what the ethanol is eating up inside the hoses," he says. Calzadilla says he's paid out nearly \$5,000 replacing parts on his two boats, all because of the ethanol used in gasoline. "Constant changes of filters, constant changes of hoses, being stranded out in the water," have been some of the problems Calzadilla says he has encountered. Calzadilla says when wet, the now dry gunk makes its way through the boat's fuel system and clogs the motor. He says it's all due to the alcohol-blend gas attracting water. The 6 month old fuel filter for his boat is covered in rust. "That's what water will do," says Calzadilla. The ethanol contamination is keeping mechanics at Thunder Marine in St. Petersburg busy.

"Weekly I am pumping out gas tanks, getting rid of debris," says service manager Dave Latham. He adds, "The ethanol is a problem. It accumulates water, clings to the tank, all the debris is at the bottom of the tank and the first thing the engine sucks up picks up is at the bottom of the tank." Boats are not the only motor powered equipment showing damage from ethanol blended gas. "Most recreational vehicles, jets, lawn mowers, weed whackers all have vented systems. The problem with vented systems it attracts moisture in the system," explains Calzadilla. There is ethanol free gas available to boaters, except it's hard to find. It's usually at marinas and costs twice as much as regular gas. To save money, boaters fill up at traditional gas stations, where gas contains 10 percent ethanol. "If people use their boat every day it wouldn't be a problem like a car, but they don't. They use it once or twice a month," explains Latham. Mechanics say boaters and anyone using electrical yard equipment can pay the price up front for ethanol-free gas or pay later. "No ethanol in gas, that's what I recommend to everybody," says Latham. He adds, "They don't have to bring their boat in for maintenance, won't get stuck, they can go out the engine will start, the more you use it the better it will be." Mechanics advise not to put too much faith in fuel additives; at best they only delay ethanol's corrosiveness. In California, one group has reportedly filed a class action suit against several oil companies for selling ethanol blended gasoline that damages marine fuel tanks and other parts. Leo Calzadilla is considering a similar suit here in the Bay area and would like to hear from anyone having similar problems with ethanol. He'd also like to hear from any attorney interested in taking the case. He can be contacted at againstownake@aol.com

<http://www.wtsp.com/news/local/story.aspx?storyid=134342&catid=8>

USA, ORE, PORTLAND, JUNE 22 2010. LESSONS FROM A STUCK BARGE



The Tidewater barge New Dawn, mired in the Columbia River off Hood River with 1 million gallons of fuel aboard, last July.

The marine nonevent of last year was when a barge ran aground in the Columbia River off the city of Hood River. It was a nonevent in that the barge went on its merry way after 36 hours of failed attempts to free it from an unseen mud shoal -- only after offloading half its cargo did the barge gain sufficient buoyancy to float free. Its cargo was 1 million gallons of gasoline. Had the barge ruptured on an unseen rock, the nonevent would have been a daybreak spectacle, then a disaster, with lawsuits still pending. The Columbia's essential values -- heavy industrial and recreational use, coupled with a sensitive ecology supporting wildlife and runs of federally protected salmon -- would have been compromised. And every minute in the response would

have counted. Now, a just-released [U.S. Coast Guard](#) review of the July 9 incident shows a communications breakdown that kept spill response agencies unnotified for at least two hours following the grounding. Oregon's Department of Environmental Quality, Washington's Department of Ecology and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency -- all were left in the dark by the Coast Guard and the barge's owners, [Tidewater Barge Lines](#) of Vancouver. While Tidewater promptly reported the 3:15 a.m. incident to the Coast Guard and took charge of the situation, the Coast Guard didn't arrive on-scene till 8 a.m. -- nearly five hours after the grounding.

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Oops.

Let's be clear: No one tried to get it wrong. After obtaining and reviewing the 11-month-old review, The Oregonian's Scott Learn reported Monday that Tidewater and the Coast Guard had simply judged the grounding of the New Dawn to pose a salvage challenge -- not a spill-prevention challenge or, worse, a pollution crisis. That's precisely our point. Few things start out as a crisis, least of all a crisis of known scale and consequence. In the case of the New Dawn, we got lucky. But that wasn't so when the New Carissa, an empty cargo ship fueled with thousands of gallons of bunker oil, did nothing more than anchor in the wrong place off Coos Bay in 1999. For weeks the sea had its wrecking-ball way as agencies and salvors, often miscommunicating and at cross-purposes, tried and failed to stop it. And it's not the case now with BP's oil well in the Gulf of Mexico, where a safety device failed, triggering an explosion and gusher. The who's-in-charge drama there isn't yet played out. Tidewater sends more than 400 fuel barges up and down the Columbia each year. The outfit hasn't had a fuel leak in nearly 16 years, an impressive record, though one of its empty grain barges rammed the gate of a navigation lock at John Day Dam, east of The Dalles, in 2008 --it was first in a three-barge chain whose last barge carried 1.7 million gallons of diesel fuel. We needn't wait for an emergency to adequately prepare for it. The right agencies with jurisdiction in the Columbia River need to know in real time when something goes wrong, even potentially so. Improvements have been made. But yet stronger, and more widely shared, communication protocols would help put us ahead of the next mishap.

http://www.oregonlive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2010/06/lessons_from_a_stuck_barge.html

PERU, LIMA, JUNE 22 2010. TOLL OF OIL DRILLING FELT IN PERU'S AMAZON BASIN

annie murphy



Click-2-Listen

<http://www.npr.org/templates/player/mediaPlayer.html?action=1&t=1&islist=false&id=127992348&m=128000154>



Ana Hualinga, a local leader of the indigenous Achuar people in San Cristobal, Peru, stands in a former community garden and tree nursery. She says the land was recently cleared by the oil company Pluspetrol, without consulting the community.

In the middle of the Peruvian Amazon, thousands of miles from the BP rig pouring oil into the Gulf of Mexico, oil spills have been a fact of life for more than 30 years. In villages like San Cristobal, the indigenous Achuar people believe their maladies are caused by exposure to oil. They suffer fainting spells, vomiting, chronic diarrhea, headaches and skin infections. Isac Sandy, 25, is tall and shy, and got married last year. He has frequent headaches, and every other day he gets an injection to relieve the symptoms of an unknown skin condition. If he doesn't get the shot, his skin breaks out in a spotty white rash, and his entire body swells.

"There's a stream where we always go to fish, and it's always had oil on top. We catch fish there and eat them. The fish drink the water, and since we eat them, the oil must get into us that way," he says.

What Is Causing Health Problems?

This riverside village of open-air, wood-and-thatch homes is remote, and medical research is seldom carried out here. But government doctor Alan Castro thinks health problems in San Cristobal have causes other than oil. Castro says he believes it can almost all be explained by malnutrition, which is widespread. But a Peruvian government study published in 2006 found that most indigenous people living along this river — the Rio Corrientes — had unhealthy levels of lead in their blood and 95 percent exceeded the healthy limit for cadmium. Lead and cadmium are associated with oil spills, which have been happening here for decades. Whether the cause of these health problems is oil spills, other changes brought by outsiders, or a combination of the two, the Achuars' quality of life has worsened since oil companies arrived and little is being done to help them. In Peru, the Achuar people number about 12,500.

Oil Exploration, Drilling

The bustling town of Trompeteros is the base of operations for Pluspetrol, an Argentine oil and gas production company operating in the area. Trompeteros has electricity, running water, sewage systems, telephone service and even Internet. A few minutes downriver, next to Pluspetrol's paved runway, the village of San Cristobal doesn't have electricity. The roof of the local school is literally caving in. Daniel Hualinga, the village elder, says, "We've asked the company to help out and they tell us they have nothing — that the oil revenue is running low." About a dozen students sit on plywood benches in a house that serves as a makeshift school. Students study in Spanish and the indigenous Achuar language. During music class, they learn

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Achuar songs, which are traditionally sung to their gardens, to their animals and to the forest. Like their parents, most of the kids here suffer from the chronic stomachaches, fainting, vomiting and fevers. Some also have developmental problems.

'There Will Always Be a Risk'

Peruvian oil industry analyst Aurelio Ochoa says that spills are an unavoidable part of the oil business. "These are human projects, so there will always be a risk, as clean as the operation might be," he says. "Accidents happen, and they're going to keep on happening — here, in Alaska, in Louisiana, wherever." The point is, he says, the company should be held responsible. But the dense foliage and river labyrinths of the Amazon are a world away from the capital of Lima and Peru's legal system, according to human-rights lawyer Miguel Jugo. "Indigenous people have always suffered from inaction on the part of the state. Their rights are constantly violated," Jugo says. "If the state starts to consult with indigenous people, the state will become responsible for meeting their requests, and the government doesn't want that."

Indigenous People Demand a Role

Protests by indigenous peoples exploded across Peru's Amazon last June and confrontations with police left dozens dead. According to the 2007 census, Peru is home to at least 60 indigenous ethnic groups, most of them living in the Amazon River basin. Indigenous people shout slogans during a protest against the government in Lima in July 2009. The protests were sparked by government decrees meant to open up huge portions of the Amazon rain forest to development; the government had failed to consult the indigenous people who live there. The protests were sparked by government decrees meant to open up huge portions of the Amazon rain forest to development, but the government had failed to consult the indigenous people who live there. A year later, a new law has been created to require consultation with the indigenous, but it still hasn't gone into effect. Meanwhile, more petroleum concessions are up for bidding — in all, three-quarters of the Peruvian Amazon is now open to private business. The population of Peru's Loreto region — where much of the oil exploration is taking place — is about 900,000. When indigenous communities began to take a stand against big companies operating in their territory, President Alan Garcia wrote an editorial criticizing their position. He used the fable "The Dog and the Manger" to make his point. In the story, a dog falls asleep in a manger and wakes up to bark at the cows who want to eat the hay — even though the dog himself can't eat the stuff. The moral of the story is: Don't begrudge others something you can't enjoy yourself. In the editorial, the hay was Peru's natural riches, and the president compared the spiteful dog to Peru's indigenous people. Pluspetrol, the oil company, declined to comment for this story, as did the Peruvian state-owned oil company. In response to an interview request, Environment Minister Antonio Brack released a statement saying oil drilling will not destroy the Amazon rain forest and that Peru must also worry about its energy security. He notes that Peru does need to "improve the participation of local communities."

Relations Getting Worse

In San Cristobal, relations between the Achuar people, the oil company and the Peruvian state are only getting worse. Ana Hualinga stands in a clearing surrounded by stumps, in what was a garden and tree nursery. Speaking in her native Achuar language, she explains in heated tones how a few weeks ago the oil company razed and appropriated this community plot to expand their airport, without consulting the people who farm it. Nearby, huge black helicopters operated by the oil company rise out of the jungle at regular intervals, drowning out all other sounds, then sweeping off into the distance. For now, the Achuar are doing the best they can to keep tabs on the oil company. "Up through March of this year, we registered three serious spills, and two smaller ones. The earth here is contaminated — and it will never be completely healthy again, never," says Wilson Sandy, who works for an indigenous monitoring program that tracks oil spills. Ochoa, the oil analyst, says that the future of this place will depend on who puts down the money to control it, be it big business or environmentalists. "Remember, Peru has natural resources and it's looking to develop its economy," Ochoa says. "If ecological conservation were profitable, we could do that. But who is going to step up to it?" For the moment, much of this grand ecosystem is still a vast, green expanse of rivers, plant life and animals. And for the Achuar people, the Amazon rain forest is not a conservation project nor an economic bonanza. It is home.

<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=127992348>

FIJI, MALAKE, JUNE 22 2010. JUNE 23 2010. OIL FIND 'IS PETROL'

A suspected oil find on Malake in Ra has been identified as petrol. Malake villagers have accepted this and are relieved that results of a test carried out on substance found along the island shoreline two weeks ago has been finalised. Ministry of Lands permanent secretary Lieutenant Colonel Neumi Leweni said an analysis by the Department of Mineral Resources and the University of the South Pacific's Institute of Applied Science Laboratory showed the supposed oil find was gasoline. Village headman Poasa Naimila said the villagers could now move on with their lives. "We were curious when we came upon the oil

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slick. Villagers were anxious to find out what the substance was and so now that it is out we would like to thank the Government for the work they have done," he said.

<http://www.fijitimes.com.fj/story.aspx?id=150634>

USA, FLA, DAYTONA BEACH, PONCE INLET, JUNE 22 2010. BURIED OIL TANKS CAN BE HIDDEN PROBLEMS

mark i. johnson



Ronald Cooper of Lake Helen fills in the hole left by removal of a leaking oil tank discovered at a foreclosed Ponce Inlet home.

With temperatures in the upper 90s last week, one might wonder why Ronald Cooper was concerning himself with a heating-oil storage tank. Dripping sweat, Cooper and his partner Cheryl McKechnie, both of Lake Helen, labored to remove the 250-gallon canister that once held the fuel for the furnace system of a 40-year-old beachside residence on Candlewood Lane and fill the hole it left behind. "I have removed hundreds of these," Cooper said. However, before the work commenced, stormwater had invaded the tank through a damaged vent pipe, forcing an unknown amount of the fuel on and into the surrounding soil. Dead grass marked the spot -- and the potential for groundwater contamination, he said. How prevalent such problems are is uncertain as many property owners may be unaware they have tanks under their feet. In the past, when a homeowner replaced a furnace with something like the forced air heating system such as the one at the Candlewood Lane property, Cooper said it would be common practice to pump out its fuel tank. The empty container would then be filled with sand to prevent any of the toxic residue from leaking into the soil. In recent years removal of the tanks has become the preferred method of disposal. But at the Candlewood Lane home, which is in foreclosure, that was not done and this spring's heavy rains left an oily mess. Volusia County inspectors responded to the spill at the end of last month and passed on that information to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, DEP spokeswoman Lisa Kelley said. Her agency informed the bank holding the foreclosure papers and it referred the matter to the real-estate agent handling the property. State environmental officials gave the bank and real-estate services 30 days to perform a site assessment to determine the

extent of the problem. That has been completed. "We are in the cleanup process," said real estate agent Sharon Barbaro. With the tank out of the ground, testing is progressing to determine how much contaminated soil will have to be removed. "We are moving along on schedule," said Barbaro, a real estate representative for the bank holding the foreclosure papers. "I have never dealt with something like this before. This is a first, and a learning experience." Volusia County spokesman Dave Byron said the county has dealt with the issue for some time, offering free pumping out of obsolete residential tanks. Byron said records estimate the county's fuel oil recovery program has collected about 53,000 gallons of fuel from 612 residences since mid-2004. But it did not provide for the tanks' removal. "That was the homeowner's responsibility," he said. No one knows exactly how many tanks remain underground. Byron said there were no residential tank permits required for their installation, so keeping track of their numbers is difficult. Volusia's solid waste division estimates there are still thousands throughout the county. State officials are in the same predicament when it comes to accurate numbers. Kelley said the DEP has never done a survey of where or how many such fuel storage units are buried under yards across Florida. Even representatives of private companies that at one time supplied such systems or fuel for them said they aren't able to offer a guess.

Free Oil Removal [Volusia County's Solid Waste Division will remove old heating oil from tanks for free.](http://www.news-journalonline.com/news/local/east-volusia/2010/06/22/buried-oil-tanks-can-be-hidden-problems.html)

<http://www.news-journalonline.com/news/local/east-volusia/2010/06/22/buried-oil-tanks-can-be-hidden-problems.html>

INDIA, CHENNAI, JUNE 23 2010. SHRC NOTICE TO OFFICIALS ON PETROL SEEPAGE

The State Human Rights Commission (SHRC) on Monday ordered notice to Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board chairman, Chennai Corporation commissioner and Chennai collector asking them to reply on news reports about residents in Mogappair facing contamination of water by petrol seeping from a nearby outlet into their wells. Taking suo-motu action on the news reports published on Monday, SHRC chairperson Justice A S Venkatachalamoorthy and member AR Selvakumar ordered notice and directed the authorities to file their reply within three days. According to the residents of Mogappair, the problem has been existing for over a year and they have made representations to the TNPCB, Metrowater and the district administration several times in the past in vain. They said the petrol outlet, presently located in the middle of a residential

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locality, needs to be shifted elsewhere. News reports said Metrowater officials who visited the site confirmed that the water was indeed polluting wells.

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/chennai/SHRC-notice-to-officials-on-petrol-seepage/articleshow/6077035.cms>

USA, MA, CHARLTON, JUNE 22 2010. OWNER OF LEAKING TANKER DID NOT HAVE PERMIT >> COST OF DIESEL CLEANUP TO DATE TOTALS MORE THAN \$300,000

debbie laplaca



Environmental workers enter the contamination zone near Cady Brook during cleanup last week.

Fire officials said Charlton Welding & Repair owner Larry D. McKissick II did not have the required permit to house the diesel fuel tanker that spilled its contents into nearby wetlands on June 10. Fire Chief Charles E. Cloutier Jr. and Edmund S. Destefano of the state fire marshal's office inspected the Griffin Road business yesterday. "Yes, a permit is required and no, he did not have one," Charlton Fire Chief Charles E. Cloutier Jr. said. A decision regarding penalties or fines would probably come early next week, he added. "I was under the understanding that if it had wheels and we use it on and off site, a permit wasn't needed," Mr. McKissick said yesterday. "That was my assumption. Obviously I've learned a lot recently." Mr. McKissick and nearby

residents said the spill occurred between 6 and 9:30 p.m. June 10. The heavy rains that night carried the fuel through waterways under Route 20 into the wetlands next to the former Fallon Clinic and the Cady Brook Crossing condominiums on Southbridge Road (Route 169). Police are investigating Mr. McKissick's assertion that vandals removed the fuel lock caps and opened two valves, draining the tanker. Nicholas J. Child, state Department of Environmental Protection emergency response chief, said yesterday it is too early to give an exact amount, but the estimated state cleanup costs to date are more than \$300,000. "That's just the muscle work for the emergency," he said, adding, "Charlton Welding is responsible for all the costs including the restoration." Over the weekend, cleanup crews removed about 70 gallons of diesel fuel, for a total recovery of nearly 2,900 of the about 3,000 gallons spilled. "We are starting the ramping-down procedure now," Mr. Child said. The DEP website has a link for public access to a repository of data regarding the incident.

<http://www.telegram.com/article/20100622/NEWS/6220413/1003/NEWS03>

USA, CA, LA PUENTE, JUNE 23 2010. MAJOR ILLEGAL FIREWORKS OPERATION BUSTED

• **Watch the Video** <http://www.ktla.com/news/landing/ktla-la-puente-fireworks-bust,0,72927.story>

• **Watch the Video** http://abclocal.go.com/kabc/story?section=news/local/los_angeles&id=7512667

• **Watch the Video:**

<http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/lanow/2010/06/500000-in-illegal-fireworks-seized-from-la-puente-home.html>



Some \$500,000 worth of illegal fireworks were seized from this home in La Puente. L.A. County Sheriff's deputies searched a home in La Puente and seized more than a half-million dollars in illegal fireworks on Monday. Authorities had been watching a home on the 800 block of Hartsville Street for some time in connection with an investigation into illegal [fireworks](#) sales. When deputies saw a van leaving the house, they stopped and searched it, finding about \$10,000 worth of illegal fireworks. Deputies then called explosives investigators and L.A. County firefighters to the house and conducted a search, finding boxes of illegal fireworks stacked to the ceiling in several rooms. "The house has a minimal amount of furniture inside and has boxes stacked within each room and has some food in the kitchen as though it was definitely rented to be a stash house," said Sgt. Chris Romash of the L.A. County Sheriff's Department. Authorities said those fireworks were worth an estimated \$500,000. The fire department removed two large

truckloads of fireworks from the house. Officials said the devices could have sparked a devastating fire. "The potential in this home was outstanding," said Inspector Fredrick Stowers of L.A. County Fire. "It's a tribute to the fact that they had done such good police work to be able to notify us so that we can get these things out of the community." Two 22-year-old men were taken into custody, and they face charges for illegal possession of fireworks. Illegal-fireworks sales have plagued La Puente for years. The city is spending thousands of dollars to try to stop it. "We're not going to tolerate illegal fireworks here in our

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city," said city manager Josefina Kenline. La Puente allows legal fireworks, but some say it's time to ban all fireworks. "I believe that legal fireworks mask the ability for law enforcement to locate and arrest those that are using illegal fireworks," said councilmember Vince House. Fire officials remind the public that fireworks are illegal in L.A. County. Those who want to enjoy fireworks can attend the many fireworks shows available at various locations.

More Information: <http://www.fire.lacounty.gov/>

http://abclocal.go.com/kabc/story?section=news/local/los_angeles&id=7512667

PERU, LORETO PROVINCE, SAN JOSE DE SARAMURO, JUNE 23 2010. PERUVIAN RIVER AFFECTED BY 3-400 BARREL OIL SPILL



Between 300 and 400 barrels of oil spilled last weekend into a river in the Peruvian Amazon region of Loreto, a spokesman for the Pluspetrol company confirmed Monday. The multinational said it has already launched a contingency plan to contain the spill, which occurred in the Saramuro sector near the border with Ecuador. The company's institutional relations manager, Daniel Guerra, told RPP radio that between 300 and 400 barrels may have spilled into the Marañon River. That amount is a portion of the 5,000 barrels that were being transported by the Sanam 3, a barge hired by Pluspetrol that suffered an accident at the Saramuro port. Guerra said the company used pumps to prevent further pollution and that about 100 people are working to contain the spill, the causes of which are under investigation. Residents of the area cited by RPP said, meanwhile, that the spill was adversely affecting a river they use

for fishing and other purposes. The mayor of Loreto's Parinari district, Carmen Cardenas Mozombite, told the radio station that her administration will sue the company if it does not agree to mitigate the impact of the spill. "The first thing we have to do is get together to see (if the company is willing) to reach an agreement. If not, we'll take legal action," Cardenas said. The regional director of the Energy and Mines Ministry, Roy Meza, told reporters that a group of officials plans to travel to the area to determine the cost of the damages. The regional president of Loreto, Norman Lewis del Alcazar, is scheduled to travel by air to the area along with Pluspetrol representatives, while technicians with the National Water Authority, the Peruvian Amazon Research Institute and regional branches of the Health, Production, and Energy and Mines ministries are due to arrive by boat.

EFE
<http://www.laht.com/article.asp?ArticleId=359038&CategoryId=14095>

NIGERIA, LAGOS, JUNE 23 2010. MRS TO COMMENCE FULL OPERATION IN 625 FUEL RETAIL OUTLETS BEFORE DECEMBER



MRS Oil and Gas Limited has said that it would commence full operation of its newly branded 625 retails outlets across the country, which are parts of the filling stations it acquired from Chevron Nigeria Plc, before the end of the year.

MRS acquired 425 filling stations from Chevron, with additional 200 retail outlets that would be acquired from some independent marketers, as part of the company's efforts to expand its distribution network. Senior External Relations Manager of MRS Oil and Gas, Mr. Ahmad Rufai, said that the essence of the operation of its re-branding outlets was for easy products accessibility to customers and to foster prompt distribution of product to all nooks and crannies of the country. Rufai said: "We understand the effectiveness and efficiency of

petroleum products distribution in the country. So, we intend to get to all states of the country as one of the leading indigenous servicing companies in the country. We are going through repositioning of our quality service provider so as to be the best servicing company in terms of quality service delivering in oil and gas sector." According to him, the 625 branded retail outlets, which would commence operation by the end of 2010, would be a measure in repositioning the company for full deregulation of its products delivery. He added: "The new takeover of some of the acquired outlets has reached almost 70 per cent completion while about 157 filling stations outlets have been mapped out into the system as the new takeover by MRS." Rufai said that the company was working on its own importation to strengthen its supply chain without totally relying on supplies from the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC). He further stated: "To enhance high quality delivery standards to our customers, we have attained a partnership status with AITA group, an internally acclaimed standards organisation.

<http://www.petrolplaza.com/news/industry/MiZlbiY5OTAYjiYx>

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NIGERIA, LAGOS, JUNE 23 2010. NNPC ACQUIRES 250 FUEL RETAIL OUTLETS



NNPC mega station.

Levi Ajuonuma, Group Public Affairs Manager of Nigerian National Petroleum Commission, NNPC, says the corporation is operating 250 petroleum products retail outlets across the country. Mr. Ajuonuma informed a news agency in Lagos that the outlets were to augment the 38 NNPC mega stations and 12 floating filling stations. He said that the decision was part of NNPC's long-term objective to ease the challenge of artificial fuel scarcity in the country adding that the decision was arrived at in collaboration with the Independent Petroleum Marketers Association of Nigeria (IPMAN).

<http://www.petrolplaza.com/news/industry/MiZlbiY5ODkwJiYx>

PHILIPPINES, CAVITE PROVINCE, CARMONA TOWN, JUNE 23 2010. 9 DIE IN LPG TANK BLASTS IN CAVITE



Nine people died in liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) tank explosions following a road crash in Carmona town, Cavite province, before dawn Wednesday. Police identified the fatalities as 2-year-old James Pazcogin, Jocelyn Pazcogin, Julie Ann Vergara, Joy Ann Vergara, Jeremy Vergara, Jonald Pazcogin, Darlene Roa, Jomari Pancito and Jomar Bataan. Police said the victims died after a series of LPG tank explosions along Governor's Drive in Carmona around 1 a.m.. Investigators said the explosions happened after an Isuzu Elf truck carrying the LPG tanks rammed an electric post and a sedan after attempting to take over another truck. The LPG tanks were thrown off the Isuzu Elf truck right after the collision and then exploded one by one as they rolled to nearby houses, killing the victims and destroying some houses. Police said another person was hurt in the blasts. Meanwhile, police said the Isuzu Elf's driver and his assistant were able to flee while the LPG tanks were

exploding.

<http://www.abs-cbnnews.com/nation/regions/06/23/10/9-die-lpg-tank-blasts-cavite>

CANADA, VANCOUVER, JUNE 23 2010. ARCTIC VESSELS MUST REGISTER IN CANADA>> WATCH KEPT ON VESSELS CARRYING POLLUTANTS, FUEL OIL AND DANGEROUS GOODS



The Canadian Coast Guard ship Louis S. St. Laurent breaks ice near the mouth of Bellot Strait in the Northwest Passage in Nunavut.

Large ships entering Canada's Arctic waters will soon have to report to the Canadian Coast Guard, Fisheries Minister Gail Shea announced Tuesday. Under new regulations starting July 1, certain foreign and domestic vessels must register with the coast guard's Arctic marine traffic system, known as NORDREG. It has been voluntary for cruise ships, freight ships and other marine vessels travelling in Canada's Arctic waterways to report to the coast guard, provided they do not land.

Shea said mandatory reporting will ensure the coast guard knows about the vessels entering Canadian Arctic waters, including their position and destination. "With mandatory reporting, the Canadian Coast Guard will be able to promote the safe navigation of vessels, keep watch on vessels carrying pollutants, fuel oil and dangerous goods, and respond quickly in the event of an accident," Shea stated in a release Tuesday. Shea's announcement follows recent standing committee reports, from both the Senate and the House of Commons, calling on the government to make foreign vessels register with NORDREG.

Large Vessels Targeted

Coast guard officials have also called for mandatory reporting, saying they don't always know about every ship that enters northern waters. Last week, the standing committee on national defence said all foreign vessels entering Canada's Arctic waters should be required to report to the coast guard, regardless of size or tonnage. Shea said under the new regulations, certain vessels must provide information before, during, and after they travel in the government's designated NORDREG zone. Ships that will be affected by the new regulations include those weighing 300 tonnes or more, as well as vessels that carry dangerous goods or pollutants. Large ships are being targeted because they tend to carry more fuel, oil, pollutants and

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dangerous goods than smaller vessels, Shea said. Last year, the federal government expanded its marine pollution regulations to cover more of the Arctic, from 100 nautical miles from shore to 200 nautical miles.

<http://www.cbc.ca/canada/north/story/2010/06/22/arctic-nordreg-marine-regulations.html>

UK, WALES, LINCOLN, JUNE 23 2010. AWS ECO PLASTICS TOLD TO PAY £28,000 OVER DIESEL SPILL POLLUTION

ben bold

AWS Eco Plastics has been fined £19,500 and ordered to pay Environment Agency costs of £8,477 for twice polluting an Anglian Water dyke with spilled oil and killing two swans. The plastic bottle recycling company pleaded guilty at Lincoln Magistrates Court to two counts of polluting the site, which is in a protected zone of Anglian Water. According to the Environment Agency, the first incident occurred in October 2008 after a night workman had been filling generators on a roof with diesel from a main tank on the ground floor. He forgot to turn the pump off for more than two hours, causing a spill of about 1,000 litres. Oil ran into surface water drains and into the water at Helmswell Cliff lake and killed two adult mute swans. The EA said that AWS contacted it to inform it of the spill and officers advised immediately blocking drains on the roof to prevent any further pollution.

Second Spillage

The second incident occurred in March 2009, when an unknown AWS worker failed to turn off a diesel pump after using it to fill the tank of a forklift truck. Around 740 litres of diesel was spilled, some of which ended up polluting the lake. Following the first incident, an AWS representative told investigating officers that the arrangement of filling the generators on the roof was a temporary measure and that the company had not had time to conduct a proper risk assessment. He said that the spill kit was running low because there had been a smaller spill four days before and that no records had been kept because the records system was new. After the second incident, AWS's former site manager told Environment Agency officers that the member of staff who had been operating the diesel pump had not been authorised to fill the forklift. Since then, the company has introduced a standard operating procedure for diesel pumping.

'Human Error'

AWS managing director Jonathan Short told Packaging News: "We accept the findings of the court and recognise that these two spillages were down to simple human error. We regret them both, and took immediate steps to minimise any damage. "We have now re-evaluated our operating procedures and implemented the necessary changes to ensure that there can and will be no repetition." Claire Bentley, prosecuting for the Environment Agency, told the court that there was evidence of poor management on site. Both incidents required extensive clean-up measures with the clean-up contractors still visiting the site for more than a month after each incident.' In mitigation, Jonathan Dunkley said that in [August 2009 the site had suffered a devastating fire](#) in which temperatures reached 850 degrees centigrade; yet no diesel was lost from the mechanical infrastructure. He said that this was testament to the measures the company had taken since the second spill.

<http://packagingnews.co.uk/channel/environment/news/1011558/>

USA, NY, NEW YORK, BRONXDALE, JUNE 24 2010. MAINTENANCE WORKER JOSEPH MCLENDON DIES IN BRONX PROPANE EXPLOSION >> USED WRONG CLEANING AGENTS, SETTING OFF A GIANT CHEMICAL EXPLOSION

mike jaccarino & rich schapiro

• **Watch the Video** http://www.myfoxny.com/dpp/news/local_news/bronx/propane-explosion-the-bronx-20100622-kc

• **Watch the Video** <http://wcbstv.com/topstories/explosion.propane.tank.2.1765612.html>

• **Watch the Video** http://bronx.ny1.com/content/top_stories/120852/propane-explosion-kills-worker-at-bronx-medical-center



A maintenance worker died Tuesday after the barbecue grill he was cleaning exploded outside a [Bronx](#) senior center in a huge blast that blew out nearby windows. Fire officials said [Joseph McLendon](#), an employee of the [Comprehensive Care Management Center](#) in [Bronxdale](#), used the wrong kind of cleaning agents on the grill, setting off a giant chemical explosion. "It was a large barbecue grill, but he must have been using other ingredients to clean the grill - solvents that interacted with the propane," said [Deputy Fire Chief Kevin Scanlon](#).

"It was a huge, huge blast...It's a miracle more people were not hurt." McLendon, a 38-year-old, married father of five, was taken to [Jacobi Medical Center](#), where he was pronounced dead. McLendon's mother said she was reeling from the loss of

her son, whose second wife gave birth to a baby girl two months ago. "It's the most terrible thing to have to bury your child," said [Barbara Wiscovitch](#). "I'm devastated. I'm just devastated." The 9:50 a.m. blast in the facility's parking lot blew the rear

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<http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/DangerousGoods>

June 28 2010

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door off the White Plains Road center, overturned two 15-foot-long metal sanitation bins and shattered windows on an adjacent building. Neighbor Denise Rodriguez wondered why the grill was being cleaned so close to nearby buildings. "Why would anyone leave a propane tank next to a senior center?" [Rodriguez](#) said. "Why would they do that? It puts people in danger."

http://www.nydailynews.com/ny_local/2010/06/23/2010-06-23_man_dies_in_bx_propane_blast.html

USA, JUNE 23 2010. BP OFFERS US PETROL STATIONS FOR SALE



BP has decided to put 114 petrol stations and convenience stores in 22 US states up for sale. According to BP's broker, Jones Lang LaSalle, the majority of the properties are being marketed as redevelopment sites, while some are being offered as part of potential franchise deals. The decision to sell its sites is in line with the company's plan to exit from direct retail ownership a few years ago.

<http://www.petroplaza.com/news/industry/MiZlbiY5OTAwJiYx>

USA, WI, EAU CLAIRE. JUNE 24 2010. ROCKET FUEL FIASCO ENDS IN PROBATION: EAU CLAIRE MAN TRIED TO COOK IT ON HIS STOVE, BURNED HIS HAND

A botched attempt to make homemade rocket fuel will result in one year of probation and 80 hours of community service for an Eau Claire man. Eric R. Holtey, 20, 1928 Hoover Ave., pleaded no contest Tuesday in Eau Claire County Court to a misdemeanor charge of negligent handling of burning material. He was ordered to pay a \$263 fine for underage drinking. Judge William Gabler agreed to the plea deal and conditions of probation, which include prohibiting Holtey from drinking alcohol, requiring him to pay court costs and not allowing him to handle any incendiary material "except putting gasoline in a car, lawn mower, those sorts of things," the judge said. Holtey must complete the community service by Dec. 31 or risk spending time in jail. If he meets all terms of the plea agreement, the crime will be expunged from Holtey's record, Gabler said. According to the criminal complaint, Eau Claire firefighters responded on the night of April 14 to the Imperial Circle apartment that Holtey rented after smoke was reported in the building. After eluding a police officer's questions, Holtey admitted to trying to make rocket fuel by mixing stump removal powder and corn syrup in a pan on his stove. He intended to put the fuel into a PVC pipe and ignite it like a rocket. As he was cooking the mixture, it began to smoke, and Holtey burned his hand when he took the pan outside. Some of the mixture had splashed on the wall and floor next to Holtey's apartment door. Firefighters said the man's plan to make a rocket was plausible but ill-advised. When he spoke with police, officers noticed a strong odor of alcohol coming from Holtey's breath.

<http://www.istockanalyst.com/article/viewiStockNews/articleid/4242395>

USA, CA, SACRAMENTO, JUNE 24 2010. SACRAMENTO POLICE SHUT DOWN ILLEGAL FIREWORKS OPERATION

kris vera-phillips

 **Watch the Video** <http://www.kcra.com/mostpopular/24009242/detail.html>



Ahead of the bright lights and big bangs of the fireworks season in Sacramento, officers shutdown what appeared to be an illegal fireworks sales operation at an apartment complex Wednesday morning. Sacramento police Sgt. Norm Leong said Siao Si Vilingia, 30, was arrested after officers seized 45 boxes of illegal fireworks at the Garden Way Apartment complex on Fairfield Street. Leong said officers discovered the fireworks cache as they were serving a warrant for an unrelated crime at a nearby apartment unit. According to Leong, officers found a price list next to the boxes of fireworks.

<http://www.news10.net/news/local/story.aspx?storyid=84214&catid=2>

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USA, OK, OKLAHOMA CITY, EDMOND, JUNE 24 2010. OIL SPILL IN OKLAHOMA CITY RIVER MAY TAKE DAYS TO CLEAN UP >> 250 BARRELS LEAKED

• **Watch the Video** <http://www.ksbitv.com/news/97012214.html>

• **Watch the Video** <http://www.newson6.com/Global/story.asp?S=12696427>



An absorbent pad lies on oil Wednesday in the Deep Fork River where it crosses Britton Road in Oklahoma City.

Gary Heavin, an [Oklahoma County](#) field inspector for the [Oklahoma Corporation Commission](#), said the leak came from a pipeline that had been abandoned for decades. The leak has been sealed, and the spill has been contained, he said. The leak was found by a [Department of Transportation](#) bridge inspector where the Deep Fork flows under Britton Road. "He saw the oil sheen and reported it to the Department of Environmental Quality, and they reported it to us," Heavin said. Workers from [DCP Midstream](#), which does not own the pipeline, traced the leak to a pipeline near [Wilshire](#) Road and Interstate 35. "It had a small pinhole in it leaking oil into the river," Heavin said. "It was 8,000 feet long from point of origin, but because of the slow-moving current, it was easily contained." No tar balls expected

Heavin said the leak was plugged with a clamp. The pipeline was not under pressure because it is no longer active, he added. "You're not going to see tar balls floating up" on Arcadia Lake, he said. The [Environmental Protection Agency](#) is coordinating the cleanup using skimmers, containment and absorbing booms, pumps and a vacuum truck. EPA spokesman [Joe Hubbard](#) said the agency is looking for the owner of the leaky pipeline. "Once we figure out who that party is, then they will be responsible for the cleanup," he said. Though the Deep Fork feeds into Arcadia Lake, which supplies water to [Edmond](#), the oil does not present a health hazard, Heavin said. Edmond Water Resources Superintendent Fred Rice said he does not think the amount of oil spilled will have any affect on drinking water. "Because of the sophistication of our water plant, we don't believe this would create much of an issue," he said. [Buck Ray](#), an environmental biologist with the state Department of Wildlife Conservation, said the crude oil spill likely will not harm fish or wildlife. "The more manufactured and refined it is, the worse off it is," he said. "The crude is a little bit heavier and tends to stay on the surface of the water and not spread. It's not as bad as gasoline which will spread through the water column." Pipelines like the one that leaked are used to gather crude oil to go to a refinery, Heavin said.

<http://newsok.com/article/3470788>

INDONESIA, JAKARTA, BUNGUR, PONCOL MARKET, JUNE 24 2010. FOUR HOUSES DAMAGED AFTER GAS CYLINDER EXPLOSION



There has been a spate of explosions involving three-kilo canisters across the country.

Four houses near Poncol market in Bungur, Central Jakarta, were badly damaged after a three-kilogram gas cylinder exploded early Thursday morning. Jakarta Police's Communication and Information Center wrote that the explosion occurred at 4 a.m. Police said the cylinder exploded in a local's house and fire spread rapidly to two other houses around it. Eight fire trucks were deployed to contain the fire, which took an hour to extinguish the blaze. There were no injuries in the incident. Police have questioned a number of witnesses. There has been a spate of explosions involving the cylinders across the country, in particular in the capital. In greater Jakarta alone, eight people have been killed and more than 30 injured. In

May, Jakarta Police arrested three executives of cylinder manufacturer PT Tabung Mas Murni, one of several companies being investigated over the blasts. The company's president director, R Kartono, technical director Yudo, and operational director Henda have been charged under the 1999 Consumer Protection Law. The National Police last week called on state oil and gas company PT Pertamina to tighten monitoring of its distribution of the cylinders after two deaths. In response to the remarks, Pertamina deputy marketing director Hanung Budya said the company would be more selective about distributing the cylinders. Last week, police also conducted a raid on a group in Bekasi buying up three-kilogram cylinders to fill 12- and 20-kilogram cylinders, which is illegal. The bigger cylinders are not subsidized by the government, unlike the three-kilogram cylinders, and thus sell for much more per unit weight.

<http://www.thejakartaglobe.com/home/four-houses-damaged-after-gas-cylinder-explosion/382336>

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