



## Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network

### Release 2012 – 830 Newsy Stuff

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

**April 18 2012**



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#### USA, IN, GREENBURG, APRIL 12 2012. HOOSIER PETE FINED \$6,900

The Hoosier Pete convenience store at 3401 E. Memorial Drive has agreed to pay a civil penalty of \$6,900 to the Indiana Department of Environmental Management for alleged regulatory violations. The penalty is being paid to the state's underground petroleum storage tank trust fund. The owner of the store, Varinder Sahi, agreed to pay the penalty, bring the site into compliance and take other action, but he did not admit to any violations. According to IDEM, inspections in 2010 found the store failed to provide corrosion protection for the metal piping under the premium gasoline dispenser; failed to perform an annual test of the automatic line-leak detector; failed to perform an annual line tightness test on underground piping, and failed to inspect the internal lining of the underground storage tanks at the site.

<http://www.thestarpress.com/article/20120411/NEWS01/204110309>

#### USA, CT, WATERBURY, APRIL 12 2012. GAS STATION WORKER PULLS WOMAN FROM BURNING CAR >> EDMOND LAHO ALSO PUT THE FIRE OUT AND MOVED THE SMOKING VEHICLE AWAY FROM THE PUMPS.

debra bogstie

[Watch the Video Gas Station Worker Pulls Woman from Burning Car](#)



*A quick-thinking employee of a Mobil station in Waterbury saved the life of a woman stuck in a burning car. He also put out the fire and moved the smoking vehicle away from the pumps to prevent an explosion.*

A gas station worker is being called a hero after rescuing an elderly woman from a burning car in Waterbury. Cecilia Forget was driving with her 87-year-old mother Sunday, when she heard a strange noise coming from underneath the car. She pulled up to pump number four at the Mobil at 570 Meriden Road in Waterbury to check it out. That's when the fire broke out, sparked by paper and plastic that was caught underneath. "I started walking away and I heard people screaming that there was a fire under my car," said Forget. "My mom was inside the car. She froze. She wouldn't even move." Anne Marie Adam was working inside. She turned off the pumps and called 911. "She was waving and when I looked there were flames on the ground like coming out of her car," said Adam. As customers ran away, another worker, Edmond Laho, rushed outside and helped get Forget's 87-year-old mother out of the car. Then he grabbed a fire extinguisher. "I started to put the fire down and I laid down under the car and I put some the fire down," said Laho. Then, with the car smoking, he jumped inside and moved the vehicle away from the pumps to prevent an explosion. "My life flashed in front of my eyes. It was very scary," said Adam. Forget returned to the gas station in her Chevy to thank the workers. Amazingly, there was little damage to the car. "If it wasn't for him I don't even know what would happen. That's all I could say. He's my hero," said Forget. Laho says he doesn't consider himself a hero. Instead, he says he's just happy to help people in need. "I don't care for my life, only to do something to help people," said Laho. "It could have been very tragic," said Forget.

<http://www.nbcconnecticut.com/news/local/Gas-Station-Worker-Pulls-Woman-From-Burning-Car-146894485.html>

#### BRAZIL, SÃO PAULO, APRIL 12 2012. OIL LEAK FOUND IN STATE-RUN FIELD OFF BRAZIL

joe Leahy

The has taken a new twist with the discovery of leaking crude in a field operated by state-owned [Petrobras](#), the country's dominant producer. The leak was discovered in the Roncador field, which lies alongside [Chevron](#)'s Frade field, the scene of two spills in the past six months that have led to multibillion-dollar lawsuits against the US oil group. Brazil's oil regulator, the ANP said: "Samples of oil have been collected in the Roncador Field, with the objective of identifying the origin of the leak." The discovery of a leak in a field off the coast near Rio de Janeiro that is operated by Petrobras, one of Latin America's biggest companies, promises to be a test for the country's judicial system and its oil industry regulatory process. The incidents come as Brazil is preparing to develop its huge offshore "pre-salt" fields, which hold billions of barrels of oil but lie thousands of metres below the surface and hundreds of kilometres offshore. Chevron and its drilling contractor, Transocean, have been [hit by two multibillion-dollar lawsuits from a federal prosecutor](#) with claims totalling about \$22bn for the oil leaks from its Frade field. A court has ordered that the [passports of Chevron executives in Brazil be withheld](#), including that of its Brazil chief executive George Buck. The prosecutor is also demanding they serve prison sentences, including 31 years in jail for Mr Buck.



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This is in spite of the small size of the leaks, with the first in November amounting to up to 3,000 barrels of crude – a small fraction of what was spilt each day during BP's 2010 Mexican Gulf disaster. The second, which occurred last month, Chevron said was less than one barrel. Politicians, particularly in Rio de Janeiro, reacted with acrimony to the original Chevron leak. But Petrobras has criticised the lawsuits, saying they are without merit and excessive. Regulators said they were still verifying the cause of the leak in Petrobras's Roncador field and it was not yet clear whether it would result in legal action. Petrobras confirmed the leak in a statement. Chevron discovered the Roncador spill while investigating the seabed near Frade over the weekend, a person familiar with the matter said. Chevron declined to comment on Tuesday. But a spokesperson did say: "Chevron Brasil has not identified any new seeps in the Frade Field. "You would need to contact the operators of any adjacent concessions for information about their operations."

<http://www.ft.com/intl/cms/s/0/b672c5f2-832b-11e1-9f9a-00144feab49a.html#axzz1rmkqMvTk>

#### MEXICO, MEXICO CITY, APRIL 12 2012. MEXICO'S PEMEX FILES FRESH SUIT IN STOLEN FUEL CASE

*mica rosenberg*

Mexico's state oil company Pemex has filed a fresh lawsuit against a dozen oil companies including units of Royal Dutch Shell, alleging they sold fuel stolen by drug gangs, U.S. court filings show. Pemex PEMEX.UL filed the new complaint in a court in the Southern District of Texas on April 10, after a judge ruled Mexico's oil monopoly could not add the Shell subsidiaries and other companies, including ConocoPhillips, to an original claim filed in 2010. Pemex's exploration and production arm (PEP) claims the companies traded or transported upwards of \$300 million of natural gas condensates, which can be refined into high-value oil products, that it says were hijacked by criminal gangs linked to violent Mexican drug cartels and smuggled across the U.S.-Mexico border. "Some of the defendants knew, or at least should have known, they were trading in or transporting, stolen condensate," the court papers said. "Others were ignorant that they were purchasing stolen goods. In either case, however, the defendants took possession of Mexico's sovereign property." Mexico's oil resources are nationalized and Pemex is controlled by the government. The new case, which is almost identical to the original 2010 filing, alleges the U.S. trading arm of Shell, STUSCO, was the largest marketer of the condensate, trading at least \$150 million of the fuel but without knowing it was stolen. It says ConocoPhillips bought at least \$35 million in stolen fuel from third parties, also with no knowledge of the condensate's illicit origin. Shell officials were not immediately available for comment. ConocoPhillips officials said it would not comment on ongoing legal matters. A judge overseeing the 2010 case ruled earlier on April 10 that both companies, along with FR Midstream Transport, Marathon Petroleum Company and Sunoco, could not be added to the suit because it would result in excessive delays to the case. Lawyers for PEP and Pemex representatives in Mexico City did not respond to requests for comments. PEP claims that at times the thefts reached up to 40 percent of condensate produced at the Burgos field, which spans the Mexican states of Tamaulipas, Nuevo Leon and Coahuila. The gas field has been menaced by powerful drug gangs branching out into new illegal rackets in search of more revenues. Drug violence in Mexico has killed more than 50,000 people in the past five years and Pemex workers have been kidnapped and intimidated by the gangs.

<http://ca.reuters.com/article/businessNews/idCABRE83B02920120412?sp=true>

#### SCOTLAND, EDINBURGH, APRIL 12 2012. BANG OUT OF ORDER: COMPUTER VIDEO CATCHES OUT MAN WHO MADE HIS OWN FIREWORKS



*Lee-Jay Newman stored the explosives in his Edinburgh flat*

A man was caught with explosive materials in his city flat after films of him detonating devices were found on an old computer. At Edinburgh Sheriff Court unemployed woodworker Lee-Jay Newman, 34, pled guilty to having explosives and explosive incendiaries. He claimed he had the chemicals, which could make 1.5kg of explosives, because he enjoyed making his own fireworks. Father-of-two Newman was caught when video of him setting off explosives in the woods were found on a discarded computer hard drive, which had been sold to a second-hand shop. They showed men in camouflage clothing setting off explosives, which the person who had bought the computer from the shop showed to police. Specialist bomb disposal teams were called to Newman's flat in Edinburgh last July when police searched the premises as they investigated the video. When he was caught he admitted he had been a 'fool,' but said the explosives, which included materials to make black powder and the incendiary substance thermite, were only for pyrotechnics. His defence agent said he was a 'nervous' man who enjoyed the 'bangs and colours' of fireworks. Fiscal deputy Isabel Clark told the court today



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(tue) that a crown witness and his son were stripping down the hard drive of a broken laptop they had bought when they discovered the video. She said: "The witness observed video clips of men dressed in camouflage clothing detonating what appeared to be explosives. "They were concerned and contacted the police. "Police carried out inquiries on the hard drive which led them to the accused."

#### Den

Police searched the top-floor flat in Dumbryden Gardens, Edinburgh, and found several chemical substances in an attic 'den', Ms Clark said. She continued: "It was in the attic that the chemical items, or most of them, were found. "When the accused was placed into the [police] vehicle he said to the police officers 'I know what this is about. There's a can in the loft with thermite black powder in it.' He was taken to St Leonard's police station where he was interviewed and charged. Specialist explosive ordnance disposal officers were called to the house, she said. Newman admitted possessing potassium nitrate, potassium permanganate, sulphur and thermite, along with 'pyrotechnic units.' Ms Clark continued: "I understand there were a significant number of ingredients to produce 1.5kg of black powder. "This can be made to explode within a solid container."

#### Embarrassed

Ms Clark said there was no evidence Newman had mixed the substances together to form explosives. She continued: "Forensic examination was such that there were chemicals there with potential to mix to form an explosive or an explosive incendiary." Newman said he had travelled to a woodland area near Lanark Road with friends to set off 'pyro rockets.', she said. He obtained many of the substances legally from Ebay, she added. The fiscal depute continued: ""He was very embarrassed about his actions during the course of his interview. "When charged he said 'I have been a fool and I'm glad it's being sorted.'" His defence agent Rhona MacLeod said Newman was a 'nervous' man who suffered from high blood pressure. She said: "He has had an interest in fireworks for some time. He has had interest in making them, and video them going off. "It's been an outdoor pursuit and a genuine interest. He enjoyed the bangs, the sound and the colours. "There's nothing to suggest he has done anything other than set off fireworks. "They were big boys out playing, running about setting them off, just having fun." "He's a very nervous man, his position is he will never make a firework again." Sheriff Kenneth MacIver deferred sentence until May for reports.

<http://www.deadlinenews.co.uk/2012/04/10/bang-out-of-order-computer-video-catches-out-man-who-made-his-own-fireworks/>

## AUSTRALIA, NEW SOUTH WALES, OYSTER BAY, APRIL 12 2012. CONTAMINATION FEARS...FAMILY ASKS "ARE WE SAFE?"

jim gainsford



*Concerns: The Sioutos family at their Oyster Bay home, (left to right) Antonie, Kathryn, Olivia, John, Jenna and Kosta. Mr Sioutos wants to make sure his house is safe after contamination was detected near the Shell service station (below).*

John Sioutos of Oyster Bay wants Shell Australia to guarantee there is "absolutely 100 percent" nothing wrong with his house. Shell Australia bought five properties near its service station in Georges River Road, Oyster Bay, several years ago after the site was declared significantly contaminated under the Contaminated Lands Management Act. Shell has been working with Sutherland Shire Council and the Environment Protection Authority since 2007 to treat petrol contamination in the groundwater from the service station. The company told Mr Sioutos his property



was not affected but his concerns skyrocketed when his neighbours in the adjoining properties moved out without warning just over a month ago. Mr Sioutos lives at 18 Georges River Road, Oyster Bay, one block downhill from the service station, with his wife Kathryn and their four children, Kosta, 12, Antonie, 10, and twins Olivia and Jenna, who are about to turn four. "Shell has told me that my house is safe from contamination but the property adjoining my back fence was recently vacated and has numerous drill holes," he said. "My concerns jumped when my next-door neighbours left just over four weeks ago without saying a word. "We've been in the neighbourhood for years but each time a person has left they have gone overnight and we don't know where they are. I want to know why my



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neighbours have disappeared.” Mr Sioutos said Shell offered to meet him to discuss the matter and answer his questions in mid-March but cancelled at the last minute. “Shell says the underground spring water has bypassed my home,” he said. “I am still worried that we are living on contaminated land. “That’s why I want Shell to do a geotech report on my land. I want something in writing to show that we are safe. “All I want to know is if my kids are safe and my house is not contaminated. “How would you feel if your kids are playing in the backyard and all the houses around you have been bought out? All I want is the truth and to know that everyone is fine.”

Shell Australia spokesman Paul Zennaro said: “Shell is not prepared to discuss the individual situation of members of the community but the company is committed to having conversations with them directly.”

#### Related Links

30 Mar 12: [Buy-up aids Oyster Bay servo clean-up](http://www.theleader.com.au/news/local/news/general/contamination-fearsfamily-asks-are-we-safe/2518436.aspx)

<http://www.theleader.com.au/news/local/news/general/contamination-fearsfamily-asks-are-we-safe/2518436.aspx>

#### USA, LA, NEW ORLEANS, APRIL 12 2012. SHELL REPORTS SHEEN IN CENTRAL GULF

jennifer a. dloahy



*A view of the facility at Shell's Ursa project in the Gulf of Mexico. Shell is the operator on the project, but working partners include BP, Exxon Mobil and ConocoPhillips.*

Federal officials are investigating a reported light sheen spanning a 10-mile area in the central Gulf of Mexico. Shell Oil reported the light sheen to the government's National Response Center on Wednesday, but said in a statement that the company had “no current indication” that it originates from the firm's nearby wells. The source of the rainbow sheen is unclear. It also is not clear whether the sheen is caused by oil or another substance. The sheen is located between two existing oil production sites — the Mars and Ursa projects — about 130 miles southeast of New Orleans. Shell operates both projects, but BP has a working interest in the Mars field. BP, Exxon Mobil Corp., and ConocoPhillips each have working interests in the Ursa project. Several oil companies also work in the surrounding waters, which are in the same federal leasing area as the failed BP Macondo well that launched the

nation's worst oil spill when it blew out almost two years ago. That area, known as Mississippi Canyon, includes active projects in widely ranging water depths up to at least 7,300 feet. Shell said in its statement that it has mobilized an oil spill skimming ship — the Marine Spill Response Corp.'s Louisiana Responder — “out of prudent caution.” That skimming vessel is expected to be on the site by Thursday morning, said Coast Guard Petty Officer 2nd Class Bill Colclough. “Shell also has requested flights to monitor the one by 10-mile sheen closely with additional aerial surveillance,” said company spokeswoman Kelly op de Weegh. “At this time, the source of this sheen is unknown, and Shell's priority is to respond proactively, safely, and in close coordination with regulatory agencies.” The Interior Department's Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement said in a statement that the agency was “taking steps to identify the source of (the) sheen . . . and will continue to coordinate with the U.S. Coast Guard to respond to and monitor any potential pollution.” Colclough said Coast Guard officials out of the Morgan City Marine Safety Unit are investigating the report. A Coast Guard air crew based in New Orleans is set to fly over the site at first light Thursday to assess the sheen.

<http://fuelfix.com/blog/2012/04/11/shell-reports-oil-sheen-in-central-gulf/>

#### ENGLAND, LONDON, APRIL 13 2012. SAINSBURY TO BUY 18 TOTAL FILLING STATIONS

J Sainsbury PLC said Wednesday it is set to buy 18 filling stations currently under the Total brand from private equity firm Rontec Investments LLP, highlighting the continued importance of fuel to supermarkets as they try to attract cash-strapped customers. The retailer said the deal is subject to approval from the Office of Fair Trading, but didn't say how much it would be paying for the service stations, which are located around the U.K. “The acquisitions provide a unique opportunity to support our plans for growth and to extend the reach of the Sainsbury's brand,” said Phillip Bell-Brown, director of property development at the company. He added that current Rontec employees would have the opportunity to move to work for



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Sainsbury. According to industry body Experian Catalyst's fuel market review for 2011, Sainsbury has an 8.7% share of the U.K. fuel market, with 262 outlets, making it the No. 6 participant in the market and the No. 3 of the supermarkets, behind Tesco PLC and Wm. Morrison Supermarkets PLC (MRW.LN). Rontec bought French energy giant Total SA's network of filling stations in 2011. The brand covers 918 outlets across the U.K., but accounts for only 7.3% of the market. Although margins are low on fuel, supermarkets use promotions to drive footfall into stores and boost market share. According to Borsa Italiana - London Stock Exchange Group, earlier this year, Morrison sparked a petrol price war when it launched a promotion giving shoppers 15 pence off each liter of fuel if they spent GBP60 in the store, prompting rivals to launch similar deals. Supermarkets have remained tight-lipped on the potential impact of a proposed strike by fuel tanker drivers in the U.K., despite signs of panic buying at some outlets. Trade union Unite and the government remain in talks to avert industrial action over better working conditions and health and safety regulations.

[http://finchannel.com/Main\\_News/Markets/107261\\_Sainsbury\\_To\\_Buy\\_18\\_Total\\_Filling\\_Stations/](http://finchannel.com/Main_News/Markets/107261_Sainsbury_To_Buy_18_Total_Filling_Stations/)

#### INDIA, VADODARA, APRIL 13 2012. LPG TANKER OVERTURNS, LEAKS NEAR GODHRA

Panic triggers were pressed near Godhra as an LPG tanker overturned there and started leaking on Indore highway. Traffic had to be diverted to prevent any untoward incident due to the mishap that took place early on Thursday. The tanker of Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd had filled LPG gas from a depot at Waghodiya and was on its way to Indore when the incident took place. The driver of the tanker lost control leading to the tanker turning turtle on Godhra bypass on the highway. Officials in Godhra municipal fire brigade said after the incident, traffic was stopped on the highway and diverted through the town. Fire tenders were also pressed into action to sprinkle water in half a kilometre radius around the tanker and on the tanker itself to dilute gas. Sources said a gauge on the tanker had started leaking due to the mishap leading to dangerous situation as any spark could have led to an explosion and a major fire. Officials said that there was only one house in the vicinity of the accident spot and it had been vacated by the incumbents as a precautionary measure. A team of BPCL officials and another from GAIL India Ltd rushed to the spot to bring the situation under control. The leakage was plugged at around 7.30 p.m. on Thursday evening. Cranes were also deployed to lift the tanker.

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/vadodara/LPG-tanker-overturms-leaks-near-Godhra/articleshow/12641871.cms>

#### USA, ALA, PRICHARD, APRIL 13 2012. ADEM: MOBILE GAS SPILLED CHEMICAL IN EIGHT MILE AREA IN 2008

Watch the Video

- [Information about Foul Odor Leaves Residents in the Dark](#)
- [Mobile Gas Spilled Chemical in Eight Mile Area in 2008](#)



The Alabama Department of Environmental Management and Mobile Gas said Thursday they are looking into a chemical spill in Eight Mile, and it's possible connection to a foul odor there. Mobile Gas told LOCAL 15 News butyl mercaptan was released from a mercaptan injection line in 2008 following a lightning strike. Officials said they aren't sure how much of the chemical contaminated the soil. ADEM officials said they have not found any evidence of a report coming from Mobile Gas regarding the incident. A spokesperson for the company said, at the time, they were told it was not a reportable incident. Mobile Gas Spokesperson Keshia Davis said the local ADEM office was contacted during the cleanup process. "We contacted ADEM to get approval on where to take that contaminated soil," Davis said. Davis said she is not sure if residents were mailed notices regarding the mercaptan release four years ago, but she said, the community is aware of the incident. "We actually have addressed it," Davis said. "Any of our communications we've had with the community we've talked about it." Davis said the 2008 release hasn't been widely discussed since the smell arose in December because it was just recently considered as a possible source of the smell. "We have no idea whether that release back in 2008 has any connection to the smell that people are smelling in the Eight Mile Community, as of right now," Davis said. The line that burst four years ago is located about 1,000 feet from the source of the stench in the

Eight Mile Community. As part of the state-required investigation into the smell, Davis said the company is checking to see if all the mercaptan was cleaned up after the spill. "We are starting to collect soil samples," Davis said. "We're conducting well



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water installations. "We conducted air quality testing last week. We're continuing that this week." Davis said Mobile Gas has cooperated with ADEM and the community throughout the investigation, and said she understands their frustration. "We want to do it right," Davis said. "We want to do it the correct way, and so that does take time."

#### Related Links

- [Neighbors Complain of Strange Smell](#)
- [Strange Smell has Residents Still Looking for Answers](#)
- [City to Discuss Foul Smell During Meeting](#)
- [Meeting Set to Discuss Smell in Eight Mile](#)
- [Shedding Light on the Smell in Eight Mile](#)
- [Expert Weighs In on Foul Smell in Eight Mile](#)
- [Informational Meeting About Foul Odor Leaves Residents in the Dark](#)

<http://www.local15tv.com/news/local/story/ADEM-Mobile-Gas-Spilled-Chemical-in-Eight-Mile/U15K4tDWJUOAnzmK7XR02Q.csp>

#### RUSSIA, MOSCOW, APRIL 13 2012. LUKOIL EXPANDS ITS NETWORK OF GAS STATIONS IN WEST EUROPE

Lukoil Belgium N.V. (a member of Lukoil Group) signed an agreement with Verolma Group to acquire 46 filling stations in the Netherlands and 13 ones in Belgium. Out of the total number of gas stations 29 ones are owned by dealers. The transaction is to be finalized in the second quarter of 2012 after the appropriate permissions are granted by the Dutch and Belgian regulating authorities. Lukoil Belgium N.V. signed an agreement with NGM Group to acquire 8 filling stations in Belgium in January of 2012. The acquired filling stations use different brands in their operation and will be rebranded to be compliant with the Lukoil corporate style after the deal is closed. Thus, after the transaction completion 228 LUKOIL filling stations will be located in the Benelux countries (including 29 stations owned by dealers), with 180 ones in Belgium, 46 in Holland, and 2 in Luxembourg. The fuel is supplied to these filling stations from the Zeeland Refinery (former TRN) where LUKOIL acquired a 45% stake in 2009.

<http://www.4-traders.com/NEFTYANAYA-KOMPANIYA-LUKO-6491736/news/NEFTYANAYA-KOMPANIYA-LUKOIL-OAO-LUKOIL-EXPANDS-ITS-NETWORK-OF-GAS-STATIONS-IN-WEST-EUROPE-14268233/>

#### AUSTRALIA, QUEENSLAND, DUARINGA, APRIL 13 2012. TRUCKIE'S TREE TERROR

adrian taylor



*Tanker driver Layne Perkins walked away with a few cuts to his face.*

Trucker Layne Perkins fought to keep control of his fuel tanker at speeds of 100kph when it was hit by a falling gum tree on a bridge. The veteran driver needed all his 30-years experience as the trunk of the gum tree smashed through the truck's windscreen, showering him with shards of glass. Layne, who lives at Mt Chalmers, took the day off yesterday to recover from the shock of the million to one accident he believes could have cost him his life. "One minute I was listening to the radio, the next I was covered in glass and in total shock," said Layne, who was on his way home after delivering fuel to mines near Blackwater when the drama unfolded. He said by the time he had realised what had happened he had instinctively slammed on the brakes, locking up all the wheels of the tanker, which mercifully pulled-up in a straight line. "I was very lucky there wasn't another vehicle coming the other way and that I was wearing my driving glasses. "I hate to think what might have happened if the flying glass had gone in my eyes." The tree fell as Layne drove over a bridge over the Dawson River about 12km east of Duaringa at about 10pm on Tuesday. The highway was closed as the tree was hauled from the road and the damaged truck was recovered. An ambulance crew treated the cuts to Layne's face before he was driven home by car. "It was at least 2am before I got home and I was still shook up by what happened," said Layne.

"The truck sustained thousands of dollars worth of damage. "If the tree had fallen on a car it would have crushed it. "It would



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## Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network

### Release 2012 – 830 Newsy Stuff

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

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have been a major mishap. "The metal rails on the bridge were buckled by the impact." And to prove lightning can strike twice, it was the second time in a few weeks that a falling tree has slammed into a truck near Duaringa.

<http://www.echonews.com.au/story/2012/04/12/truckies-tree-terror-freak-bridge-crash/>

### **NIGERIA, IBADAN, APRIL 13 2012. PETROL TANKER TUMBLES AT IBADAN >> AUTHORITIES ARE TRYING TO EVACUATE THE VEHICLE WITHOUT SPARKING A FIRE**

yinka ojo



A tanker carrying petrol skidded and tumbled on Thursday afternoon at the Ojo area along Oyo-Ibadan road. The tanker, which was coming from Ibadan, lost control and tumbled onto its side across the road, leaving its content flowing into nearby ditches and drainages. Efforts are being made to clear the tanker off the road without causing a fire outbreak, even as some people are trying to cash in by scooping the fuel. The accident has led to a long hold-up of vehicles, extending several kilometres away from the scene, as smaller vehicles try to navigate their ways via link roads. This is the second of such incidents in the state in recent times. It will be recalled that last month, a tanker fell and sparked an inferno which consumed over a dozen vehicles.

<http://dailymtimes.com.ng/article/petrol-tanker-tumbles-ibadan>

### **USA, MI, DETROIT, APRIL 12 2012. GM: GASES CAUSED WARREN BLAST >> COMPANY SAYS BATTERY BEING TESTED WAS UNRELATED TO VOLT**

melissa burden



A GM official told *The News* that the worker who was injured and hospitalized is expected to make a full recovery and that the injuries are not life threatening.

General Motors Co. was quick to fend off new fears about electric cars Wednesday, after the company said an explosion was caused by gases venting from an experimental battery pack inside a battery lab at the General Motors Tech Center in Warren. The explosion led to the hospitalization of one employee. The 8:45 a.m. incident inside a small room at the lab was likened by GM to a natural gas explosion, as gases from a battery gathered in the room during extreme testing and ignited. GM said the battery pack remained intact. One worker who was injured was being kept for observation overnight at an area hospital, said GM spokesman Alan Adler. He declined to release the extent of the man's injuries, nor what he did in the lab. Four other people were evaluated

by medical personnel after the explosion blew out windows and damaged at least part of the global battery lab inside the Alternative Energy Center. The Detroit automaker, just a few hours after the incident, was quick to point out that the battery being tested was unrelated to the Chevrolet Volt or any other production vehicle. "Everything will be back to normal tomorrow ... except for the battery lab and adjacent offices," Adler said. About 1,100 employees who work in the Alternative Energy Center were evacuated after the explosion. About 80 people work in the immediate area of the explosion, Adler said. "People directly affected are allowed to work at home ... or at the Vehicle Engineering Center on campus," he said. Warren Fire Commissioner Skip McAdams said Wednesday evening that the department is continuing to investigate because it had not discovered the exact cause, except that it was a chemical explosion. He called the blast an "industrial accident." A hazardous materials team, which McAdams said arrived within 10 minutes of the blast, spent about four hours taking air samples inside and outside the building. It determined there was nothing toxic in the air. Although the building was designed to handle an explosion, McAdams said he expects it to be a while before the building is refurbished. "My best guess is that it's going to be months — and not days — before this building is ever back in service." IHS Automotive analyst Rebecca Lindland said the battery lab fire comes at an unfortunate time for GM and its Volt — even though the two are not directly related. "The Volt believers are going to stand by the Volt, and the fire gives the doubters more reason to doubt — but the issue is everybody



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else," she said. The safety of GM's lithium-ion batteries came under scrutiny last fall after a crash-tested Chevrolet Volt caught fire nearly a month after a government test. In November, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration opened a formal investigation after a second battery pack caught fire a week after a test. NHTSA closed its investigation in January after finding no safety issue. GM agreed to make voluntary improvements to the Volt battery containment system, including adding a new reinforcement and new sensors. But GM insists there are no safety issues with lithium-ion batteries.

#### March best for Volt

"Some critics will use this story to bring back to life the investigation into Chevy Volt fires earlier this year," Michelle Krebs, a senior analyst for Edmunds.com, said in a statement. "And while this incident deserves some scrutiny, especially since workers were hurt, the fact is that this is why new car technology undergoes rigorous testing — to try to ensure that episodes like this don't happen on the road." Volt sales last month reached nearly 2,300, its best month yet. A person familiar with the matter said the prototype lithium-ion battery in the lab Wednesday was built by Massachusetts-based A123 and was being put through intensive tests designed to make it fail. GM has announced that A123 will supply batteries for an electric version of the Chevrolet Spark that goes on sale next year.

#### Probe to continue

Adler said GM will continue to investigate the incident. GM tests current and future battery technologies in the Warren lab. GM opened the global battery lab in 2009 and in 2010 doubled the size to 63,000 square feet. The lab is equipped with 176 test channels and 49 thermal chambers, which duplicate extreme real-world driving patterns, hot and cold temperatures and calendar life. Krebs said the Volt has been under a microscope, so the explosion will get attention. "Anything that happens to it is bigger than life," she said. "The car can't get a break."

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20120412/AUTO0103/204120337/1148/auto01/GM-Gases-caused-Warren-blast>

#### ENGLAND, SURREY, APRIL 13 2012. VCA DANGEROUS GOODS OFFICE – DANGEROUS GOODS SEMINAR



**11th and 12th July 2012**

*Now in its 27th year, this seminar is a must for everyone involved in the manufacture, handling and transport of dangerous goods*

The VCA Dangerous Goods Office is the UK authority for the certification of packaging and intermediate bulk containers used for the transport of dangerous goods, in accordance with national and international regulations. We are also responsible for the appointment of suitable test and inspection bodies to conduct initial and periodic inspections of tanks and pressure receptacles in accordance with ADR, TPED and the UK carriage regulations. We operate a telephone and email enquiry service on behalf of the Department for Transport, and

undertake several other functions in connection the UN based dangerous goods transport regulations. [More on the work of the Dangerous Goods Office](#)

<http://www.dft.gov.uk/vca/dangerousgoods/dangerous-goods-offi.asp>

#### USA, WA, OLYMPIA, APRIL 13 2012. STATE ASKS FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ABOUT NEW UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS' SAFETY RULES

The Washington Department of Ecology is seeking public comment regarding proposed changes to the state's rule for preventing leaks from underground storage tanks. The Legislature has directed the department to revise the current rule to include some recent changes in state and federal laws, and to improve compliance with the rule. Leaks from underground storage tanks can contaminate groundwater, the source of drinking water for 60 percent of Washington's residents. The department will accept comments through May 4. Comments also will be accepted during public hearings in April. The state's compliance program addresses the serious threat posed to human health and the environment by leaking underground storage tank systems containing petroleum and other hazardous substances. The department currently regulates more than 9,500 systems at more than 3,600 facilities throughout the state. A majority of underground storage tank systems are located at gas stations. Others are owned and operated by other businesses and by local, state and federal governments. Each year, about 50 new releases are confirmed at regulated underground storage tank facilities. The rule changes will help reduce the number and severity of such releases. Documents related to the proposed rule are posted at [www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/regs/ust/2012/rule-making.html](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/regs/ust/2012/rule-making.html) The nearest public hearing is at 1:30 p.m. April 26 at the



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department's Northwest Regional Office, 3190 160th Ave. S.E., Bellevue. Submit comments through May 4 by mailing them to Michael Feldcamp, Washington Department of Ecology, Toxics Cleanup Program, P.O. Box 47600, Olympia, WA 98504-7600 or emailing them to [USTRule@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:USTRule@ecy.wa.gov). The proposed rule amendments are needed to maintain the department's federally delegated underground storage tank program and to continue to receive federal funding for the work. Learn more about the rule suspension on the department's website [www.ecy.wa.gov/laws-rules/rulemaking\\_suspension.html](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/laws-rules/rulemaking_suspension.html).


<http://snovalleystar.com/2012/04/11/state-asks-for-public-comment-about-new-underground-storage-tanks-safety-rules>

### USA, OK, BROKEN ARROW, APRIL 13 2012. MAN IN BROKEN ARROW KILLED WHEN CNG TANK EXPLODES

rick couri & joe kelley

 **Watch the Video**

- [Deadly Compressed Gas Accident](#)
- [Broken Arrow Man Killed When CNG Tank Bursts](#)
- [Business Owner Killed When CNG Tank Explodes](#)

 **Click-2-Listen** [Click here to listen as Sgt. Ferguson explains what happened.](#)



*Natural gas tank explosion in Broken Arrow.*

A man was killed early Thursday morning in an industrial accident in Broken Arrow around 6:30 a.m. Wesley Little was killed in the accident that occurred just a block east of 145th east avenue and two blocks south of 71st street. In Broken Arrow the intersection is known as Aspen and Kenosha. Broken Arrow Sgt. Ed Ferguson told KRMG what happened. "He was apparently working on a vehicle here at a local business, that vehicle was equipped with a compressed natural gas tank" Ferguson explained. He went on "at this point it appears that the natural gas tank blew up and exploded and we have one deceased male here." The side of the pickup truck was blown off and a nearby sign was blown out and knocked over by the force of the blast. Ferguson says all indications

point to an accident but BA police are making sure. "At this point it appears this is some kid of industrial accident" he began. "But of course we have detectives and crime scene investigators going through the scene to make sure there are no indications of foul play." The man was working alone, there no other injuries reported.

<http://www.krmg.com/news/news/local/Man-killed-in-Thursday-industrial-accident/nMXnH/>

### USA, N.D, SOUTH HEART, APRIL 13 2012. LEAK COATS 10 ACRES NEAR SOUTH HEART IN OIL MIST

dain sullivan



*Employees of Denver-based Fidelity Exploration and Production Co. spray down storage tanks Thursday at a drill site northwest of South Heart after pressurized oil became airborne and settled over approximately 10 acres the previous afternoon.*

As employees of a Denver-based drilling company vigorously sprayed down oil-glazed equipment on a rig northwest of South Heart on Thursday, a concerned landowner sat quietly in a nearby pick-up and gazed at the discolored chunk of his land blanketed by an oil spill that took place the previous afternoon. Mike O'Bach of South Heart said he was told a plug or gasket failed at approximately 2 p.m. Wednesday, causing pressurized oil to shoot out from the rig and become airborne. He believes strong winds then carried oil mist over to his fields. O'Bach added that he is worried the spill could have harmful effects on the surrounding

environment because oil settled on both sides of 34th Street, near a dam and wetlands. "I'm kind of concerned there about water contamination," O'Bach said. "This will eventually drain into the Heart River." Tim Rasmussen, spokesman for Fidelity Exploration and Production Co., the group operating at the site, said oil mist reached approximately 10 acres of surrounding farmland. He also said the company is doing everything it can to tidy up. "As soon as we found out (about the spill), we self-reported to the appropriate regulatory agencies," Rasmussen said, adding that the North Dakota Industrial Commission



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examined the site this week. "A cleanup is under way as we speak." Commission representatives estimated the spill contained one barrel of oil and one barrel of water, Rasmussen said. "You have droplets of oil," he added. Oil companies operating in the area have typically been speedy in cleaning up after spills, said Mark Sexton, minerals and lands program manager for the U.S. Forest Service. "The trouble with it is it's oil and it's black and it generally looks a lot worse than what it truly is," Sexton said. "Ultimately, what you're trying to do is get (oil) lifted and get it gone." Depending on oil density and the mix of vegetation, weather and soil types, there are many different ways to eradicate residual oil, he said. Companies often remove oil by digging up soaked soil, burning oil-covered ground or sucking up concentrated oil residue, he added. But cleanup could get expensive. Sexton said some companies have paid as much as \$2 million to fix a spill. "It's got a price tag to it," he said. Rasmussen maintains Wednesday's incident was a "small spill." "I wouldn't want to mislead anyone to think that there's this pool of shimmering oil over that acreage," he said.

<http://www.thedickinsonpress.com/event/article/id/57173/>

### USA, CT, FAIRFIELD, APRIL 13 2012. CHEMICAL REACTION AT FAIRFIELD FACTORY FORCES EVACUATION

 **Photo's [15]** [Chemical Reaction Forces Evacuation](#)

 **Watch the Video** [Residents told to stay inside after Spill in Fairfield](#)



*The scene on Commerce Dr. in Fairfield Thursday morning following what is being describing as a "major hazmat situation" involving a chemical gas leak.*

A chlorine-based chemical was released from a Commerce Drive metal-processing business Thursday morning, triggering a hazmat response by emergency services, forcing the building to be evacuated and shutting down several nearby roads. There were a few tense moments immediately after fumes were first reported to be wafting from the building at 10:35 a.m. at 515 Commerce Drive. Anticipating the fumes could be toxic, fire officials took precautions and ordered people out of the area. But less than an hour later, Deputy Fire Chief [Art Reid](#) said the fumes from processing the chemical, gallium trichloride, were not considered toxic because of the small amounts released. The incident took place at 5NPlus, a custom manufacturer of

metals previously known as Metalspecialties, at 515 Commerce Drive. "There was an over-pressurization of this chemical, and when this situation occurs it releases the excess into the atmosphere. It is an intentional process and last done last year," Reid said. "They are working at this time to cut it off and hope to have that done within an hour." Roger Ngassan, general manager at 5NPlus, said as soon as the alarm sounded, employees left the building, as called for in the company's safety plan. It worked, he said, "perfectly." "Everybody is accounted for, and our people are collaborating with the [Fire Department](#)," said [Marc Suys](#), vice president for corporate affairs and co-founder of the business. "What we understand is there must have been a failure of one of the reactors where we were manufacturing gallium trichloride." Gallium trichloride is manufactured by 5NPlus for use in making light-emitting diodes. The chemical, as a raw material, is also used in the production of metallic gallium and in the processing of mono crystal semiconductor compounds, according to the [National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Office of Response and Restoration](#). A cloud formed as the chemical's fumes were vented Thursday morning. "It's too early to tell what happened," Suys said later. "It's not supposed to vent a fume" While the release could cause eye irritation, it was not considered toxic. However hazmat teams from Fairfield and Norwalk, as well as the Fairfield County team, were dispatched to the scene and firefighters entering the building were dressed in protective suits. Firefighters were decontaminated at the scene once they emerged from the building, and several ambulance crews were standing by. However, there were no reported injuries, and no one was hospitalized. Clouds of white smoke were seen billowing over the area near the town's southeastern border with Bridgeport. The [B.J.'s Wholesale Club](#), several nearby businesses and homes were evacuated. Black Rock Turnpike and Commerce Drive were closed to traffic and pedestrians. Reid said Fairfield fire officials did not order evacuation of neighboring buildings and homes, but did issue a reverse 911 call, alerting them to the incident and recommending they stay indoors. "We have a protocol in place," he said of reacting to emergencies. People were blocked from entering the area, and those already on the scene were told to stay inside or in vehicles. Metro-North trains were ordered not to stop at the nearby Fairfield Metro train station until firefighters cleared the area. Service resumed around 12:30 p.m. A worker at Master Electric Supply on Commerce Drive who answered the phone said the business remained opened even though a hazardous situation prompted evacuations in the area. "They blocked the Fairfield side, not the Bridgeport side," she



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said. "We have not seen any fire trucks. Nothing." Bigelow Tea's headquarters building on lower Black Rock Turnpike was also contacted by police, but not evacuated. "We have one heck of an amazing town," said [Cindi Bigelow](#), president of Bigelow Tea. "They have contacted us in every which way to tell us about what's happening down on the corner and to ensure we were protected." Bigelow said officials from the town advised employees to stay indoors until getting an all clear, but she noted some employees were outside when it was first happening, and they reported no problems. "We're fine, and we're in good hands," she said. Staff at Domestic Kitchens at 555 Commerce Drive were ordered out of the building immediately, giving them no time to lock the doors. According to 5NPlus' website, the company is a manufacturer of metals and chemicals including cadmium, indium, gallium, germanium, selenium and tellurium, in commercial and high purity grades in ingot, shot and powder forms. It also manufactures products for electronics and recycles scrap metal. The company was founded in 1970 and has between 10 and 49 employees. A similar incident occurred in August when smoke was seen billowing from the building from an apparent chemical reaction among the various materials used at the business. In that incident, a firefighter was treated for minor exposure to the chemical fumes. The federal Environmental Protection Agency recommends anyone involved in working with gallium trichloride undergo periodic medical examinations to check on the liver, respiratory organs and skin. Exposure to gallium trichloride could produce wheezing, coughing, itchy throat, labored breathing, a sense of suffocation and burning chest pain. Severe exposure can cause a blue tint to the skin and mucous membranes, swelling of the larynx and respiratory arrest. Symptoms can also include nausea, vomiting, diarrhea or bloody stools.

<http://www.ctpost.com/police/policereports/article/Gas-leak-forces-evacuation-3477382.php>

#### USA, LA, ASCENSION PARISH, GEISMAR, APRIL 13 2012. ACID REACTS AT GEISMAR TRUCK WASH

Emergency response and hazardous materials officials plan to introduce an "inhibitor" Friday to neutralize the unexpected reaction of acrylic acid at a truck wash on La. 30 in Ascension Parish, State Police reported Thursday. A ground-level acid container at Trimac Transportation Inc., 35072 La. 30, Geismar, began getting "hot" Wednesday night and emergency officials had to take steps to cool the container, troopers said. Trooper Russell Graham, spokesman for State Police Troop A, said acrylic acid can become unstable if it gets too hot but authorities have been monitoring the temperature and it has remained stable. Graham said there was no spill nor any leaks from the container but air monitoring has been under way and will continue through the event. La. 30 has remained open to traffic but the Airgas Inc. facility adjacent to Trimac was closed Thursday as a safety precaution, Graham said. According to industry material safety data sheets, acrylic acid is a colorless, corrosive liquid with an acrid odor. The acid can become explosive if overheated and causes eye and skin burns with contact and irritation of the respiratory tract if inhaled. Trimac is a North American hauler with business that includes moving bulk liquids for chemical industries on the Gulf Coast. Trimac is traded on the Canadian stock exchange but privately held in the United States. Its U.S. operations are based in Houston, according to the company's website.

<http://theadvocate.com/news/police/2556875-123/acid-reacts-at-geismar-truck>

#### USA, N.Y, BUFFALO, APRIL 14 2012. US CHEMICAL SAFETY BOARD TO HOLD A PUBLIC MEETING IN BUFFALO NEW YORK TO VOTE ON DUPONT INVESTIGATIVE REPORT



Investigation Details: [E. I. DuPont De Nemours Co. Fatal Hotwork Explosion](#)

The U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board (CSB) announces that it will hold a public meeting on April 19, 2012, in Buffalo,

New York, to present the findings from its investigation of a flammable vapor explosion on November 9, 2010, at the E.I DuPont de Nemours and Co. Inc. chemical plant in Buffalo, New York. The incident involved a contract welder and foreman who were repairing an agitator support atop an atmospheric storage tank containing flammable vinyl fluoride (VF). The VF vapor from interconnected, in-service process tanks flowed undetected into the tank and ignited when the welder was repairing the agitator support assembly. The welder died instantly and the foreman was burned. The meeting will begin at 6:00 p.m. at the Embassy Suites Buffalo Downtown, Room: Encore I, II, and III, 200 Delaware Ave, Buffalo, NY 14202 (716-842-1000). The meeting is free and open to the public. Pre-registration is not required, but to assure adequate seating, attendees are encouraged to pre-register by emailing their names and affiliations to [publicmeeting@csb.gov](mailto:publicmeeting@csb.gov) by April 16, 2012. At the meeting CSB staff will present to the Board the results of their investigation into this incident. Key issues involved in the investigation concern flammable gas monitoring, tank isolation and hot work permits and sign-offs. Following the presentation



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of the CSB's findings and safety recommendations, the Board will hear comments from the public. At the conclusion of the public comment period, the Board will consider whether to approve the final case study and recommendations. All staff presentations are preliminary and are intended solely to allow the Board to consider in a public forum the issues and factors involved in this case. No factual analyses, conclusions or findings presented by staff should be considered final. Only after the Board has considered the final staff presentation, listened to the public comments and approved the staff case study will there be an approved final record of this incident. The Board will also consider whether to approve the CSB's draft 2012-2016 Strategic Plan, which includes strategic goals, objectives, and associated measures for managing and evaluating agency operations. For more information, please contact Communications Manager Hillary Cohen at 202.446.8094.

<http://idevmail.americaneagle.com/message.aspx?d=30&m=953&e=petenv@optusnet.com.au&r=4115949&f=HTML>

### AUSTRALIA, WESTERN AUSTRALIA, KATANNING, APRIL 14 2012. FUEL TANKER ROLLS NEAR KATANNING

*kate bastians*



*Fuel tanker rolls over and catches fire on The Great Southern Highway.*

A fuel tanker rolled over and caught fire on the Great Southern Highway near Katanning this morning. The tanker caught fire just before 7am on the Great Southern Highway near Clinic Road in Broomehill West. A police spokeswoman said the accident happened about five to 10km south of Katanning. The driver was not hurt and is not trapped. The fire is now under control. Drivers have been advised to expect delays. Members of the public, especially those with any respiratory conditions are advised to close their windows and doors until the smoke clears. The smoke is currently drifting towards Katanning but if the wind changes it could affect people living in Broome Hill, and Woodanilling.

<http://au.news.yahoo.com/thewest/a/-/wa/13410763/fuel-tanker-rolls-near-katanning/>

### USA, CA, COMPTON, APRIL 14 2012. EPA LAUNCHES TANK EXCAVATION AT ABANDONED SITES

*molly kobren & nick roman*



*Works crews begin excavating underground storage tanks at an abandoned gas station in Compton*

Work crews hired by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency began digging out underground storage tanks Thursday from a long-abandoned gasoline station in Compton. It's part of a \$1.3 million project to remove old tanks from 29 locations along the 710 Freeway. Crews will unearth three 10,000 gallon tanks from the site on East Rosecrans Avenue. Jeff Scott, director of the EPA's waste management division, said the cleanup work might require soil excavation and removal. "These are old steel tanks for holding gasoline and the older technology from the 70s and 80s was more prone to leak over time," said Scott. "It's very likely that the tanks that we're cleaning up today have contaminated some of the soil around it and we'll be looking into that and removing some of that soil." The EPA and the California Water Resources Control Board launched the

Underground Storage Tank (UST) Cleanup Partnership at the end of 2010 in cities along the 710 Freeway. Most of the cleanup sites have been closed down for years. The Compton station, formerly Kim's ARCO, was abandoned after it burned during the L.A. riots. "It really makes a difference in individual communities," said Scott. "We can take a site like this that's just sitting there as a blighted sight, attracting crime and litter and everything else, and clean it up and make it so that it can be



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redeveloped into a small business and create some jobs or at least have a use to the community." Double-wall fiberglass tanks will replace the old single-wall steel tanks. They'll be equipped with computerized detection systems that send out alerts if the tanks develop leaks. The EPA will pay the cost of cleanup with \$1 million from Leaking Underground Storage Tank trust funds and \$300,000 of Brownfields Assessment funds.

<http://www.scp.org/news/2012/04/13/32016/digging-out-toxic-trouble-along-710/>

### USA, CA, MONTEBELLO, APRIL 14 2012. INVESTIGATOR: IMPROPER MAINTENANCE LED TO TANKER-TRUCK FIRE THAT DAMAGED MONTEBELLO FREEWAY BRIDGE

j.d. velasco

**Photo's:** [Photos of the 60 Freeway tanker truck explosion](#)



Crews work on a replacement Thursday for the center section of the Paramount Boulevard bridge over the 60 Freeway. The bridge in Montebello was severely in December when a truck carrying 9,000 gallons of gas caught fire under the structure.

The California Highway Patrol is pursuing charges against the company that owned a tanker truck that burst into flames on the 60 Freeway in December, severely damaging an overpass. A CHP investigator has determined that the fire was caused by improper maintenance of the truck. The Paramount Boulevard bridge over the 60 Freeway was severely damaged when the truck, carrying 9,000 gallons of gasoline, caught fire while traveling east on the freeway. The driver fled from the burning truck, which then rolled to a stop

underneath the bridge. The intense heat from the blaze compromised the integrity of the bridge's concrete and steel, forcing Caltrans to have it demolished. The cost of reconstruction is expected to be \$40 million. Sgt. Robert Marquez of the California Highway Patrol's East Los Angeles Station said an investigation into the incident suggested that the truck's driveshaft had not been properly maintained, causing it to come loose. He said the investigator found that the driveshaft swung around and punctured the gas tank. Sparks caused by it scraping on the ground ignited the fuel that began leaking out. Early speculation surrounding the incident assumed that the truck's brakes sparked the blaze. Marquez said the CHP is pursuing charges against the company that owned the truck. "They are required by law to maintain their equipment," Marquez said. CHP Sgt. Connie Guzman, also of the East L.A. Station, said the investigation was turned over to the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office, which then declined to file charges against the trucking company until further investigation has been done. D.A. spokeswoman Shira Davila-Morales confirmed that the case had been sent back to the CHP, but could not comment further. The final results of the investigation could determine whether the truck's owner - Cool Transports of Bloomington - is on the hook for bridge replacement costs, according to Caltrans officials. Meanwhile, the project to reconstruct the bridge, which is being partially paid for with federal emergency funds, is on track to be completed by June, Caltrans officials said. Montebello Councilwoman Christina Cortez said city officials, businesses and residents are "anxious" to see the bridge rebuilt. "It's definitely taking a cost to our local businesses and services that are right off that ramp," Cortez said. But she said it appears that crews are making good progress on the bridge. "They're working every time I go by, even when I go by at night," she said. So far, workers have installed steel support columns in the center median of the freeway and have poured concrete for the structure that will support the north end of the bridge, said Caltrans spokesman Patrick Chandler. Construction of the structure on the south end of the bridge is expected to begin soon. Chandler said the girders that will span the gap between those supports are being assembled by a company based in Perris and will be delivered sometime in the next week. Motorists should expect occasional overnight freeway closures and delays on the 60 Freeway between April 19 and April 29 as Caltrans crews install the girders, Chandler said. While the girders on the north side of the bridge are being installed, the westbound freeway lanes that pass underneath will be completely closed to traffic. Only one lane will be open heading east. When the girders are installed on the south side, the closures will be reversed. "We'll start taking lanes at 8 or 9 at night," Chandler said. "People are going to be a little inconvenienced," he said, but he added that overnight freeway closures are "very routine" in the Los Angeles area. Motorists planning to use the 60 Freeway between 8 p.m. and 5 a.m. should call 5-1-1 first, or visit [www.go511.com](http://www.go511.com) to check traffic conditions. He also advised motorists against trying to use Paramount Boulevard to access the Montebello mall. "People just don't understand," Chandler said. "The bridge is gone." He said many of those motorists



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attempt to make a U-turn on the freeway onramps when they see that the bridge is closed, causing them to head the wrong way in traffic. "Don't turn around on an onramp," he said. "You cannot turn around on a freeway onramp."

[http://www.sgvtribune.com/news/ci\\_20386275/investigator-improper-maintenance-led-tanker-truck-fire-that](http://www.sgvtribune.com/news/ci_20386275/investigator-improper-maintenance-led-tanker-truck-fire-that)

#### PHILIPPINES, QUEZON CITY, APRIL 14 2012. HOSE ON FIRE SPARKS FUEL TANK FIRE; 2 HURT

[Watch the Video Oil Truck Explodes, Catches Fire In QC](#)



Fire probes check the oil tanker that burst into flames in Quezon City yesterday. The summer heat could have caused a portion of a fuel tanker to spew flames, resulting in injuries to two men who were loading gasoline in the vehicle before noon Friday in Quezon City. SFO2 Fortunato Alde of the Quezon City Police District said the incident occurred at around 11:45 a.m. at City Oil station along Araneta Avenue. "The truck was being loaded with gasoline when the hose suddenly burst into flames. We believe the heat of the sun at that time could have triggered a reaction on the oil and started a fire," Alde said. The truck driver, Eddie Magada, 42 and his helper, Jerome Nava, 24, were injured in the incident. Both are employees of BMS Development Company. Alde said the tanker was loaded with 1,000 liters of gasoline at the time of the incident. He added that the quick response of fire fighters prevented the fire from spreading. "The fire was put out after a few minutes, thereby preventing an explosion," Alde

said.

<http://newsinfo.inquirer.net/176315/hose-on-fire-sparks-fuel-tank-fire-2-hurt>

#### USA, N.Y, LEROY, APRIL 14 2012. EPA TO CONDUCT ADDITIONAL TESTING AT LE ROY SUPERFUND SITE

The Environmental Protection Agency will conduct additional testing near the site of a train derailment east of Le Roy, U.S. Sen. Charles E. Schumer, D-N.Y. and Congresswoman Kathy Hochul, D-Amherst, said Thursday. The Dec. 6, 1970, derailment of the Lehigh Valley train spilled about 30,000 gallons of the toxic chemical trichloroethene, or TCE, into the ground near Gulf Road. The TCE entered the underground water table, creating a plume that covers about 4.5 square miles. The new testing will attempt to confirm that the eastern boundary of the plume does not extend beyond Spring Creek near Caledonia-Mumford Central School. The school is a quarter-mile east of the creek. "This testing should bring relief to Western New York homeowners who worried for decades about what this derailment might mean for the health and safety of their families," Schumer said in a news release. The EPA also announced Thursday that in response to a February letter from Hochul, Schumer and Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand, the agency will publicly release the results of ground water sampling taken in December 2011 at the site, which was declared a federal Superfund site in 1999. Hochul, in the release, said the most recent test results from the site "will hopefully provide residents with the answers they need to know that this area is a safe place to live, work, and raise a family." Attention was drawn to the site and 235 barrels stored there in early February following media reports attempting to find a link between the TCE spill and students at Le Roy Junior/Senior High School who had become stricken with neurological symptoms similar to Tourette's syndrome. Physicians treating the students and officials from the state health department have consistently said there is no connection between the two. The school is about 3.5 miles southwest of the spill site. The barrels, which contained soil and rocks generated when monitoring wells were drilled at the Superfund site, were removed from the site at the end of February. Testing completed by the EPA on all 235 drums from the site found all barrels to be non-hazardous. No tested contaminants were detected in materials from 203 of the drums. In 32 of the drums, some detectable concentrations of contaminants were found. However, in all cases the levels of these contaminants were low and are below health-based levels, the EPA said. Hochul and Schumer said they urged the EPA to conduct additional soil sampling in Caledonia east of Spring Creek after hearing from officials from the Town of Caledonia. The sampling will help the EPA determine if the plume is spreading eastward beyond Spring Creek toward the Caledonia-Mumford Central School by assessing whether there is evidence of TCE vapors in the subsurface area over the underground water table. If TCE vapor is detected, the sampling results will then help the EPA determine where to place permanent underground monitoring wells

[http://thedailynewsonline.com/news/article\\_042bcd8c-8504-11e1-b4b4-0019bb2963f4.html](http://thedailynewsonline.com/news/article_042bcd8c-8504-11e1-b4b4-0019bb2963f4.html)



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#### USA, TX, EL PASO, APRIL 14 2012. WESTERN REFINING SHUTS DOWN TOWER BECAUSE OF POISONOUS CHEMICAL LEAK

*ric dupont*

 **Watch the Video** [Tower Shuts Down because of Poisonous Chemical Leak](#)

An estimated 105 lbs. of a poisonous chemical called benzene leaked from a cooling tower at Western Refining on Tuesday. Breathing a high dosage of benzene can cause short-term problems such as drowsiness, dizziness, headaches, tremors, confusion, and unconsciousness. It can also cause long-term effects such as low blood cell counts and cancer. Gary Hanson is the vice president of corporate communications for Western Refining. "It really wasn't in the air," Hanson said. "There's a number of safety and environmental procedures that are in place, and all of those were followed to ensure the safety of our employees and the community. The unit was safely shut down; the leak was contained." Efron Torres has lived down the street from Western Refining for about 50 years. He's complained of bad odors at times, but he didn't know about this chemical leak because no one from Western Refining told him. He said that he'd rather not think about what could've been in the air on Tuesday. "It would probably make a person worried if you think about it too much," Torres said. "So we try not to worry too much about it. At our age, we can't buy another home so we're just stuck here." The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and the Environmental Protection Agency both said that this event was not considered an emergency.

<http://www.kfoxtv.com/news/news/western-refining-shuts-down-tower-because-poisonous-chemical-leak>

#### USA, ILL, ROXANA, APRIL 14 2012. RESIDENTS RAISE CONCERNS ABOUT BENZENE

*sanford j. schmidt*

A meeting Thursday night to discuss a lawsuit over reduced property values in Roxana turned into a general discussion of residents' disgust about the way refineries allegedly have polluted their community. "It's a ticking time bomb in your basement," said Brian Stanton, who lives on Walnut Street in Roxana. He said there are two people on his street who have cancers that he suspects might have been caused by benzene contamination. The meeting was called by Randy Gori of the Edwardsville law firm of Gori and Julian PC. They have filed a suit in Madison County Circuit Court, which now includes four plaintiffs, seeking to recover from Shell and other refiners the difference between what the homes there are worth and what they would be worth if the village were not contaminated with benzene and other pollutants. "There are two cases of leukemia on our street. For two people to pop up at the exact same time is hard to believe," Stanton said. He said people can't sell their homes in Roxana because the word is out about the benzene pollution. If he had known about the problem, he would not have moved there, Stanton said. Gori said stories like that would make the Gori and Julian case easier to prove. He said his firm would be glad to represent people who think they may have become sick from benzene and other pollutants, but the existing suit has to do with property values. Others at the meeting said they want the pollution halted and that money was not the most important factor. They said they are afraid to drink the water and breathe the air. They said they have been told different stories over the years since a major 1986 leak of benzene. They initially were told the benzene was confined to a specific area, and they claim it took until 2005 before the cleanup started. Gori, who also worked on a similar suit involving a plume of gasoline floating on the groundwater beneath Hartford, said a plume of benzene has developed under Roxana. He expects the material to migrate. "Liquids don't just stay where they are. They migrate," Gori said. He said a cluster of cancer cases was found in Hartford, and he expects a similar cluster in Roxana. Others claimed there are too many lawyers involved, hoping to make money off the contamination. "It's about people; it shouldn't be about lawyers," one resident said. They objected strenuously when Gori said the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency has become stricter in regulating refineries. They said the smells and sick people in their neighborhoods indicate otherwise. The Gori suit was filed Feb. 1. Gori spoke to the crowd and said people from Roxana still could be added as plaintiffs, and the suit eventually could become a class action suit. There was a class action lawsuit filed last June in Madison County Circuit Court, seeking to recover lost property value as a result of benzene pollution. Several people have filed personal injury suits claiming benzene caused their leukemia and other blood cancers. They lived in Roxana or attended schools there. All of the suits include similar language claiming Shell knew of the dangers but sought to cover them up. Shell has denied the allegations in its answer to at least one suit. Donna Williams said her family has lived in Roxana for generations, and she is worried about children who attend school adjacent to the refinery. "They're destroying our town. They're destroying people," said Trixie Willeford, whose husband has a rare form of cancer that may be caused by benzene, but the science is inconclusive.

<http://www.thetelegraph.com/news/benzene-68627-concerns-raise.html>



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