

Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network

Release 2010 – 611 Newsy Stuff

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

June 14 2010

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USA, AZ, MESA, JUNE 7 2010. DRIVER INCHES FROM DEATH AFTER TANKER TRUCK COLLISION



A driver on U.S. 60 in Mesa came just inches from death when a car swerved under a tanker truck Saturday. The Arizona Department of Public Safety said the driver of a sedan lost control after making a lane change into another vehicle. Traveling at 65 miles an hour, the car crashed into a tanker truck, lodging itself between the cab and its haul. DPS said the car was dragged with the tanker truck for hundreds of feet before it came to a stop at the side of the road. Highway officers on the scene said it was amazing no one was hurt. Two tow trucks were used to pull the sedan out from underneath the truck. Both vehicles had to be towed away.

http://www.abc15.com/dpp/news/region_southeast_valley/mesa/driver-inches-from-death-after-tanker-truck-collision

USA, AKA, ANCHORAGE, JUNE 7 2010. 5,000 BARRELS SPILLED AT ALYESKA PUMP STATION

tim bradner

Alyeska Pipeline Service Co. now estimates that about 5,000 barrels, or roughly 210,000 gallons, of crude oil were spilled on the trans-Alaska oil pipeline May 25, when a storage tank at pump station 9 overflowed, the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation reported June 1. Oil recovery operations have been under way since May 27, and as of June 1 about 56,000 gallons of crude had been recovered, according to Tom DeRuyter, the state on-scene coordinator. The spill flowed into a lined gravel containment area and did not reach the outside environment, DeRuyter said. The Trans-Alaska Pipeline System was shut down from for three days, restarting after federal officials signed off on a restart plan. There were no disruptions to tanker loadings at the Valdez Marine Terminal due to sufficient crude oil in storage at the terminal. The spill occurred as Alyeska was conducting tests at the pump station during a scheduled maintenance shutdown of the pipeline. "Alyeska had switched the station's power supply from the electrical grid to an uninterrupted power source battery. A control circuit failed to close a valve, allowing oil to flow from the TAPS line into tank 190 and then out the tank's vents into a lined secondary containment," the state agency said in a situation report. The storage tank has a capacity of 55,000 barrels of oil. Alyeska estimated the amount of spilled oil at between 208,950 gallons (4,975 barrels) and 212,520 gallons (5,060 barrels), based on observations of the pooled oil and assumptions about the volume and porosity of the gravel above the liner, the state DEC report said. A more precise estimate will be made after the recovered oil is measured. Oil recovery began May 27 and pumping of oil into tank trailers continued through the Memorial Day weekend. Recovered oil is being trucked to the Valdez Marine Terminal and unloaded into storage, the state report said. The U.S. Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration May 27 issued a corrective action order to Alyeska before giving the permission to restart. The order contained a number of steps PHMSA asked Alyeska to take before approving a pipeline restart. "Among other activities, we are requiring Alyeska to prepare a restart plan that outlines how the company will operate the pipeline without the use of pump station 9 relief tankage and ensure the use of qualified personnel during restart and continued operational procedures," agency spokesman Damon Hill said in a statement. Alyeska told PHMSA it can operate the pipeline without the relief tank at pump station 9 by relying on relief tanks at other pump stations. Meanwhile, DeRuyter said the state Department of Environmental Conservation and federal agencies are focusing their investigation on why the battery back-up power system failed when the station was switched from its main power supply during a test. Also, the investigation will focus on why it took operators at the pump station a period of time before they realized the tank had overflowed. DeRuyter said operators at the time were focused on getting the power back on. "The failure of the backup power caused screens in the pump station's operations control center to go blank. They couldn't see the tank," when it overflowed and crude oil began spilling, he said. PHMSA, meanwhile, has filed against Alyeska eight federal enforcement actions totaling more than \$1 million in fines. The majority of the enforcement actions have been pending for more than two years. The cases allege violations of federal pipeline safety regulations, including paperwork errors and inadequate procedures, as well as safety violations discovered after pipeline accidents. Others cases allege violations of the rules for monitoring and fixing corrosion in the pipeline. Out of seven pending cases with fines attached that the pipeline agency has filed against Alyeska since 2006, the company has paid only one civil penalty of \$56,000 levied in 2008 for Alyeska failing to maintain records of repairs and not maintaining adequate corrosion protection on the pipeline near Glennallen.

<http://www.oregonlive.com/newsflash/index.ssf?/base/business-72/1275852906225140.xml&storylist=business>

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USA, CA, LONG ISLAND, JUNE 7 2010. 1 INJURED IN FIREWORKS FACILITY EXPLOSION

patrick whittle

At least one person was injured in a fire at Bay Fireworks in [Westhampton Beach](#) Sunday morning, police said. The cause of the fire, is under investigation, police said. All fire responders were cleared from the scene by 1:30 p.m., said a [Westhampton Beach](#) fire official. Three fire departments responded to the blaze and were in the process of extinguishing it this morning, police said. The fireworks facility is located on County Road 31 near Gabreski Airport. Police declined to name the one person who was injured. The extent of the person's injuries were not available, police said.

<http://www.newsday.com/long-island/suffolk/1-injured-in-fireworks-facility-explosion-1.1986088>

USA, CA, LOS ANGELES, JUNE 7 2010. RESEARCH ASSOCIATE DIES FROM BURNS SUSTAINED WHILE WORKING WITH A PYROPHORIC CHEMICAL CALIFORNIA CASE REPORT: 09CA001

Summary

A 23-year-old female research associate died from burn injuries sustained in a research laboratory fire. The victim was using a syringe and needle to extract a pyrophoric chemical (t-butyl lithium) from a bottle. The plunger came out of the syringe barrel and the t-butyl lithium ignited on contact with room air. The chemical splashed onto the victim's clothing and set them on fire. She was not wearing a laboratory coat at the time of the incident. There was no written documentation that the victim had received formal training on the safe use of pyrophoric chemicals. The CA/FACE investigator determined that in order to prevent future incidents, employers with research laboratories should ensure that:

Laboratory personnel follow proper procedures when using pyrophoric chemicals.

Laboratory personnel wear appropriate clothing and personal protective equipment (PPE) when working with pyrophoric chemicals.

Whenever possible, laboratory personnel consider the use of alternative chemicals that are not pyrophoric.

Introduction

On Friday, January 16, 2009, at approximately 5:00 p.m., a 23-year-old female died from burn injuries sustained on December 29, 2008, while working in a university laboratory as a research associate. The CA/FACE investigator was notified of this incident on January 23, 2009 by the Los Angeles Office of the Division of Occupational Safety and Health (Cal/OSHA). On January 28, 2009 the CA/FACE investigator interviewed the university director of environmental health and safety. On February 11, 2009, the CA/FACE investigator interviewed the university legal counsel, principal investigator of the research laboratory, university safety manager, and two postdoctoral students. The CA/FACE investigator requested to inspect the laboratory where the victim was working, but was informed that all materials had been removed and the laboratory was no longer in operation. The CA/FACE investigator inspected a laboratory hood, chemical storage area, syringe, needles, reagents, and tubing similar to that used in this incident. The safety manager demonstrated with similar equipment the methods for handling t-butyl lithium he believed the victim followed at the time of the incident. The CA/FACE investigator reviewed reports from fire department investigations (university and Los Angeles), the Los Angeles County Coroner, university laboratory safety manual, and the Aldrich Technical Bulletin AL-134 "Handling air-sensitive reagents." The victim was born in Pakistan and had been in the United States for four years. She had a college education and spoke fluent English. The employer of the victim was a public research university with approximately 24,000 employees. The university director of environmental safety and health was unable to provide the number of laboratories that use pyrophoric chemicals. The victim had been employed with the university for eleven weeks when the incident occurred. The employer had a written Injury and Illness Prevention Program (IIPP) and laboratory safety manual. According to the laboratory safety manual, each research laboratory was required to have a written safe operating procedure (SOP) for the use of each hazardous chemical or substance. The principal investigator for each laboratory was responsible for preparing the SOP and training their employees and research staff on the safe handling of chemicals. The laboratory in this incident followed the Aldrich Technical Bulletin AL-134 "Handling Air-Sensitive Reagents" as the SOP for the use of t-butyl lithium. The employer had a written laboratory safety training program including first aid and emergency response information. According to the principal investigator, the victim had received verbal instruction on the safe use of pyrophoric chemicals, and had been observed using pyrophoric chemicals on at least two occasions. However, there was no written evidence that the victim received any laboratory safety training on these topics or on the SOP for the use of pyrophoric chemicals.

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Investigation

The chemical involved in the incident was t-butyl lithium, a clear liquid that spontaneously ignites on contact with air (pyrophoric). On the day of the incident, the victim was working on a research study requiring organic catalytic reactions. The victim was working during the December holidays when most employees were not working in the laboratory. Two other research staff members were working in the laboratory at the time of the incident. The victim was working under a chemical fume hood with a sliding glass window that allowed use of the hands and arms under the hood while protecting the face. The position of the glass window at the time of the incident was not known. The hood was plumbed with regulator controlled nitrogen gas lines pressurized to one to three pounds per square inch (PSI). The victim was using a 60-milliliter plastic syringe with a 2-inch, 20-gauge needle to extract a solution of t-butyl lithium and pentane (Aldrich 186198) from a 4 ounce sealed bottle that was pressurized with nitrogen gas. According to the principal investigator, there was a bubbler between the nitrogen gas supply and the reagent bottle to prevent over pressurization of the reagent bottle. The victim was wearing safety glasses and had on nitrile gloves. She was not wearing a laboratory coat or appropriate non-synthetic clothing for working with pyrophoric chemicals. The victim informed the Los Angeles County Fire Investigator that as she withdrew the t-butyl lithium from the bottle into the syringe, the plunger came out of the housing and the chemical spilled out and ignited. The victim further stated that the t-butyl lithium ignited some hexane that spilled on her clothes and ignited them. It is unknown if the victim was using hexane as part of the reaction she was performing. A safety shower was present in the laboratory, but was not used by the other research staff member who extinguished the fire on the victim using his laboratory coat. The victim was treated at the scene by paramedics, and transferred to a local burn unit. She sustained approximately 40% total body surface area burns of the torso, arms, hands and thighs. She died of complications of her burns 18 days later.

Cause of Death

The cause of death according to the death certificate was sequelae of thermal burns.

Read More At:

<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/face/stateface/ca/09ca001.html>

UK, BUNCEFIELD, JUNE 7 2010. BUNCEFIELD VERDICT TO RENEW FOCUS ON OIL SAFETY >> THE CONCLUSION OF A BUNCEFIELD PROSECUTION THIS WEEK COMES AT A DIFFICULT TIME FOR THE OIL INDUSTRY

terry macalister



Smoke rises from the fire at the Buncefield fuel depot on December 11, 2005.

The safety practices of [oil](#) companies operating in Britain will be highlighted on Tuesday in the conclusion of a criminal case following the [2005 Buncefield oil storage explosion](#), in which 40 people were injured and 250,000 litres of petrol spilled less than 30 miles from central London. A joint venture controlled by Total and Chevron, called Hertfordshire Oil Storage, is one of three firms being jointly prosecuted for "failing to take all measures necessary to prevent major accidents" and polluting local water aquifers, under charges pursued by the Health and Safety Executive and the Environment Agency. Mr Justice Calvert-Smith will sum up the case at St Albans crown court this week after hearing allegations that workers did

not receive the support they needed to do their jobs properly at the terminal, which provides fuel for Heathrow Airport. Buncefield was Europe's largest peacetime fire. While no one was killed, 240 people were admitted to accident and emergency departments and 2,000 homes were evacuated. The sound of the explosion was heard on the Continent and a huge plume of black smoke settled over southern England. The HSE said it could not comment on the case but added: "A spokesman for safety and environment regulators intends to make a statement once the verdict is reached in the first stage of criminal proceedings." The criminal charges come at a difficult time for the oil industry, with safety under global scrutiny in the aftermath of [BP's Gulf of Mexico spill](#) – the worst of its kind in US history. Andrew Langdon QC, prosecuting in the Buncefield case, has told the court that employers could have done much more to ensure staff could perform their jobs better at the site, near Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire. "Supervisors didn't get much help or protection in what they did. They didn't get any risk assessments worth their name – pretty essential you might think – how the tanks should be filled, how they should be emptied, what happens with all these considerations," he said. The storage company is pleading not guilty to two charges. Two others in the dock – TAV Engineering and Motherwell Control Systems – are also pleading not guilty to one separate charge each. Total, one of the largest oil companies in Europe, has already accepted guilt over three charges of failing to ensure the safety of its staff and allowing fuel and firewater chemicals to enter the ground water system. The outcome of the case is particularly important for the French company, which has applied for planning permission to redevelop the Buncefield terminal, which it shares with BP. Total said it had taken into account the findings of an inquiry into the Buncefield fire before

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submitting its proposal to the local planning authorities. "There would be significantly less tanks than before, with tank sizes standardised wherever possible. The storage of petrol, aviation fuel, household heating fuel, diesel and gas oil is proposed, plus additional tanks for ethanol (a bioadditive to petrol), additives and pipeline interfaces," it said in a statement. Buncefield used to be the fifth largest oil depot in the UK with pipelines to Humberside and Merseyside plus the capability of filling 400 tanker trucks a day. A part of the terminal owned by BP was also damaged in the blast but was rebuilt and put back into working order. A report by the Major Incident Investigation Board following the accident demanded the oil industry strengthen safety measures at these kinds of very large fuel storage sites.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2010/jun/06/oil-buncefield-verdict>

AUSTRALIA, VICTORIA, MT ELIZA, JUNE 8 2010. GAS SCARE AT MT ELIZA PETROL STATION

kate lowry



An LP Gas leak created a dangerous situation at a Mt Eliza service station this afternoon. A woman was filling the tank in her Mercedes at the Nepean Highway BP when a fault caused gas to leak into her boot. Mt Eliza CFA captain Peter Hume said the gas was dispersed safely using compressed air. Captain Hume said LPG tanks should be checked regularly for faults and warned people about tackling any problems themselves. "Don't make modifications," he said.

<http://mornington-peninsula-leader.whereilive.com.au/news/story/gas-scare-at-mt-eliza-petrol-station/>

INDIA, NEW DELHI, JUNE 8 2010. BHOPAL TRAGEDY: WHO IS WARREN ANDERSON?



Bhopal Tragedy: Who is Warren Anderson?

For 25 long years, Bhopal gas victims have sought Warren Anderson's extradition from the US. Over the years, US ambassadors and officials and Indian politicians visiting Bhopal have been repeatedly asked why Anderson has not been brought back to face trial for the toxic gas leak of December 1984. Over those years, many effigies have been burnt of the man Bhopal says must pay for the tragedy that ravaged the city. Anderson, now almost 90 years old, was the Chairman and CEO of Union Carbide when the lethal methyl isocyanate leaked from a pesticide plant of the company's Indian subsidiary on the intervening night of December 2 and 3, 1984. Thousands were killed, many more shall live bearing the scars and some have passed on the effects of the gas to the next generation. Victims say that Anderson, as the head of the company, knew that the plant stocked toxic gas within city limits and that it could cause huge damage in case of an accident. And that the security

precautions were inadequate. Anderson is believed to have taken key decisions, including a cost-cutting measure that compromised safety at the gas plant. In the days after the gas leak, Anderson was arrested and then released on bail by the Madhya Pradesh Police on December 7, 1984. He left India immediately and has refused to return ever since. He has never appeared in court or even been in India to explain what happened. Union Carbide paid compensation that victims have said was grossly inadequate. There has been huge hue and cry over the fact that Anderson was allowed to quietly leave the country even as Bhopal reeled under tragedy. The gas tragedy case was handed to the CBI a few days after the leak and it filed its charge-sheet against 12 accused, including Anderson, in a Bhopal court on December 1, 1987. In 1992, Anderson was declared a fugitive by the Bhopal court for failing to appear for hearings in a case of culpable homicide. Once he was declared absconding, the cases were separated and so Warren Anderson was not a part of the case in which eight Indians then employed by Union Carbide have been convicted today. In July 2009, an arrest warrant was issued for him after an appeal by a victims' group. The Indian government has come in for much criticism over the way it handled the Anderson case. It took the government almost 19 years to move a formal request for his extradition. It did so in May 2003. In June 2004, however, the US rejected India's request for the extradition of Anderson saying the request did not "meet requirements of certain provisions" of

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the bilateral extradition treaty. Warren Anderson served as Union Carbide CEO till 1986, when he retired. He lives a life of luxury in New York.

<http://www.ndtv.com/news/india/bhopal-tragedy-who-is-warren-anderson-30302.php>

USA, TX, FORT WORTH, JUNE 8 2010. AT LEAST 3 KILLED IN GAS LINE BLAST SW OF FORT WORTH -REPORTS

 **Photo Gallery** <http://www.star-telegram.com/2010/06/07/2246113/johnson-county-pipeline-blast.html>



At least three people were killed when a high-pressure gas transmission line exploded into flames near Granbury, Texas, about 40 miles southwest of Fort Worth, reports the Star-Telegram. As many as 10 people were reported missing. The 36-inch pipeline belongs to Enterprise Products Partners, the Star-Telegram said. The line carries natural gas across Texas, said Enterprise spokesman Rick Rainey, according to the Star-Telegram. Automatic valves shut down the segment of the line hit by the blast, according to the Star-Telegram. "If the pressure goes down by a certain amount, these valves automatically shut down," Rainey said. Local officials said the fire couldn't be extinguished until the flow was shut off and the remaining gas burned off. A local emergency official said an electrical utility crew may have hit the line. "It looks like there is a possibility that a third party was involved. They may have hit our line," Rainey said, according to the Star-Telegram.

<http://www.foxbusiness.com/story/markets/industries/industrials/update--killed-gas-line-blast-sw-fort-worth--reports/>

USA, MAINE, HARRINGTON, JUNE 8 2010. CREWS RESPOND TO FIRE AT GAS STATION IN HARRINGTON

ken christian

State police and local fire departments responded to a report of a fire Monday morning at the Irving gas station on U.S. Route 1 in Harrington. It happened just before 10:30. A state trooper at the scene tells News Center that the fire and explosions happened after a truck carrying oxygen ran in to one of the fuel pumps. Investigators say the driver of the truck, Gardiner Crabtree, parked the truck in the lot of the station, and it suddenly accelerated across the parking lot into a pump and another vehicle with three people inside. Crabtree was taken to a hospital in Machias and then transferred by helicopter to Eastern Maine Medical Center in Bangor. Two other people, including an Irving employee, were checked out for smoke inhalation. People living in nearby homes were evacuated. Route 1 is closed down at this time but may be opening back up soon. Store officials tell NEWS CENTER they hope to reopen by the end of the day.

<http://www.wcsh6.com/news/local/story.aspx?storyid=118696&catid=2>

USA – US CHEMICAL SAFETY BOARD, JUNE 08, 2010 — KEY LESSONS TO PREVENT FLAMMABLE VAPOR EXPLOSIONS CAUSED BY WELDING AND CUTTING.

 **Watch the Video** <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=baBjws4-ek0&feature=digest>

INDIA, BHOPAL, JUNE 8 2010. EX-UNION CARBIDE OFFICIALS SENTENCED OVER BHOPAL LEAK



Victims of Bhopal gas tragedy hold posters during a demonstration outside a court in the central Indian city of Bhopal June 7, 2010.

A court on Monday convicted seven Indian former employees of U.S. chemical firm Union Carbide of negligence and sentenced them to two years in jail for the world's worst industrial accident that killed thousands in 1984. Hundreds of protesters, many waving placards saying "hang the guilty" and "they are traitors of the nation", tried to force their way inside the court complex as a judgment for which activists have campaigned for a quarter-century was delivered. "Let us in. They may have been punished, but what about us? There are so many of us who have not received any compensation," said Shanta Bai, a gas victim. The government says around

3,500 people died after a Union Carbide plant in the central city of Bhopal accidentally released toxic gases into the air toward nearby slums. Activists say 25,000 died in the immediate aftermath and the years that followed. The seven former employees were also fined 100,000 rupees (\$2,100), while the former Indian arm of Union Carbide was convicted of the same offence of

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negligence and fined 500,000 rupees (\$10,600). An eighth employee who was accused has died. Activists and survivors said the sentences were too light and too long in coming through India's notoriously slow-moving justice system, which has a shortage of judges struggling to clear millions of cases in backlog. The Supreme Court in 1996 also ruled the accused could not be tried for culpable homicide but only for negligence, which carries a shorter sentence. "This punishment is not enough. I lost my son, younger brother and my father and I still have nightmares," said Ram Prasad, a 75-year-old villager. Keshub Mahindra, the current chairman of India's top utility vehicle and tractor maker Mahindra & Mahindra, was the highest-ranking person convicted on Monday. He was chairman of Union Carbide India Ltd at the time of the accident. Those convicted can appeal to a higher court, a process that can take years in India. All the sentenced were granted immediate bail for 25,000 rupees each. "This was not an exemplary punishment that would deter corporations from repeating a Bhopal gas disaster," said Rachna Dhingra, a Bhopal activist. "There's nothing to be happy about."

Regulatory Challenges

The case cuts deep in a country of 1.2 billion, mainly poor, people. It highlights the challenges of how to ensure improving health and safety regulations keep pace with a fast-growing economy, now Asia's third largest. The legacy of the Bhopal disaster looms over a stalled bill in the Indian parliament that would limit the responsibility of foreign firms entering India's lucrative civilian nuclear market. The verdict in Bhopal applied only to Indian officials of the former Union Carbide's Indian arm. Separate cases have been filed against the company and its overseas officials. A criminal case is pending against the then CEO of Union Carbide, Warren Anderson, whom lawyers say is responsible for the disaster and the contamination of the soil and water around the factory. There is a warrant for Anderson's arrest in India. Union Carbide settled its liabilities to the Indian government in 1989 by paying \$470 million before being bought by U.S. company Dow Chemical. Union Carbide issued a statement after the verdict to emphasize it had sold off its entire stake in company's Indian unit, Union Carbide India Limited (UCIL), in 1994. The company was renamed Eveready Industries. "All the appropriate people from UCIL -- officers and those who actually ran the plant on a daily basis -- have appeared to face charges. Union Carbide and its officials were not part of this case since the charges were divided long ago into a separate case," a company statement said. "Furthermore, Union Carbide and its officials are not subject to the jurisdiction of the Indian court since they did not have any involvement in the operation of the plant, which was owned and operated by UCIL." In the early hours of December 3, 1984, around 40 metric tonnes of toxic methyl isocyanate (MIC) gas leaked into the atmosphere and was carried by the wind to the surrounding slums. Activists and health workers say a further 100,000 people who were exposed to the gas continue to suffer today. Sickneses included cancer, blindness, respiratory difficulties, immune and neurological disorders, and female reproductive disorders, as well as birth defects among children born to affected women.

<http://planetark.org/wen/58355>

CANADA, N.B, MONTREAL, JUNE 8 2010. TANK-GUN FIRING UNDER INVESTIGATION AT N.B. BASE

philip ling



This Leopard C2 goes over an obstacle on the training course at Edmonton Garrison on March 6, 2009. A Leopard C2 accidentally discharged a blank round at CFB Gagetown last month, injuring 11 people.

Military police are investigating what caused the gun of a tank to unexpectedly fire a blank round at Canadian Forces Base Gagetown in New Brunswick, injuring 11 people. The incident happened on May 26 at about 4 p.m. when a Leopard C2 tank was inside a maintenance shelter for repairs, base spokeswoman Stephanie Duchesne said Monday. "While the tank was inside this shelter, the main gun discharged unexpectedly," she said, noting it was "a negligent discharge" of a blank round. That means it occurred accidentally, or due to human or mechanical error. A

blank round "really simulates the real round. It has the flash and the noise. The only thing you don't have is the projectile that come out of the gun," she explained. Ten Canadian Forces members and one civilian employee were inside the shelter when the tank discharged. They were treated in a nearby hospital and released the same day. "They were suffering minor injury to the eardrums," she said. The soldiers and civilian were all members of 12 RBC Valcartier in Quebec, who were taking part in an Afghan pre-deployment exercise. Duchesne said members of the Military Police and CFB Gagetown's range control are investigating. If the incident is determined to be an accidental discharge, members involved could be face a court martial under the National Defence Act. There was no word on how long the investigation will take. Last month, Canada's former top soldier in Afghanistan Brig.-Gen. Daniel Menard was charged with negligently discharging his rifle. That incident, which took place in

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March, involved Menard inadvertently firing his rifle as he was about to board a U.S. army helicopter in Kandahar with Canada's top soldier, Gen. Walt Natynczyk. Menard was fined \$3,500.

<http://www.montrealgazette.com/news/Tank+firing+under+investigation+base/3122853/story.html>

USA, MA, NEW BEDFORD, JUNE 8 2010. MUSTARD GAS EXPOSURE SUSPECTED OF SICKENING TWO NEW BEDFORD FISHERMEN

anika clark

Two fishermen were taken to the hospital this morning with mustard gas exposure-like symptoms after pulling up about 10 canisters from sea this weekend, according to Coast Guard spokesman Jeff Hall. One of the canisters broke open and several hours later, two of the crew members aboard the clam dredger, the E.S.S. Pursuit, began experiencing blistering and difficulty breathing. The crew threw the canisters overboard. The boat dropped off the two sick crew members to State Pier this morning and returned to sea, according to Hall. Asked by The Standard-Times why mustard-gas was suspected to be at play, Hall said, "I think we got that from both EMS and the hospital ... that the symptoms were in agreement with that type of exposure." Hall didn't know the names of the sick crew members or their current condition. "Right now, we're working with the boat to try to establish a point where (the canisters) were dumped back into the ocean at and where they might have been dredged up from initially," he said. "We should be issuing a Captain of the Port order shortly to them to have them return to an anchorage area. We are working with the state of Massachusetts to get a plan together to go out, board the boat and assess it for contamination." They also sold their catch, according to Hall. "We're working with (the National Marine Fisheries Service) right now. They have a partial seizure on it and they have a hold on it until they get confirmation that there's no contamination of the catch as well." Hall didn't know how much had been sold or where.

<http://www.southcoasttoday.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20100607/NEWS/100609889/-1/TOWN1001>

USA, W.VA, MORGANTOWN, JUNE 8 2010. FIRE FROM W.VA. GAS WELL BLAST WILL BURN 2-3 DAYS

vicki smith

A crew drilling a natural gas well through an abandoned coal mine in West Virginia's Northern Panhandle hit a pocket of methane gas that ignited, triggering an explosion that burned seven workers, state and company officials said Monday. The seven workers were taken to the West Penn Burn Center in Pittsburgh and were in fair condition, a hospital spokeswoman said. They are expected to recover. The explosion happened about 1:30 a.m. in a rural area outside Moundsville, about 55 miles southwest of Pittsburgh. A column of fire shot at least 70 feet high, but the flames fell to 40 feet within hours. Gas continued to burn late Monday afternoon. A team from Texas-based Wild Well Control, a company that specializes in rig fires, will decide whether to let the methane burn or try to extinguish the flames, said Kristi Gittins, spokeswoman for Dallas, Texas-based Chief Oil & Gas LLC. The fire presents no danger to any structures or people, said Bill Hendershot, an inspector with the state Department of Environmental Protection's Office of Oil and Gas. The operation was less than a week old: DEP records show a permit was issued June 2 to AB Resources PA LLC of Brecksville, Ohio. Gittins said AB Resources is the operator of the well, while Chief has a "participation interest." It is Chief's responsibility to drill and complete the well, she said. Chief's site contractor, Union Drilling of Buckhannon, had drilled the first 1,000 feet of a second well on the property and was preparing to install surface casing when crews apparently hit and ignited the methane, she said. Crews had drilled through the abandoned Consol Energy mine before without incident, she said. Methane is a known risk when working near old mines, and the company typically takes a variety of precautions, including venting systems. Gittins could not immediately say what precautions were in place at this site. Prentice Cline, assistant area director for the Occupational Safety and Health Administration in Charleston, said blowout preventers are typically required on gas rigs. But DEP spokeswoman Kathy Cosco said the Union rig didn't have one because it hadn't yet reached a depth where a blowout preventer is required. When the accident occurred, it was still drilling a hole through rock, not pumping gas. Blowout preventers are required when the driller has reached its target formation underground or when a high volume of pressure can be expected, Cosco said. Five of the injured workers were employed by Union and two worked for BJ Services Co. of Houston, Texas. Union issued a statement saying it was "deeply concerned" about the explosion and the treatment of the injured. The company said it is cooperating with all investigators. The BJ Services workers were among four that had just arrived on site to place the casing, said Gary Flaharty, a spokesman for the parent company, Baker Hughes Inc. of Houston. The crew runs a safety check at the start of each shift and was just preparing to do that when the blast occurred. Flaharty could not provide any details about the injured employees but said they're being treated for burns and are expected to survive. OSHA area director Jeff Funke said he learned of the accident shortly after 8 a.m., and two investigators were dispatched. However, they cannot enter the site and begin work until the fire is out, he said. OSHA created a program to deal with gas drilling in the vast Marcellus shale fields

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about five years ago and has been proactively inspecting sites to ensure compliance with safety regulations, he said. The gas reserve is about the size of Greece and lies more than a mile beneath New York, Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Ohio. OSHA knew there would be a lot of drilling in West Virginia and Pennsylvania, "and we did our best to get out in front of that curve," Funke said. About 98 percent of the region's drilling now involves Marcellus shale, he said. Union owns 71 rigs and specializes in unconventional drilling techniques such as the horizontal drilling that is required to fracture tightly compacted rock and free the gas in Marcellus shale. Gittins, the spokeswoman for Chief, said her company has drilled about 75 Marcellus wells in West Virginia and Pennsylvania so far, with about 15 of them in West Virginia. This was the company's first major accident, she said. However, it's the latest in a string of accidents related to the rapidly growing pursuit of Marcellus gas. In Pennsylvania, environmental regulators are investigating what caused another well to spew explosive gas and polluted water for about 16 hours last week until it was brought under control. A crew of eight was evacuated from the Clearfield County site Thursday, but no one was injured. That accident involved EOG Resources Inc. of Houston.

Online:

- Union Drilling: <http://udrl.client.shareholder.com/>
- Chief Oil & Gas: http://www.chiefog.com/marcellus_shale.html
- AB Resources: <http://www.abresourcesllc.com/>

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5jw1LI9XMtLzfk6o31oC1TvHg5NQD9G6MJ080>

BRAZIL, RIO DE JANEIRO, CAMPOS BASIN, JUNE 8 2010. PETROBRAS 'CONTROLS' OIL LEAK AT OFFSHORE PLATFORM

peter millard

Petroleo Brasileiro SA, Brazil's state-controlled oil company, said it controlled an oil leak at an offshore platform in the Campos Basin. The P-47 platform leaked an estimated 1,500 liters (396 gallons) of oil at Marlim field during preparations to transfer oil to a ship, the Rio de Janeiro-based company said today in an e-mailed statement. Petrobras said oil production wasn't affected at the platform used for storage and processing. A helicopter and four boats assisted with clean up efforts, the company said. "The spill was immediately controlled," said Petrobras in the statement.

<http://www.businessweek.com/news/2010-06-07/petrobras-controls-oil-leak-at-offshore-platform-update1-.html>

USA, NY, LONG ISLAND, SUFFOLK CO, JUNE 9 2010. MAN INJURED IN FIREWORKS EXPLOSION IN WESTHAMPTON



Fire companies from all over the area headed to a brush fire at Gabreski Airport this morning.

A brush fire ignited by exploding fireworks broke out in the woods just north of Francis S. Gabreski County Airport on Sunday morning. An unidentified employee of Bay Fireworks, which has a storage facility just north of the Westhampton airport, was injured in the blast, according to the Southampton Town Fire Marshal's Office. The victim was airlifted by helicopter to Stony Brook University Medical Center, according to town fire officials. He suffered second— and third— degree burns on his hands, and first— and second—degree burns on his arms, neck and face, according to John Rankin, a fire marshal with the town. The

fireworks exploded outdoors, under a canopy where the injured employee was working, Mr. Rankin said. The worker was preparing mortar shells for upcoming Fourth of July fireworks shows and was inserting "electronic matches," devices that ignite fuses with an electric charge, into the fireworks. Mr. Rankin said he does not know what made the fireworks detonate, explaining that officials in his department are still investigating the incident. He said that the explosion was "definitely accidental." "It had something to do with the product, not the individual," Mr. Rankin said. The fireworks shot into the woods, igniting the brush fire, Mr. Rankin said. The fire started at around 9:20 a.m. and was extinguished by 11:50 a.m. Sunday, according to Fred Bauer, the public information officer for the Westhampton Beach Fire Department. There were about 10 boxes of fireworks, of various sizes, destroyed in the explosion, Mr. Rankin said. The canopy that the employee was working under was also severely damaged by the blast, he said. The brush fire burned less than three acres of woods, officials said. Mr. Rankin said fire department personnel were concerned because the blaze broke out close to the pine barrens, near the same area that was ravaged by the 1995 Sunrise Wildfires. Westhampton Beach Fire Department Chief Al Tudisco said crews responding to the blaze were worried about the high winds on Sunday, adding that they had plenty of water and trucks to control and extinguish the blaze. Bay Fireworks, a commercial pyrotechnics company with offices in Farmingdale, owns a

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storage facility just north of Gabreski Airport. Dennis Brady Jr., the company's chief operating executive, said he could not release the name of the employee who was injured. When reached Monday, Mr. Brady said the victim was still in the hospital and should be released sometime this week. Mr. Brady said he did not yet know what had detonated the fireworks. He pointed out that his employees work outdoors, under canopies, just in case something goes wrong—as was the case Sunday morning. "We have tables and stations outside for this exact reason," he said. There were about eight employees working at the Westhampton storage facility the time of the explosion, Mr. Rankin said. No one else was injured. "The fire departments did an excellent job," Mr. Rankin said. "Thank God it was just one injury." In addition to Westhampton Beach, the fire departments from East Quogue, Eastport, East Moriches, Riverhead, Flanders, Quogue and Hampton Bays also responded to the scene. The fire department based at New York State Air National Guard's 106th Rescue Wing, which is stationed at Gabreski, also responded. Members of the Westhampton War Memorial Ambulance also responded as did ambulances from East Quogue, Flanders and Hampton Bays. Officials with the Southampton Town Police Department, Suffolk County Sheriff's Department and the Suffolk County Fire Marshal's Office, as well as agents from the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration also responded.

http://www.27east.com/story_detail.cfm?id=282276&town=Westhampton&n=Man%20injured%20in%20fireworks%20explosion%20in%20Westhampton

CANADA, PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND, SUMMERSIDE, JUNE 9 2010. GAS SPILL SUSPECT SOUGHT BY POLICE

Police in Summerside, P.E.I. believe they know who is responsible for the gas spill at the St. Eleanor's Irving Oil station. On May 29 someone driving a U-Haul truck hit a gas pump, cracking underground pipes. About 7,500 litres of gasoline spilled, with the underground tank running dry before anyone noticed. Police Chief Dave Poirier told CBC News Tuesday they were able to track down the number of the U-haul through video surveillance. They think the man who rented the truck is now in Nova Scotia or New Brunswick. "We're working with off Island police agencies to try to locate this individual. Still no luck, hopefully in the next few days we'll be able to," said Poirier. Police believe the man left the Island shortly after the incident. The clean up at the gas station continues.

<http://www.cbc.ca/canada/prince-edward-island/story/2010/06/08/pei-gas-spill-suspect-584.html>

MEXICO, MEXICO CITY, JUNE 9 2010. PEMEX SUES U.S. FIRMS, SAYING THEY BUY STOLEN FUEL

Pemex, Mexico's state-owned oil company, has accused BASF Corp., Murphy Energy Corp. and three other U.S. companies of knowingly buying stolen natural gas condensate from thieves, according to a lawsuit filed in Houston federal court. Pemex Exploracion y Produccion, the company's production unit, accused the U.S. companies of facilitating a black market in natural gas condensate it claims is being stolen from Pemex's Burgos Field in northern Mexico. As much as \$300 million in liquids have been smuggled across the U.S. border in hijacked tanker trucks since 2006, Pemex said in its suit. The complaint also named Trammo Petroleum, Valley Fuels and U.S. Petroleum Depot, along with six people allegedly involved in the ring. Five of the individuals, none of whom works for BASF or Murphy, have pleaded guilty to U.S. charges linked to the smuggling scheme and await sentencing. Pemex seeks to recover damages from BASF and Murphy for allegedly having "directly assisted and encouraged" an organized criminal enterprise, Pemex attorney James Teater said in a statement Monday. "As long as they see a market for stolen Pemex condensate, they will find a way to steal it," Teater said in court papers, referring to criminals who've hijacked tankers at gunpoint and eluded Mexican army helicopters and troops summoned to defend the oilfields. "The company was unaware that it was stolen material when the company acquired it," said Frank Zeller, a spokesman for BASF. Zeller said the company is cooperating with "competent authorities and courts." He declined to comment on the lawsuit. The company is the U.S. subsidiary of German chemical maker BASF.

<http://www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/business/7041404.html>

USA, WASHINGTON D.C, JUNE 9 2010. STATEMENT FROM CSB CHAIRMAN JOHN BRESLAND REGARDING HOUSE COMMITTEE REQUEST TO INVESTIGATE BP DEEPWATER HORIZON

I have received the [letter from Chairmen Waxman and Stupak](#) of the of the House Committee on Energy and Commerce, requesting that the CSB investigate the BP Deepwater Horizon blowout. It is my desire that the CSB do everything it can to facilitate the request and to undertake the investigation and determine what factors led to the explosion and failure of the blowout prevention system. The CSB, a small agency, is currently engaged in numerous investigations consuming all of our investigation staff. However, I will be consulting immediately with the rest of the board and with key staff to determine how we may put together a high-performing investigation team. The CSB thoroughly investigated the [BP Texas City refinery explosion](#) of 2005 and issued a lengthy report and [hour-long CSB Safety Video](#) following our investigation, and as the letter from the

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committee chairmen states, we would be in a unique position to address numerous questions about BP's safety culture and practices, and to answer the questions outlined in the House committee letter today. The CSB investigation report and safety video may be viewed at www.CSB.gov. In addition, at the [CSB's urgent recommendation in 2005](#), BP convened a special panel under the leadership of former Secretary of State James Baker to evaluate the safety culture at BP's North American refineries. That report was published in January 2007. We will be making key decisions on the matter in the next few days and we thank the Committee on Energy and Commerce for its interest in and support of CSB investigation activities

<http://www.csb.gov/newsroom/detail.aspx?nid=323>

USA, CA, SAN JOSE, JUNE 10 2010. CLEANUP OF SIERRA DIESEL FUEL SPILL BEGINS

Crews have begun removing contaminated soil from a diesel fuel spill along Interstate 80 near Truckee. California Department of Fish and Game officials say most of the 3,000 gallons of diesel fuel drained into the center divide and some of it moved through a culvert to the hillside above Donner Lake. The spill occurred May 26 when a tanker truck overturned on the snowy interstate. Officials say recent samples from Summit Creek and Donner Lake did not detect any diesel contamination. Environmental monitoring of the area will continue for water quality and wildlife impacts. The cleanup prompted the closure today of the fast lane of eastbound I-80 near Donner Lake. Officials say the work could continue through Thursday.

http://www.mercurynews.com/breaking-news/ci_15254590?nclink_check=1

USA, LA, SAINT MARY PARISH, JUNE 9 2010. LIGHTNING STRIKES OIL TANK

 **Watch the Video** <http://www.klfy.com/Global/story.asp?S=12610753>



It took firefighters over five hours to put out the flames after a lightning bolt struck an oil storage unit in Saint Mary Parish. From miles away, the thick black smoke filled the air for hours. On the scene, flames shot out some 60 feet in the air. A bolt of lightning struck a oil storage tank off of La 87 in Saint Mary Parish. The intense flames produced miles of thick black smoke, at times becoming too much for the near half dozen fire departments. Firefighters and hazmat crews gave it their all to gain control the blaze continually rotating in and out battling the smoke and dehydration. After five and half hours, they were finally able to put out the flames using fire foam. This isn't the first time they've seen something this severe in this same area. Five years ago a different tank was hit by lightning producing a similar fire. Three people were working at the time, but none were hurt. DEQ officials also cleared the scene saying none of the oil leaked out of that tank, avoiding an

environmental hazard.

<http://www.klfy.com/Global/story.asp?S=12610753>

USA, TN, ATHENS, JUNE 9 2010. TENNESSEE MANUFACTURER PLEADS GUILTY TO ILLEGAL STORAGE OF HAZARDOUS WASTE [ETHANOL] SELECTIVE STRUCTURES SENTENCED TO \$259,000 IN FINES AND PENALTIES, PLUS PROBATION

Billboard manufacturer Selective Structures pleaded guilty to illegally storing hazardous waste at its Athens, Tenn., facility, a U.S. Department of Justice news release announced June 8. The company was ordered to pay \$80,000 in criminal fines and \$179,174.18 in penalties and damages to the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation. In addition, the manufacturer was placed on probation for 37 months to give it time to pay its fines and penalties, and required to hire an outside consultant to conduct quarterly environmental compliance audits during the probation period and report those results to the U.S. Justice Department. According to the Justice Department, Selective Structures accumulated and stored spent Xylene solvent at its Athens site rather than having it transported by a licensed waste management company to an approved hazardous waste disposal site, as required by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act. The manufacturer generates hazardous waste in the form of spent Xylene solvent during its manufacturing process. The company accumulated more than 60 55-gallon drums of the spent Xylene solvent, which is highly ignitable, and then attempted to dispose of it by pouring drums of it into a large pile of sawdust and mixing it, the Justice Department said. An inspection by the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation revealed the activities, and the criminal division of the Environmental Protection Agency executed a federal search warrant at the facility in April 2008.

http://www.industryweek.com/articles/tennessee_manufacturer_pleads_guilty_to_illegal_storage_of_hazardous_waste_22002.aspx

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CYPRUS, NICOSIA, JUNE 9 2010. SERVICE STATIONS COULD APPEAR ON HIGHWAY



The government of Cyprus is looking into the prospect of creating service stations along the length of the main highway, the Communications Ministry has said. In a letter of response to Environmental Commissioner Charalambos Theopemptou, the ministry said it was examining the possibility of building stations with toilets, resting areas, restaurants and petrol stations. As a preliminary measure, the aim is to create toilets in current weighing stations until tender procedures can be launched for private developers to build proper service stations, like those in the rest of Europe. Earlier this month, Theopemptou sent a letter to the ministry saying there had been complaints by tourists, who rent cars and are shocked to find there are no

resting areas to use the toilet or fill up on petrol. In some cases, signs on the highway indicating service stations actually lead to private restaurants or cafeterias. The lack of proper resting areas is also a problem for professional drivers, who are often on the roads for hours on end, without the ability to stop off for a rest or use the toilet.

<http://www.petroplaza.com/news/industry/MiZibiY5ODM4JiYx>

INDONESIA, JAKARTA, JUNE 10 2010. SHELL TO OPEN FIVE MORE PETROL STATIONS THIS YEAR

Shell Indonesia, a subsidiary of oil giant Royal Dutch Shell, will open five petrol stations in Jakarta and Surabaya, East Java, in the immediate future, the company's executive has said. Shell public management consultancy manager Esto Sunarso told the reporters Wednesday that three of the stations would be in Jakarta and the other two in Surabaya. One station will start operating on Jl. Fatmawati, South Jakarta, in the next one or two weeks, followed by the other two in Kebon Jeruk, West Jakarta, and on Jl. Ahmad Yani, North Jakarta, later this month. The two Surabaya stations will be opened on Jl. Mayjen Sungkono and Jl. Ahmad Yani next month, he said.

<http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2010/06/09/shell-open-five-more-petrol-stations-year.html>

AUSTRALIA, VICTORIA, BALLARAT, JUNE 11 2010. MAN CRITICAL WITH BURNS AFTER FUEL THROWN ON BACKYARD FIRE

anne wright

A young man suffered serious burns to his face, chest, arms and airways after fuel thrown on a fire splashed up and burned him. Rural Ambulance paramedics were called to the Ploughshare Drive address in Mt Helen near Ballarat at 10.13pm yesterday. When paramedics arrived they discovered the man with 40 per cent full thickness burns in a serious condition. The 20-year-old man had been standing with a group of students in the backyard of the house, when one person decided to throw a cup of fuel onto the fire to reignite the dying flames. The victim was airlifted to the Alfred in a critical condition. Police are investigating but are currently treating the incident as an accident.

<http://www.heraldsun.com.au/news/man-critical-with-burns-after-fuel-thrown-on-backyard-fire/story-e6frf7jo-1225878273476>

USA, CA, SAN DIEGO, JUNE 11 2010. CREWS CLEAN UP DIESEL FUEL SPILL AT NAVAL BASE POINT LOMA

 **Watch the Video** <http://www.760kfm.com/Global/story.asp?S=12629523>



A diesel fuel spill at Naval Base Point Loma gets a quick response. The fuel was coming out quickly and there was a big push to get a handle on the situation before the diesel could seep into the water. News 8 obtained exclusive video from Naval Base Point Loma. The Navy granted News 8 access to the cleanup work that was done Wednesday night, after a failure at the fuel pumping station led to a diesel fuel leak. Cleanup crews at Naval Base Point Loma soaked up an estimated 1000 gallons of diesel fuel, which began spewing about 30 feet up into the air at the pumping station around 6:30 p.m. Wednesday. "The leak did cause a little bit of a geyser," said Captain Paul Marconi the Commanding Officer at Naval Base Point

Loma. Marconi also added that crews took immediate action and had the leak stopped and contained within 15 to 20 minutes. "We're trained to respond to these types of incidents as quickly as possible," continued Marconi. The Navy believes the leak was stopped before any fuel could reach the water. "We don't have any indications fuel got out to the bay, there's always the potential that maybe a residual may get out there, a minor sheen or something, and there, we're talking very small quantities in the pint levels," Marconi explained. The leak happened at defense fuel support aboard the submarine base complex, which supplies fuel to other bases. "We connect to Naval Base Coronado and Miramar Air Station," Marconi added. The storage

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facility also supplies fuel to the Navy's fleet. "Usually we have the military sea lift tankers come here, pick up fuel, then take it out to units at sea," Marconi noted. The Navy is still working to determine the cause of the leak. Meantime, a new state of the art fuel storage facility is currently being built to replace the aging facility, which is the largest single fuel handling facility in the Navy. The Navy adds that it has notified state and national agencies of the leak, including the Office of Emergency Services.

<http://www.760kfm.com/Global/story.asp?S=12629523>

USA, KY, CLARK CO, WINCHESTER, JUNE 11 2010. TRUCK LEAK LEAVES HAZMAT CREWS SCRAMBLING >> HAZMAT CREWS WENT INTO A FULL-SCALE RESPONSE AFTER DISCOVERING A TRUCK LEAKING A POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS CHEMICAL AT A WINCHESTER TRUCK STOP.

wendy enneking

 **Watch the Video** <http://www.wkyt.com/news/misc/96060329.html>

 **Watch the Video** <http://www.wtvq.com/news/3922-possible-hazmat-spill-in-clark-county>



Clark County emergency response crews were one the scene for about three hours today trying to determine the potential impact of a chemical leaking out of a semi-truck. A truck that had pulled onto the scales at the 96 Truck Stop was leaking some sort of chemical from its trailer. The driver noticed the leak and asked the worker at the scales to contact the fire department. The truck, which was from Southern Refrigerated Transport based out of Texarkana, Arkansas, was transporting barrels of two different chemicals. The chemicals were flammable and toxic which was why crews wanted to take every precaution. Using sensors, crews determined that the amount of chemical that leaked was such a small amount that it did not pose a threat to the community. The scene was subsequently turned over to a private clean-up company. The truck was carrying a mixed load of benzene and toluene. Benzene is


a colorless and highly flammable liquid that is a natural constituent of crude oil. Toluene is a clear, water-insoluble liquid with the typical smell of paint thinners that is widely used as an industrial feedstock and as a solvent.

<http://www.wkyt.com/news/misc/96060329.html>

USA, S.C, LIBERTY, JUNE 11 2010. 436 HOMES EVACUATED AS FREIGHT TRAIN DERAILS IN S.C. >> TOXIC SUBSTANCE SPILLED FROM TANKER BUT WAS CONTAINED TO THE SITE, OFFICIAL SAID

ron barnett, anna simon & david dykes

 **Watch the Video** <http://www.independentmail.com/news/2010/jun/11/evacuees-able-return-homes-after-train-derailment/>

 **Watch the Video** <http://www2.wspa.com/news/2010/jun/10/100/officials-evacuating-area-around-liberty-trail-der-ar-335804/>



An investigation is underway to determine what caused a Norfolk Southern freight train carrying an assortment of flammable materials to derail near Liberty on Thursday, forcing the evacuation of 436 homes within a mile of the crash. Late in the night, most residents were allowed to return to their homes. Eleven houses and an estimated 28 people still were evacuated. Air tests showed no dangerous materials in the air, Thom Berry, spokesman for the state Department of Health and Environmental Control, said late in the night. He said the liquid spill was contained to the wreck site. Berry said there are no public water supplies in the area and therefore no threat to public drinking water. At least one railcar had been on fire but apparently burned out on its own as firefighters kept their distance out of fear of an explosion, said Lynn Fisher, director of Pickens County Emergency Management. A spokesman for Norfolk Southern said the train was carrying ethylene glycol, a flammable liquid, and polyurethane, a flammable material used to make foam for car seats. Fisher said isopropyl, a flammable alcohol-based liquid that can cause dizziness and suffocation, spilled from a tanker. A white powdery substance also spilled but isn't toxic, said Jennifer Woods, Pickens County human resources director and

spokeswoman. Sixteen rail cars - 10 cars carrying bulk commodities and six tankers - were sprawled like a smashed accordion over a stretch of track. An Anderson County Sheriff's helicopter scouted the scene to see that it was safe before workers entered the area. Mike Rowland, a volunteer with the Liberty Fire Department, was on his way home with his son in a car nearby when he was startled by something that "sounded just like a jet plane." As it came around the curve, the train made a sudden stop. "Trains don't stop that quick," he said. He turned the car around and drove to the nearest crossing and saw the

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derailed train and called the fire department. Norfolk Southern spokesman Robin Chapman said the railroad hadn't determined the extent of the damage, but no one was injured. Chapman said the accident happened at about 4:30 p.m. with a northbound train that had three locomotives and 97 cars. He didn't know how fast the train was traveling. The train was en route from Atlanta to Linwood, N.C., Berry said. Evacuated residents were moved to Eastside Baptist Church on Anderson Street. State troopers blocked a section of Ruhamah Road and numerous other streets near the scene.

<http://www.heraldonline.com/2010/06/11/2234595/436-homes-evacuated-as-freight.html>

USA, WA, ANACORTES, JUNE 11 2010. RUPTURE CAUSED WASH. REFINERY BLAST THAT KILLED 7

The chief official investigating a Washington state refinery explosion that killed seven people says the blast occurred when a heat exchanger ruptured on a unit that processes a highly flammable chemical. Robert Hall, of the U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board, said Thursday that it's not yet known why the device ruptured April 2 at Tesoro Corp.'s Anacortes refinery. Metallurgical tests will begin Friday at a laboratory in Cleveland. Tesoro said Thursday that the facility will remain closed at least through September. The company previously said the refinery would be closed through June, but spokesman Lynn Westfall says it will take months to clean the burned area and repair the damaged equipment.

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5jYkAyfTB-gAvN27Vp6Uy-96rPlcgD9G8NSE82>

USA, WYO, CHEYENNE JUNE 11 2010. FRONTIER TO PAY \$900,000 FOR REFINERY POND DUMPING

mead gruver

Frontier Oil Corp. has agreed to pay a \$900,000 penalty for allegedly dumping toxic waste into a stormwater retention pond at its refinery in Cheyenne. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency says the refinery collected sludge in the pond for years. Last fall, the EPA sought a \$6.8 million penalty against the Houston-based company. Negotiations resulting in a settlement announced Tuesday will require Frontier to pay a smaller penalty while cleaning up the pond and rerouting the waste pipe. Frontier officials say they are committed to complying with environmental regulations and are spending \$1 million to finish maintaining the pond. Frontier already has spent more than \$14 million to improve the refinery's wastewater treatment plant, company spokeswoman Kristine Boyd said in a statement. "Although Frontier refuted these EPA allegations, we have agreed to enter into a settlement with the EPA to resolve the matter," the statement said. The settlement requires Frontier to submit a plan by June 30 for closing the pond, said Michael Risner, director of legal enforcement for the EPA regional office in Denver. Risner questioned Frontier's claim that the company had refuted the allegations. "They can certainly say that, but they are going to end up doing what we ordered them to do," he said Wednesday. The penalty results from a nationwide EPA effort to improve compliance at refinery wastewater ponds, Risner said. He said the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality also has been investigating ponds at the refinery.

<http://www.businessweek.com/ap/financialnews/D9G7UJP82.htm>

USA, TX, AMARILLO, JUNE 11 2001. DEADLY PANHANDLE NATURAL GAS BLAST ONE OF TWO IN STATE

Watch the Video <http://www.newschannel10.com/Global/story.asp?S=12634907>



A 14-inch pipeline ruptured Tuesday when a bulldozer struck it setting off an explosion that killed two people and injured three others.

An explosion in the Texas Panhandle that killed two men was the state's second deadly blast in as many days involving workers who accidentally hit natural gas lines. The blast Tuesday involved a crew that was removing caliche - commonly used in cement - from a pit for a dirt-contracting company, Lipscomb County Sheriff James Robertson said in a news release. The explosion happened when a bulldozer struck a pipeline in a remote area of the Texas Panhandle near Darrouzett, about 270 miles northeast of Lubbock and just a few miles from the Oklahoma border.

Killed were Steven Douglas Odell, 32, and Johnnie Mike Renner, 44, both of Pampa, Robertson said Wednesday. One person hospitalized after the blast was in fair condition at Baptist Medical Center in Oklahoma City, a spokeswoman said. Two others were treated and released from a nearby hospital. The bulldozer crew was working for an oil services company when it hit the line Tuesday afternoon. A day earlier, one worker was killed when a utility crew accidentally hit and ruptured a natural gas line in rural Johnson County, about 50 miles southwest of Dallas. Fred Haag, chief operating officer of Oklahoma-based C&H Power Line Construction Services, said that crew followed the proper procedures in locating the line before digging. The crew was drilling a hole for an 80- to 120-foot utility pole when the gas line was struck and ruptured, sending a massive fireball into the air that burned out about two hours later after the gas flow was shut off. Haag said the crew already had a survey map

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showing gas lines in the area but also made calls to verify the line location. Robertson identified the employer of the two men killed Tuesday as Nick Thomas Inc. Denver-based DCP Midstream shut off valves leading to the 14-inch pipeline, allowing the fire to burn out about four hours later, spokeswoman Roz Elliott said. She said the pipeline fed one of the company's processing plants. Rhonda Cochran said she could see the flames as she was driving from Booker to her home in Darrouzett. "They were huge," she told the Amarillo Globe-News. "I was eight miles away from Darrouzett. You could see the flames." Authorities identified the man killed in Monday's blast as James Robert Neese, 45, of Ramona, Okla. His body was found about 600 feet from the explosion site. "James was a beloved, hardworking father who always put his family first," his wife, Lavonne Neese, said in a written statement. At least seven of the other 13 workers who had been close to the site were treated at hospitals, mostly for burns to their necks and arms as they ran away from the massive fireball, Haag said. Several of Neese's relatives also work for C&H, including his brother who was at the site Monday but was not injured. Neese, who has several children and stepchildren, recently welcomed a new baby with his wife, Haag said. "It's hard because we're a fairly small company and close-knit," Haag said. "His crew was like a family to him, and he watched them like a mother hen." After investigators finish looking over the site, workers will repair the ruptured pipeline, which is expected to take several days, said Houston-based Enterprise Products Partners LP, which partially owns the 36-inch-diameter line. It is a 395-mile segment of a pipeline extending from western to eastern Texas, the company said.

<http://lubbockonline.com/state-news/2010-06-10/natural-gas-blasts-kill-three-state>

USA, TX, GREGG CO, WHITE OAK, JUNE 11 2010. OIL HOLDING TANK BURNS IN GREGG COUNTY

bob hallmark

 **Watch the Video** <http://www.kltv.com/Global/story.asp?S=12630880>



In White Oak, an oil storage tank was hit by lightning, setting it on fire and having to be doused by two area fire departments. "Apparently what we have here is a fiberglass tank that had salt water and condensate in it," explained White Oak Fire Chief Jim Nall. "We think probably we had a lightning strike on the tank and it exploded and burned the contents. We did knock it down before it got to any of the other tanks. That's always a concern for secondary explosions."

<http://www.kltv.com/Global/story.asp?S=12630880>

USA, CA, ANTIOCH, JUNE 11 2010. BARGE SINKING IN DELTA WATERS NEAR ANTIOCH, LEAKING FUEL

 **Watch the Video** <http://www.news10.net/news/story.aspx?storyid=83326&catid=2>

 **Watch the Video** <http://www.ktvu.com/news/23862598/detail.html>



A small fuel spill was reported Thursday morning near a partially sunken barge at the Fulton Shipyard. A sheen was reported on the water near Fulton Shipyard Road at about 9 a.m., said Matt Kaufmann, a Contra Costa County hazardous materials specialist. A crew of five county workers responded to the area and determined the sheen was coming from the barge, Kaufmann said. Alexia Retallack of the state Department of Fish and Game's Office of Spill Prevention and Response said the barge began sinking Sunday, and that crews planned to raise it out of the water today. Retallack said authorities were told by the barge's owner that fuel had been pumped off the vessel. She said the sheen spotted today may be due to other fluids that were in the engine. Boom has been set up around the barge to ensure that the spill does not spread. "We don't have a lot of material

in the water, but we're not taking any chances," she said. Crews are working Thursday afternoon to pump water off the barge and it. An oil spill prevention specialist from the office was en route to the shipyard Thursday, and U.S. Coast Guard crews were also at the scene, Retallack said. No effects from the spill have been reported on nearby shorelines, she said.

<http://www.ktvu.com/news/23862598/detail.html>

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USA, NY, CANANDAIGUA, JUNE 11 2010. CANANDAIGUA GAS STATION OWNER PLEADS NOT GUILTY IN GAS LEAK

bennett j. loudon

An Ontario County man has been charged with a felony and a misdemeanor because of a long-term gasoline leak at a Canandaigua service station he owns. J. Thomas Schaeffer II, 57, of 3469 Route 488, Clifton Springs, has been charged with the felony, third-degree endangering [public health](#), safety or the environment, and the misdemeanor, failure to keep daily inventory records relating to a bulk petroleum storage facility, according to state Department of Conservation officials. The charges stem from the loss of more than 1,200 gallons of gas at Tom's Mobil Station, 267 S. Main St., Canandaigua. The gas station is closed and the spill is being cleaned up, said DEC Police Capt. Michael Van Durme. Schaeffer was arraigned Tuesday in Canandaigua City Court. He pleaded not guilty and is free on his own recognizance, but he did not have a lawyer with him. His next court appearance is scheduled for today with a lawyer. The state DEC investigation was prompted by a citizen's complaint about strong fumes at the location. DEC workers found a leak under a gas pump and determined that gasoline had been seeping into the ground and a nearby sewer line for several weeks. State law requires gas station owners to track their inventory and report losses to the DEC. DEC officials claim Schaeffer had not reconciled his inventory records from early September 2009 to Nov. 8, 2009, the day the source of the spill was identified. He faces a maximum fine of \$150,000 and four years in prison on the felony charge. The fine for the misdemeanor is \$3,750 to \$37,500 per day of violation and could include a jail sentence of up to one year.

<http://www.democratandchronicle.com/article/20100611/NEWS01/6110325/1002/NEWS>

USA, CA, BURBANK, JUNE 11 2010. 134 CLOSURE: OVERTURNED GASOLINE TANKER SHUTS DOWN LA FREEWAY



All lanes of the eastbound 134 have been reopened as of 4p.m. A day after a rush hour accident shut down the 405 freeway for the better part of Wednesday, news is breaking of an overturned gasoline tanker shutting down another major local freeway. Officials say that approximately 4,500 gallons of fuel has spilled on the freeway. Only one compartment of three on the tanker is leaking, according to officials. The tanker holds approximately 1,500 gallons of gasoline. The fuel is currently spilling into a storm drain which funnels to Johnny Carson Park in Burbank on Riverside Drive. Experts are trying to figure out a way to contain the fuel at that location.

<http://news.gov.hk/en/category/infrastructureandlogistics/100610/html/100610en06002.htm>

USA, MI, CHARLOTTE, JUNE 11 2010. TANKER TRUCK CATCHES FIRE ALONG I-69 IN MICHIGAN

scott sarvay



Workers clean up a burned semi this morning after a fiery early-morning accident on I-69 near Charlotte.

A fiery crash along I-69 in Michigan Thursday morning prompted the northbound lanes of the highway to be closed for several hours. According to the Eaton County Sheriff's Office, at about 4 a.m. A tanker truck collided with a semi truck causing the tankers side to be ripped open spilling flammable liquid on the highway. The liquid then ignited causing the highway and tanker to catch fire. The driver of the tanker was able to escape. He was hospitalized with minor injuries. The other truck did not stop, according to the sheriff's office.

<http://www.indianasnewscenter.com/news/local/96056444.html>

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