



## Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network

### Release 2013 – 966 Newsy Stuff

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

June 03 2013



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#### USA, TX, GALVESTON, MAY 22 2013. MINOR SPILL, TAR BALLS CLEANED UP AT GALVESTON

State officials say a very minor oil spill has led to tar balls washing up on more than 2 miles of Galveston beaches. The wet, oily substance found mostly embedded in seaweed began turning up Monday scattered along beaches on the west end of Galveston. General Land Office spokesman Jim Suydam (SOO'-dam) says the source has not been determined. He says no additional tar balls were reported Tuesday and cleanup was nearly complete. The Galveston County Daily News ( <http://bit.ly/17YxAft>) reports a European shipping company contracted with Phoenix Pollution Control & Environmental Services for the cleanup. State officials say the shipping company did not immediately come forward as possibly being responsible. The Coast Guard has collected samples for lab tests.

[http://www.galvestondailynews.com/news\\_ap/texas/article\\_7ff3af00-961f-539a-b36c-79f872876433.html](http://www.galvestondailynews.com/news_ap/texas/article_7ff3af00-961f-539a-b36c-79f872876433.html)

#### FRANCE, STRABOURG, MAY 22 2013. EU TIGHTENS OFFSHORE-OIL REGULATION IN RESPONSE TO BP SPILL

*jonathan stearns*

The European Union tightened safety rules for offshore oil and natural-gas exploration to curb the risk of a major accident after BP Plc's (BP/) 2010 spill in the Gulf of Mexico, the largest in U.S. history. The European Parliament approved legislation that forces oil and gas companies to submit special hazard reports and emergency-response plans before offshore operations can start. The law also requires operators of offshore platforms to prove their ability to cover potential liabilities and extends the zone in which businesses would be liable for damage to 370 kilometers (230 miles) off the coast from the current 22 kilometers. "The rules we are currently coming up with can be used as a template at international level," said Ivo Belet, a Belgian member who steered the legislation through the 27-nation EU assembly today in Strasbourg, France. EU governments have already signaled support for the law, making their final approval a formality in the coming weeks or months. The tighter regulation marks the EU's effort to improve safety and bolster the "polluter pays" principle in the energy industry following the Gulf of Mexico spill three years ago. Eleven rig workers died and more than 4.1 million barrels of crude gushed into the Gulf after the Deepwater Horizon rig exploded and sank while drilling BP's Macondo well off the Louisiana coast. The EU has almost 1,000 offshore oil installations, including 486 in the U.K., 181 in the Netherlands and 61 in Denmark, the European Commission, the bloc's regulatory arm in Brussels, said when proposing the new rules in October 2011. The average cost of offshore oil and gas accidents in the EU ranges from 205 million euros (\$264 million) to 915 million euros a year, the commission said at the time. Representatives of the International Association of Oil and Gas Producers weren't immediately reachable by telephone at the group's London and Brussels offices to comment on the new EU legislation.

<http://www.businessweek.com/news/2013-05-21/eu-tightens-offshore-oil-regulation-in-response-to-bp-spill>

#### CANADA, B.C, VANCOUVER, MAY 23 2013. MAN ESCAPES UNSCATHED AFTER ACETYLENE TANK BLOWS UP CAR LIKE A BOMB

*michael mui*

 **Watch the Video** [Massive Vancouver Car Explosion Rocks West End](#)

 **Watch the Video** [Plumber's Car Explodes near Vancouver Apartments](#)

 **Watch the Video** [A Witness' Film of the Aftermath of a Car Explosion in Vancouver's West End](#)

 **Photo's [20]** [Plumber's Car Explodes in Vancouver's West End](#)

 **Photo's [5]** [Thunderous Blast Rips Car to Shreds in Vancouver, B.C.](#)

 **Photo's [4]** [Car Explosion in Vancouver's West End](#)



A plumber somehow escaped unscathed after an acetylene welding tank in his car in downtown Vancouver detonated like a bomb when he unlocked the doors early Wednesday. "A miracle," said Vancouver fire spokesman Capt. Gabe Roder. "He just pressed (the electronic mechanism). In the process of the locks being unlocked, somewhere there was a small spark sufficient enough to ignite the gas in the vehicle." Two men in a nearby car were injured by the 6:50 a.m. blast and taken to hospital for non-life threatening injuries. In the aftermath, window glass had fallen from cracked windows as high as 12 storeys above, the car's roof could be seen dangling from an electrical wire, and the top of the remains of the car were otherwise twisted and mangled by the explosive force.



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Vancouverite Dale Mounzer lives a block away from the accident scene and was jogging near the intersection when everything started "flying." His first instinct was to run, returning hours later to survey the debris. "I looked up. It was like everything was still flying everywhere, the windows had all crashed here, the car had blown. It was just crazy. I had never seen anything like it before," Mounzer recalled. "It looked like when you see on CNN or MSNBC, car bomb situations in Iraq or Afghanistan." Proper storage requires the tanks be placed in a well-ventilated compartment. Roads in the area were closed for several hours as police and firefighters investigated.

<http://www.sunnewsnetwork.ca/sunnews/canada/archives/2013/05/20130522-163206.html>

#### AUSTRALIA, WESTERN AUSTRALIA, WUBIN, MAY 23 2013. 2 MEN DEAD IN AMMONIUM NITRATE TRUCK CRASH



*The triple road train after it collided with a utility, killing two men.*

The chemicals being carried by a triple road train involved in a double fatality overnight may have increased the severity of the fire that was sparked when it collided with a car. The major crash unit is investigating a fatal crash near Wubin, in which a triple road train collided with a utility vehicle, claiming the lives of two men. The triple road train, carrying ammonium nitrate, used in explosives, collided with the utility on the Great Northern Highway shortly before 10.30pm. Some of the bags of the chemical being carried by the truck had burst. The crash occurred 25 kilometres north of Wubin, about 300 kilometres north-east of Perth. DFES spokesman Stewart Palmer said ammonium nitrate releases oxygen and would have intensified the fire. He said he imagined the chemical would have played a role in the damage as a result of the fire but could not say by how much. The driver of the truck and a passenger in the car both died at the scene. The driver of the car, reportedly a 24-year-old, miraculously escaped serious injury and was airlifted to Royal Perth Hospital. Channel Seven reporter Blake Johnson earlier told radio 6PR the truck was heading north when police said the utility "went to the gravel, perhaps overcorrected, tried to get back onto the road and has crossed to the wrong side, straight into the path of the truck going 100km/h in the other direction". Johnson described how some parts on the front of the truck were so badly burnt they had "turned to molten metal" with "pools of hardened aluminium" on the road at the scene. The highway is expected to be closed until about midday. Any witnesses are asked to contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000.

##### Related Stories

- [Two die in fiery WA crash](#)
- [Two killed after truck's load explodes](#)
- [Two men dead after ammonium nitrate truck fire](#)
- [Straight into the path of a triple road train](#)
- [Two dead in truck fire](#)

<http://www.watoday.com.au/wa-news/two-men-dead-in-wubin-truck-crash-20130523-2k26l.html>

#### CHINA, SHANDONG, ZHANGQIU, MAY 23 2013. FACTORY BLAST DEATH TOLL CLIMBS TO 23, 10 PEOPLE STILL MISSING



*In this photo released by China's Xinhua News Agency, rescuers work at the site where a blast ripped through an explosives manufacturing plant in Caofan Township of Zhangqiu City, east China's Shandong Province, Monday, May 20, 2013. Some people were killed and about 20 are missing after the accident.*

The death toll from a massive blast at an explosives plant in eastern China has risen to 23 with 10 people still missing. The official Xinhua News Agency said Wednesday that 19 others were injured by the explosion, which ripped through the plant in Shandong province on Monday. The blast was so strong that 10 of

those killed could only be identified by their DNA. Experts from the State Administration of Work Safety have been sent to the factory and are investigating the cause of the explosion. China has sought to tighten access to explosives used for quarrying following a series of attacks by people using homemade bombs. However, safety rules are often ignored and industrial accidents remain common.

[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/05/22/china-factory-blast-death-toll\\_n\\_3318289.html?utm\\_hp\\_ref=business](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/05/22/china-factory-blast-death-toll_n_3318289.html?utm_hp_ref=business)



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#### USA, TX, CORPUS CHRISTI, MAY 23 2013. TANKER TRUCK CAUSES TRAFFIC NIGHTMARE ON TUESDAY

ben lloyd



Interstate 37 reopened last night around 9 pm after an overturned propane truck caused a big headache for many drivers trying to get downtown or to and from Portland. Right before 2 p.m. Tuesday, the truck carrying a full load of propane came off the harbor bridge, tried rounding the curve at the bottom, overturned and slid into the barrier in the middle of the freeway near the Tanchua overpass. The truck driver was not injured. As soon as he got out of the wrecked truck he started waving other drivers away from the area due to the flammable load. Police ordered everyone at nearby Solomon Coles H.S. to shelter in place as they made sure nothing was leaking from the tanker. Students and staff were allowed to leave before 5 p.m. However, traffic coming across the Harbor Bridge from Portland was snarled for more than 6 hours as police diverted everyone towards the Port Avenue exit. Traffic heading to Portland was light as the only way to enter the highway was the on-ramps in downtown. Police kept everyone

at a great distance during the entire cleanup operation. "If there is a spark, it could cause a very rapid fire very quickly that could occupy a very large area. So for safety, we're keeping everyone at a large distance, that includes us, we had to be moved, just to make sure everyone stays safe. There's been no injuries, and we want to keep it that way," said Kirk Stowers with the Corpus Christi Police Department. As a second tanker was unloading the propane from the wrecked truck, a police captain actually made the call to back up members of the media who he believed to be too close to the danger zone. It took half the night to unload and upright the truck. There's no word yet on what company the driver worked for or if he was issued a ticket for the crash.

<http://www.kristv.com/news/tanker-truck-causes-traffic-nightmare-on-tuesday/>

#### MALAYSIA, SABAH, KOTA KINABALU, MAY 23 2013. TANKER DRIVER IN TRAIN COLLISION TO KNOW JUNE 12 WHETHER HE HAS CASE TO ANSWER



*Dansun (right) with his counsel Ram Singh after the proceedings yesterday.*

The Magistrate's Court here yesterday set June 12 this year to make a ruling on whether the prosecution had established a case against a fuel tanker driver, who was charged with two counts of negligence for causing danger to the lives of train passengers and causing them to suffer grievous hurt. Magistrate Cindy Mc Juce Balitus set the date for the court's ruling on Pauleh Dansun, 43, whose fuel tanker was involved in a collision with a train at Jalan Kepayan on October 31, 2011, after the prosecution had called 25 witnesses and closed its case yesterday. On the first count, he was charged for having negligently caused hurt by an act which endangered the lives of the train passengers, namely, to Asneh Papang, Norfaisma Ismail, Norafidah Jalani, Joseph Kulip, Bibiana Mojulat and Sapiah Masri aged between 64 and 20, on Oct 31, 2011 between 5.30pm and 5.45pm in front of a fuel station at Km 8, Jalan Kepayan. Dansun, who hails from

Kampung Togung, Menggatal, was charged under Section 337 of the Penal Code which provides for a maximum six months' jail or a fine, or both, upon conviction. He also faced a second charge of having negligently caused grievous hurt by an act which endangered the lives of the train passengers, namely, to Rahmah Rahmat, 48, and Raziah Ramli, 38, during the collision between the fuel tanker and the train at the same time and place. The second charge against Dansun was framed under Section 338 of the Penal Code which carries a jail term of up to two years or a fine, or both, upon conviction. The accused, who was defended by counsel Ram Singh, is currently released on RM4,000 bail for the two charges with two local sureties, pending disposal of his case. Deputy public prosecutor Wan Azwan Aiman Wan Fakhrudin prosecuted while Nicholas Chong held a watching brief for Shell (oil company) while Ian Vun and DK Noranisah are the watching brief counsels for Kurnia Insurance. Meanwhile, in a separate case, two local men were each fined RM1,500, in default, 45 days' jail by the Traffic Court here for separate charges of driving their vehicles while under the influence of alcohol. Magistrate Nuruhuda Mohd Yusof convicted Marcos Doisey, 27, and Eddie John Raymond, 30, after they pleaded guilty to each of their charges



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framed under Section 45A (1) of the Road Transport Act 1987 which carries a maximum fine of RM6,000 or with a jail term of up to 12 months, upon conviction. Traffic prosecuting officer Inspector Hanif Mamyudi told the court that the duo were arrested during separate operations at Jalan Ketiau Tombovo and Jalan Kota Kinabalu respectively between March 20, 2010 and March 3 this year.

<http://www.theborneopost.com/2013/05/23/tanker-driver-in-train-collision-to-know-june-12-whether-he-has-case-to-answer/>

### USA, DEL, NEW CASTLE, MAY 23 2013. MAN HURT AFTER DEAD VET'S BELONGINGS EXPLODE

david chang

 **Watch the Video** [Man Hurt after Dead Vet's Belongings Explode](#)

 **Watch the Video** [Police Find More Live Mortar Shells Where Box Of Ammunition Exploded in Delaware](#)

A man is in the hospital after police say a device belonging to a dead Vietnam veteran exploded. Police say a woman was taking the belongings of her dead husband, a Vietnam Veteran, out of her home on Van Dyke Drive in New Castle, Delaware around 8 a.m. As the woman was cleaning, police say her neighbor, Bill Haley, 54, asked if he could have a few items. Police say the woman gave her neighbor an ammunition box containing explosive projectiles. After Haley opened the box, a device inside exploded, striking him with shrapnel. Haley was taken to Christiana Hospital where he is currently in stable condition. No one else was injured in the explosion though the entire neighborhood was evacuated as police and emergency crews investigated the scene. Police say the explosion caused around \$500 in property damage. Residents have since been allowed back in their homes. Police say they found 12 additional explosive projectiles at the scene. No charges have been filed though police continue to investigate the incident.

<http://www.nbcphiladelphia.com/news/local/Man-Struck-by-Shrapnel-After-Throwing-Dead-Vets-Grenade-Police-208406551.html>

### USA, CO, POLSON, MAY 23 2013. TRUCKING COMPANY FINED FOR EAST SHORE SPILL

berl tiskus



*In 2008, workers dump fill dirt along Montana Highway 35 where nearly 6,380 gallons of gasoline spilled into the ground and leached into fresh water sources. Keller Transportation Inc. of Billings recently was fined for a 2008 spill of 6,380 gallons of gasoline on Montana Highway 35. This resulted in gasoline "entering springs along Flathead Lake, impacting groundwater as well as the lake," according to a May 7 press release from the United States Environmental Protection Agency. Keller has agreed to pay \$83,500 in penalties, addressing violations of the Oil Pollution Act that prohibits the discharge of oil to waters of the U.S. "This penalty serves as a strong reminder that every effort must be taken to avoid accidents and spills when hauling hazardous materials. EPA will take necessary steps to protect the public," said Mike Gaydosh, EPA enforcement director in Denver. April marked an anniversary with no happy*

*memories for at least five families on the east shore of Flathead Lake. On April 2, 2008, a Keller Transportation tanker trailer wrecked on Montana Highway 35 between mile markers 5 and 6, spilling gasoline onto the east side of the highway. Rita and Tom Jones were one of the households affected by the spillage of gasoline. "We live on a mountainside," Rita explained. When the gas spilled, it soaked into the ground and into crevices underground. Rain and snow makes it worse, she said, but now the EPA thinks they've got the majority of the gasoline. "(Area homeowners) have (a) community well, but it was not affected by the gas spill," Rita said. The Joneses had to relocate until the EPA allowed them back in the house. Neighbors Barbara and Ron Kohler also relocated, as did three other households. Remediation workers installed abatement systems in the houses' basements, digging channels and laying perforated pipe and using a battery system to draw water outside and then sealing the floors. The residents moved back into their homes in June 2009, but it took Rita another two years to be able to breathe in their home, she said. The area surrounding the houses, including trees, grassy areas, springs and beachfront, "can never really be back the way it was," Barbara said. Rita agreed. As well as digging out trees and lawns, workers put trenches in about 20 feet from the lakeshore so nothing can be planted closer than that. The big trees, 60 to 70 feet tall, were good shade and provided privacy, she said. Replacement plants were "rejects from the nurseries, as far as we could see," Rita said. The EPA said things would be back to normal in six to eight years, but other sources say it will be 80 years before Mother*



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Nature finishes cleanup. "I am 75," Rita said. "I will not be alive in 80 years." The neighbors had always been careful to keep a buffer between homes and trees to screen their property from boaters on Flathead Lake, Barbara said. Now most of this is gone. "We all miss our privacy," she said. She particularly misses their spring. Water bubbled up seven days a week, 365 days a year at approximately 30 gallons per minute. The first raw gas showed up in the spring, Barbara said. "You take what you get, and you don't pitch a fit," Barbara said. "Although we pitched a fit, it didn't help, because we still see gas trucks on the road. "It's different (now). But we're in our home, so we'll try and enjoy it the way it is." Speed was a factor in the accident that occurred when the tanker, pulling a "pup" trailer, hit the edge of the road and overturned. Keller driver Jon Digoren was cited for careless driving at the time of the accident. The EPA, coordinating with the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, has been working with Keller to clean up the site since April 2008. The EPA issued an administrative order to Keller for the remediation activities that were necessary at the site. Remediation included installation of air abatement systems in the affected homes, ongoing air monitoring, removal and appropriate disposal of contaminated soil and installation of a groundwater collection trench and a permanent water treatment system to treat the contaminated groundwater.

<http://www.valleyjournal.net/Article/5523/Trucking-company-fined-for-East-Shore-spill>

### AUSTRALIA, VICTORIA, MELBOURNE, MAY 23 2013. FOREIGN WORKERS AT MELBOURNE BP SERVICE STATION ALLEGEDLY UNDERPAID \$111,000

The Fair Work Ombudsman has launched legal action against the operators of a Melbourne suburban service station, alleging two employees, both recent immigrants, were underpaid more than \$111,000. Facing court is Liquid Fuel Pty. Ltd., which operates a service station trading as BP on Clyde Road in Berwick. Also facing Court are service station managers Xin Zhang and his wife Linda Qu, and Liquid Fuel part-owner and director Nian Li, who is Ms Qu's father. It is alleged that two console operators employed at the service station were underpaid a total of \$111,874 between 2007 and 2012. The employees were Indian nationals who were both aged 28 and in Australia on visas when they commenced their employment. One is now a permanent resident in Australia and the other is now an Australian citizen. It is alleged the employees were paid flat rates ranging from \$10 to \$17 an hour, resulting in underpayment of their minimum hourly rates, casual loadings and penalty rates for overtime, weekend and public holiday work. The employees were allegedly entitled to receive up to \$27 an hour for some work they performed. Record-keeping and pay slip breaches are also alleged. Fair Work inspectors discovered the alleged breaches when they investigated complaints lodged by the employees. The alleged underpayments were subsequently rectified, with the employees being back-paid individual amounts of \$58,584 and \$53,290. Acting Fair Work Ombudsman, Michael Campbell, said the significant amounts and the involvement of vulnerable workers were key factors in the decision to commence legal action. Xin Zhang, Linda Qu and Nian Li were allegedly involved in Liquid Fuel committing several breaches of workplace laws. The individuals face penalties of up to \$6,600 per breach and the company faces penalties of up to \$33,000 per breach. A directions hearing is listed in the Federal Circuit Court in Melbourne on May 27. Employers or employees seeking assistance should contact the Fair Work Infoline on 13 13 94 or visit [www.fairwork.gov.au](http://www.fairwork.gov.au)

<http://fairwork.gov.au/media-centre/media-releases/2013/05/Pages/20130523-liquid-fuel-litigation.aspx>

### USA, KS, COFFEYVILLE, MAY 23 2013. CVR REFINERY IN COFFEYVILLE, KAN., TO PAY \$300,000 PENALTY TO EPA

rod walton



An oil refinery in Coffeyville, Kan., will pay a \$300,000 penalty in what federal regulators called the facility's third environmental settlement in 13 months, the EPA announced Wednesday. The CVR Energy Inc. facility, 75 miles from Tulsa, agreed to the civil penalty to settle alleged violations of the federal Clean Air Act. Coffeyville Resources Refining and Marketing, the CVR subsidiary, also must perform a series of audits and reviews of its risk management procedures. The refinery also had agreed to settlements that were finalized in April 2012 and in March of this year. "This third settlement with CRRM illustrates the extent of environmental problems the facility needed to fix," said a statement by Karl Brooks, administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Region 7.

"Together these settlements will result in sustained environmental improvement at the facility, making Coffeyville a safer place to live and CRRM a safer place to work." The consent decree is subject to a 30-day public comment period and approval by a federal court before it becomes final. CVR officials were asked for a response, but the Tulsa World did not receive a comment



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by deadline. The first settlement also addressed several Clean Air Act violations and resulted in significant reductions in sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxide emissions from the refinery, according to regulators. In addition, CRRM agreed to pay \$2.3 million in fines and reimbursements for the discharge of crude oil and diesel fuel into the Verdigris River during a 2007 flood. The settlement, announced two months ago, committed the refinery to pay a \$556,244 civil penalty and approximately \$1.75 million to reimburse the federal government for response costs tied to the river's cleanup. On July 1, 2007, the Verdigris overflowed its banks and flooded the refinery. Crude oil spilled from a storage tank, while diesel fuel and oily water also leaked into the watershed. Federal officials estimated the discharge at about 2,145 barrels. City of Coffeyville officials previously said the flood water and oil mix caused about \$15.8 million in residential and commercial damages. Sugar Land, Texas-based CVR Energy also owns the Wynnewood refinery in southern Oklahoma. In a settlement last month, the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration fined the Wynnewood refinery \$281,100 for a September explosion that killed two workers.

[http://www.tulsaworld.com/article.aspx/CVR\\_refinery\\_in\\_Coffeyville\\_Kan\\_to\\_pay\\_300000\\_penalty/20130523\\_49\\_E1\\_Anoilr150899](http://www.tulsaworld.com/article.aspx/CVR_refinery_in_Coffeyville_Kan_to_pay_300000_penalty/20130523_49_E1_Anoilr150899)

#### IRELAND, CO MONAGHAN, DRUMACON, MAY 23 2013. REVENUE RAIDS ILLEGAL FUEL PLANT

Customs officials estimated the fuel laundering operation could have cost the state eight million euro per year. A large scale illegal fuel laundering plant has been uncovered by customs. The black market operation, which could have processed 15 million litres of fuel a year, was found in Drumacon, Co Monaghan. Officers from Revenue's Customs Service supported by the Garda Regional Support Unit and local officers raided the plant early on Wednesday morning. When running the operation would have cost the state about eight million euro a year, customs said. A forklift, six vehicles and ancillary equipment used in the laundering process were seized from the site. Seven tonnes of toxic waste, the by-product of laundering fuel, was also found along with a tanker with 20,000 litres of fuel, a trailer with a concealed tank and 68 bags of bleaching earth in a connected raid at a commercial premises in Longfield. The raid was carried out following an intelligence-led operation and investigations are ongoing, customs said.

<http://www.independent.ie/irish-news/revenue-raids-illegal-fuel-plant-29287169.html>

#### USA, IA, CHARLES CITY, MAY 23 2013. CANADIAN PACIFIC AND DNR CONFIRM ETHANOL IS LEAKING INTO CEDAR RIVER

deedee stiepan

 **Watch the Video** [Canadian Pacific & DNR confirm Ethanol is Leaking into Cedar River](#)



##### Update from Canadian Pacific at 6:12 p.m.:

- A third tank car did leak some product, but the car has been sealed and it has been lifted away from the water.
- The two tank cars that were confirmed last night and this afternoon as having leaked product are no longer at the site and have been removed from the area.
- Ongoing water and air testing is showing no signs of adverse impacts.
- Preparations are continuing to have the one locomotive that has lost some engine fluids removed from the area. Containment booms and absorbent pads remain in place around the locomotive and it appears the leak remains contained.

##### Original Story:

Charles City, IA – We have an update to a story we've been covering since Monday night the train derailed east of Charles City. Crews from Canadian Pacific are working to get the train cars removed. Last night, they found some diesel and ethanol leaking into the little Cedar River. "One of the cars had been leaking some ethanol. Of course, once that was determined we immediately began water and air quality monitoring," says Canadian Pacific spokes person, Ed Greenberg. Originally crews thought diesel fuel was the only concern for leaking until water levels went down on the little Cedar River. That's when they discovered ethanol was also getting into the water way. "To this point there have been no indication there are any adverse impacts to the water way, we're continuing to conduct air and water monitoring tests as well as begin the process of removing the impacted car from the area," adds Greenberg. The Iowa Department of Natural Resources is confirming the company's findings that 2 of the 3 cars are leaking ethanol. Meanwhile, Canadian Pacific crews are working on creating an access road so large equipment



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can get close to the train. Iowa DNR officials say it's important that they work quickly. "Ethanol is admissible in water so it's not going to float so you really can't recover it with the booms or pads so what they're doing is monitoring for dissolve of oxygen down stream of the spill," says Jeff Vansteenburgh with the Iowa DNR. He says the diesel fuel is being recovered with petroleum pads but since ethanol doesn't float it's impossible to recover. Since at high concentrations ethanol can be toxic crews are continuing to keep an eye out for impacts. "The easiest one to spot would be dead fish or dead aquatic organisms and nothing like that has been spotted at this time," adds Vansteenburgh. DNR and Canadian Pacific workers tell us they will continue to monitor the air and water until clean-up is complete.

<http://www.kimt.com/2013/05/22/canadian-pacific-and-dnr-confirm-ethanol-is-leaking-into-cedar-river/>

### RUSSIA, MURMANSK, MAY 23 2013. MONITORING AND TRACKING OIL POLLUTION IN RUSSIAN ARCTIC FLUMMOXES SAFETY EXPERTS

Anna Kireeva, Translated Bycharles Digges



*May 2013 training exercises in cleaning up near shore oil spills.*

While Russian gas and oil companies jockey for position to produce on the Arctic Shelf, specialists from emergency services are attempting to address the issue of accidents, which are an inevitable component of such operations, and the problems are many – starting with satellite monitoring of oil slicks to spill cleanup and identifying culprits in pollution. These were the issues discussed at a two-day seminar in Murmansk last week, which ended with large-scale theories on how to liquidate oil spills. In order to define the direction of an oil slick, the currents of the water system in which it is located need to be specifically understood – and there is a hobbling lack of knowledge in this area in Northwest Russia. For example, the last mapping of currents in the comparatively narrow Kola Bay was undertaken during Soviet times in 1972, which also has bearing on the currents in the Barents Sea – the prime real

estate for possible drilling activities. "I don't think the current schematics of Kola Bay completely correspond to the truth anymore," Yelena Siekhenen, the Murmansk Regional head of the Federal Agency on Hydrometeorology and the Environment (RosGidroMet) told the conference. "Unfortunately, RosGidroMet cannot model the behavior of oil spills." Aside from this, in order to understand how oil slicks behave not only in water bodies, but also in icy conditions, how far they spread, and how much petroleum product settles on the ocean floor, the chemical make-up of these petroleum products need to be understood. And there remains one big hurdle to this: according to current and extremely sparse ecological legislation, vessels are not obligated to provide samples of fuel and hauled oil cargo. As such, owners and captains are in no hurry to voluntarily provide examples of the petroleum products they carry, as this information would make culprits in oil spills easily identifiable. Yet, according to Igor Kotyash, a state inspector with the Northwest Federal District office of the Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment, there are many examples of assigning blame for both oil slicks as well as petroleum dumps into water bodies.

#### Satellite Surveillance: Non-Admissible Evidence

Satellite monitoring is usually used for such purposes. The Moscow area [ScanEx](#) research and development firm has been engaged in satellite imaging for more than two decades. According to the company's leading specialist Natalya Yevtushenko, ScanEx satellite data led in 2008 to the apprehension of a vessel responsible for polluting the Black Sea. The one problem with the satellite monitoring approach, however, is that it is not a legally accepted practice, meaning that the results of satellite monitoring are not admissible as evidence against allegedly polluting vessels. In theory, however, such satellite images can serve as a reason for bringing criminal charges of pollution.

#### Northern Fleet's Environmental Service Keeping Watch - But Unable To Act

It's no mystery that oil slicks across great swathes of the surface of Kola Bay are blamed on Russian Northern Fleet naval vessels, and at the Murmansk conference, fleet representatives declined to draw the curtains of military secrecy, and were instead open. Yelena Busyreva, a representative of the ecological service of the Northern Fleet, described ways in which it was addressing environmental pollution problems. Busyreva said that in 2009, the Fleet received a special cutter called the Grebeshok, which has onboard unique equipment for localizing oil spills, an automatic system for measuring hydro-chemical and physical parameters of the water environment and video monitoring systems. The Grebeshok also boasts apparatus that



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is able to establish oil slicks from a considerable distance, a system for constant water extraction, and many other advanced systems. The downside, however, is that all of these high-tech devices installed on the Grebeshok four years ago have yet to be employed: The financing for it is simply lacking. The vessel is therefore only used for visual observation. "At the moment, we can only visually constitute spills," said Busyрева. Even when the Grebeshok establishes a spill however, the information goes no further than the Northern Fleet's environmental service and its planning and coordinating division. As such, development of the Russian Arctic shelf has not begun, and the most important water artery in the Murmansk Region, Kola Bay, is covered with oil film that is so thick that it is easily visible to satellites. And what to do with these slicks so as to stem further pollution – this is a question that remains without a clear answer. As a result, there is already a deepening problem of hydrocarbon build ups in enormous quantities along the sea floor of Kola Bay. These are the same petroleum products spilled by vessels who opted to hush them up to evade responsibility. As a consequence the oil is just coating the bottom of the sea. "Russia lacks normative rules on the contents of hydrocarbons on the sea bed, but these values we have are significantly higher than those of our closest neighbors," said Alyona Ustinova, a specialist with the center for environmental monitoring of the Murmansk Region Administration of Hydrometeorology and Environmental Monitoring. "Thus, abroad, this value comes to approximately 0.05 milligrams per gram, while in many areas in the Kola Bay, this value is as high as 1.7 milligrams per gram."

#### Related Stories

- [Poorly attended public hearing on Arctic drilling still evidences dangers for northwest Russia](#)(21/05-2013)
- [Russia's Lukoil says it will not drill in the Arctic](#)(03/04-2013)
- [Shell suspends Arctic drilling plans this year – Norway's Statoil to continue despite UN appeal](#)(28/02-2013)
- [Shell suspends Arctic drilling plans this year – Norway's Statoil to continue despite UN appeal](#)(28/02-2013)
- [Dismal spill findings on Russian state oil giant should give Norwegian partner Statoil pause](#)(23/08-2012)

[http://www.bellona.org/articles/articles\\_2013/arctic\\_spill\\_tracking](http://www.bellona.org/articles/articles_2013/arctic_spill_tracking)

#### AUSTRALIA, QUEENSLAND, BRISBANE, MAY 23 2013. FIREFIGHTERS SAY ARGON GAS LEAKING FROM PATRICK SHIPPING CONTAINER AT PORT OF BRISBANE WAS HARMLESS

Brisbane firefighters have declared a gas leak at a Port of Brisbane berth yesterday as harmless. Authorities were alerted to a large 20-tonne container leaking argon gas at the berth of stevedoring company Patrick about 7pm on Wednesday. A Queensland Fire and Rescue Service spokesperson said although the gas has the potential to displace oxygen in a closed space, it was harmless under those conditions. The leak was left in the hands of Patrick's staff two hours later who were working to repair the damaged pipework.

<http://www.news.com.au/national-news/queensland/firefighters-say-argon-gas-leaking-from-patrick-shipping-container-at-port-of-brisbane-was-harmless/story-fnii5ttf-1226648886551>

#### SOUTH AFRICA, PRETORIA, MAY 23 2013. TRANSNET GUILTY OF TOXIC SPILL?

barry bateman



*In March eight carriages containing hundreds of tons of granular sulfur derailed in Kameeldrift, Pretoria.*

Rail parastatal Transnet has been accused of trying to cover up a chemical spill in Pretoria and then dragging its feet cleaning-up the mess, despite residents complaining of health problems. In March, eight carriages containing hundreds of tons of granular sulphur derailed in Kameeldrift, north east of the capital. The Tshwane Municipality's Nomasonto Ndlovu said it was only notified of the spill two weeks ago, contradicting claims by Transnet that the authorities were notified. Transnet said it reported the spill to the regulatory authorities according to the law but it ignored an Eyewitness News request to explain who the authorities are and when the spill was reported. Residents in the area described being threatened with arrest and forced by Transnet officials to delete photographs of the spill. Transnet claimed a clean-up contractor is on site and it is satisfied with the work taking place in accordance with high environmental and sustainability standards. However, when Eyewitness News visited the area the contractor on site was fixing the flattened fences and at least 50 tonnes of the yellow granules was heaped into piles a stone's throw away from residential properties. Resident Barry Fourie said the railway line was operational just days after the spill.



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Fourie said he's concerned about the health of his family. "We experience headaches and sinus problems. My wife, kids and neighbours all have [flu-like] symptoms," he said.

<http://business.iafrica.com/news/860823.html>

#### **MALTA, VALETA, MAY 23 2013. FIREWORKS MANUFACTURER ACQUITTED IN CASE WHICH CAUSED TEENAGER LOSS OF AN EYE**

A fireworks manufacturer was this morning acquitted of having caused an incident which led to a 13-year-old boy losing an eye. The incident happened in Floriana in 2009 during the ground fireworks festival when a piece of a Catherine wheel became dislodged and hit the boy, Kurt Connor in an eye. He had been watching the festival with friends behind police barriers. In handing down judgement, the court said that insufficient evidence had been presented for a conviction. The court could not decide, on the basis of the available evidence, whether proper manufacturing processes had been followed and whether adequate safety precautions in the letting off of the fireworks had been observed. The accused, Manuel Farrugia, 71, holder of a Licence A for fireworks manufacturing for 40 years, was therefore acquitted, without prejudice to possible civil proceedings. The court also urged the insurance company which covered the festival to compensate the boy. Drs Marushka Debono and Michael Falzon were defence counsel.

<http://www.timesofmalta.com/articles/view/20130522/local/fireworks-manufacturer-acquitted-in-case-which-caused-teenager-loss-of-an-eye.470763>

#### **USA, WASHINGTON DC, MAY 23 2013. BIPARTISAN SENATE BILL WOULD GIVE EPA POWER TO BAN DANGEROUS CHEMICALS**

*michael hawthorne*

In a rare display of bipartisanship on Capitol Hill, a group of key senators unveiled legislation Wednesday that would require chemical companies to provide more health and safety information about their products and give regulators more power to force harmful compounds off the market. The compromise bill, supported by some health advocates and the chemical industry's chief trade group, would overhaul a 1976 federal law that by all accounts has failed to protect Americans from harmful chemicals added to household products, including furniture, baby products, toys and electronics. Sponsored by Democrat Frank Lautenberg of New Jersey and Republican David Vitter of Louisiana, the proposed Chemical Safety Improvement Act for the first time would require the Environmental Protection Agency to review the safety of more than 84,000 industrial chemicals, many of which already were on the market when Congress last acted on the issue nearly four decades ago. The EPA also would get more authority to order health and safety tests for new chemicals, eliminating a system that has allowed companies to put scores of compounds on the market with little or no study about potential hazards to people and wildlife. The bill would give the EPA authority to ban or restrict the use of chemicals if the agency finds that they pose unacceptable risks, a process that is now all but impossible. Under current law, the government couldn't even ban asbestos, a well-documented carcinogen that has killed thousands of people who suffered devastating lung diseases. "Every parent wants to know that the chemicals used in everyday products have been proven safe, but our current chemical laws fail to give parents that peace of mind," said Lautenberg, who has been pushing for reform since 2005. "Our bipartisan bill would fix the flaws with current law and ensure that chemicals are screened for safety." Democrats revived chemical safety reform last summer after a [Tribune investigation](#) about toxic flame retardants, many of which remain on the market despite studies linking them to health problems. A Lautenberg-sponsored bill moved out of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee on a party-line vote but faltered amid opposition from the chemical industry. After Vitter took over as the committee's ranking Republican this year, he restarted negotiations with Lautenberg about a potential compromise. The two senators emerged with legislation co-sponsored by members of both parties, including Democrat Dick Durbin of Illinois, and backed by major interest groups on both sides of the debate. "Our bill strikes the right balance between strengthening consumer confidence in the safety of chemicals while also promoting innovation and the growth of an important sector of our economy," Vitter said. Some leading industry officials began supporting the idea of revamping the chemical safety law after a growing number of states, motivated by a lack of action at the federal level, enacted bans on specific compounds. Some, including California and Washington, established programs to study chemicals and draw attention to harmful substances. Cal Dooley, president of the American Chemistry Council, vowed the influential trade group would push to move the compromise bill through the Senate and the House, where the Republican majority has voted several times since 2010 to strip the EPA of its powers. "A sensible, strong and workable bipartisan solution ... is more important than ever, not only for our industry but for the countless others



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that rely on chemical products," Dooley said. Health groups said they are still reviewing the legislation. Some fear the bill tilts too much in favor of industry. Ken Cook, co-founder of the Environmental Working Group, called the bill a "stunning retreat" from the original Lautenberg legislation. But others were generally supportive. "The Tribune series was a big wake-up call that there are costs to be paid for a broken system," said Richard Denison, senior scientist at the nonprofit Environmental Defense Fund. "While this bill isn't perfect, it's a policy and political breakthrough and opens a bipartisan path forward to fix a law that needs a major overhaul."

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/watchdog/flames/ct-nw-toxic-chemical-bill-20130523,0,3671250.story>

#### AUSTRALIA, WESTERN AUSTRALIA, BUNBURY, MAY 23 2013. WA POLICE PROBE CAUSTIC SODA MIX-UP

tim clarke

Five children and six adults are recovering from burns to their mouths and throats after a salt shaker containing caustic soda was sprinkled over their food at a West Australian fast food restaurant. Forensic police are heading an investigation into how the caustic soda came to be in the salt shaker. The powerful cleaner was sprinkled over chips served at a Chicken Treat store in Bunbury, south of Perth, leaving five children under 10 with burns. Six adults were also harmed after eating at the restaurant, with a woman in her 20s and a man in his early 30s so badly affected they were transferred to Perth for further treatment. As the company went into damage control, saying they deeply regretted the incident, WA police, the Department of Health, and the local authority all began investigating how the potentially deadly mix-up occurred. Staff were interviewed, as forensic tests were carried out at the Blair Street outlet. Local woman Leah Clements said she realised something was wrong after purchasing chicken and chips from the store on Wednesday evening for her three-year old daughter. "I thought she may have had tonsillitis again but then she said 'Mum I can't feel my mouth'," Ms Clements told the Bunbury Mail. Dr Hooi Ee, the head of gastroenterology at Sir Charles Gairdner hospital, where the two patients remain in a stable condition, said the ingestion of caustic soda could be fatal. "If small amounts are taken, it may not even be noticeable but if a significant amount is taken then it can be very severe, up to death," Dr Ee said. "It is like a burn, so you can get extreme scarring, and a narrowing of the oesophagus to the point where it might need operating on. But the vast majority will heal naturally." The nine other people injured were released from hospital on Wednesday. Caustic soda, or sodium hydroxide, is commonly used as a detergent or drain cleaner and causes chemical burns in contact with the skin, and can induce permanent blindness if it contacts eyes. St John's Ambulance confirmed the alarm was raised through WA's Department of Health on Wednesday night, and several people were treated at the scene. "Eleven people, including five children aged under 10, presented to Bunbury Hospital following possible contact and/or ingestion of caustic matter," said Grace Ley, the South West Regional Director regional director of WA's Regional Country Health Service. "Six have been discharged home following assessment and treatment. Two adults have been transferred to Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital. Three children were admitted to Bunbury Hospital for observation overnight." The store was situated close to Bunbury Regional Hospital, where the majority of patients were treated. It remained closed on Thursday. "Chicken Treat deeply regrets that a number of customers who yesterday visited the Blair Street store later required medical assistance. We sincerely wish all of those people affected a speedy recovery," a company statement said. "Relevant external authorities have been contacted and Chicken Treat will fully co-operate with any inquiries those authorities determine are necessary."

<http://www.news.com.au/breaking-news/national/people-get-caustic-burns-at-chook-shop/story-e6frfku9-1226649016644>

#### USA, N.Y, WHITEHALL, MAY 24 2013. TANKER ROLLS OVER IN WHITEHALL



*Emergency crews work the scene of a tanker rollover on the northbound shoulder of Route 4 in Whitehall Wednesday, May 22, 2013.*

Emergency crews responded to a rolled-over tanker truck about two miles south of the village at about 2:45 p.m. Wednesday. According to a Post-Star photographer on the scene, Route 4 is down to one lane at the accident scene. A spokesman for the Washington County Sheriff's Office said the tanker itself was not leaking, but officials at the scene said there was a small leak from the cab's gas tank. The driver was injured, though not seriously. The truck was carrying No. 6 oil. The driver was identified as John W. Steininger, 33, of Warrensburg. State Police said he suffered minor injuries when he failed to pay attention to vehicles stopped ahead of him and drove onto the shoulder near



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Ryder Road, with the truck rolling onto its side as it came to a stop. He was ticketed for moving from his lane unsafely.

[http://poststar.com/news/local/tanker-rolls-over-in-whitehall/article\\_50beece4-c313-11e2-8f99-001a4bcf887a.html](http://poststar.com/news/local/tanker-rolls-over-in-whitehall/article_50beece4-c313-11e2-8f99-001a4bcf887a.html)

#### INDIA, UTTAR PRADESH, GORAKHPUR, SIKTAUR, MAY 24 2013. EXPLOSION AT FIRE CRACKER FACTORY IN UTTAR PRADESH KILLS 1, 3 INJURED

A pregnant woman was killed and three others were injured in an explosion in a cracker factory in Siktaur area of the district, police said today. The explosion, which took place last evening, was so strong that the parts of the body of the woman were scattered in a 200 metre radius, they said. The deceased woman was identified as 30-year-old Shanti of nearby Durgapur village. The injured were identified as Ravi, Meera and Nirmala, the police said. The factory did not have a valid license, SSP Shalabh Mathur said. "Samples of explosives are being sent for forensic investigation," he said. District Magistrate Ravi Kumar NG has ordered a magisterial probe into the incident. The factory belonged to one Iftexhar Ahmad of the village who is absconding since the incident, the SSP said, adding police teams have been deployed to nab the culprit.

<http://www.ndtv.com/article/india/explosion-at-fire-cracker-factory-in-uttar-pradesh-kills-one-three-injured-370473>

#### USA, CA, FONTANA, MAY 24 2012. 3 MEN ARE ARRESTED FOR ALLEGEDLY STEALING HUNDREDS OF GALLONS OF FUEL FROM A GAS STATION



After being discovered by an off-duty Fontana Police Department officer, three men were arrested for allegedly stealing hundreds of gallons of fuel from a gas station in Fontana, police said. On May 22 at about 11:45 a.m., the officer was getting gas at the Mobil station on the corner of Foothill Boulevard and Sierra Avenue when he noticed a suspicious van in the lot. Another vehicle, a gold Toyota Camry, was parked next to the van with men who appeared to be lookouts. The officer noticed that the van appeared to be sucking gas from the underground fuel tanks. Patrol officers responded to the scene, detained the suspects, and determined that the men were pumping fuel from the station's underground tanks into large fuel containers in the van. "The suspects made it look like the van was broken down in the parking lot and parked over one of the access holes for the tanks," said Fontana Police Sergeant Doug Imhof. "They

had apparently been at the same station on May 21 and for the two days siphoned as much as 300 gallons of fuel." The suspects were identified as Fredrick Hunter, 38, of Rialto; Edward Dawson, 32, of Fontana; and Terry Washington, 42, of Fontana. They were all booked for grand theft at West Valley Detention Center.

<http://www.fontanaheraldnews.com/articles/2013/05/23/news/doc519e606c6e1f8614978404.txt>

#### USA, CA, CLAREMONT, MAY 24 2013. QUESTIONS RAISED ABOUT HUFFING AFTER COLLEGE STUDENT IN CLAREMONT DIES FROM ALLEGEDLY INHALING NITROUS OXIDE >> LAW ENFORCEMENT SAY INHALING NITROUS OXIDE IS BECOMING COMMON

*wes woods ii*

Law enforcement officials said inhaling nitrous oxide - which apparently killed a Claremont McKenna College student last week - is becoming abused by more and more people seeking a high, especially teens and young adults. Ali Wallace Mirza, 19, was pronounced dead about 2 a.m. Friday at Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center. Police officers reportedly found used nitrous oxide containers, also known as whippets, that are used in the food-preparation industry. Nitrous oxide, or laughing gas, is also used as an anesthetic in medical settings. Los Angeles County sheriff's Capt. Michael Parker said Wednesday "we have found the abuse of nitrous oxide is very prevalent" among people under 21. Veronica De Alba, a deputy city attorney for Los Angeles, said Mirza's death is not an isolated incident. "Unfortunately, we're seeing usage on the rise in California, especially in Southern California," De Alba said. Young adults "don't think they'll do it like a drug and it won't cause them long-term harm. They just aren't aware. In fact, the usage of whippets in some studies a few years back likened it to be as strong as persons drawn to cocaine. The usage pattern is, people will take it more often to chase the high, so to speak. There's the high risk of cardiac arrest. Their bodies can't control the impurities that are taken in. It's not like nitrous like in a dentist that is filtered with oxygen and is clean. This is not medical-grade nitrous." Parker declined to speak about Mirza's case but said he learned of it through a Google alert. "I was just thinking, 'Wow, another one. This is not uncommon,'" Parker said. The captain said his



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understanding is that the high lasts two to five minutes. "That's when you huff balloons. They'll huff multiple balloons. Get high, come down. It deprives the body of oxygen. Oxygen deprivation can lead to death. It can also cause brain damage and loss of consciousness. Huffing a balloon, you can lose consciousness and crash a car or fall off a balcony. " Besides death or injuries, other consequences of inhaling nitrous oxide for individuals are auto accidents or being sexually assaulted, Parker said. Harvey Weiss, the executive director for the National Inhalant Prevention Coalition in Chattanooga, Tenn., said inhaling is "an issue on college campuses and young adults. " Weiss said at rock concerts people will sometimes inhale from latex balloons. "It seems to be more of a problem with people beyond high school as well as for people at rock concerts and things like that," Weiss said. De Alba said California is lagging in introducing legislation to safeguard young adults from huffing. "Early youth to young adults tend to abuse," De Alba said. "I think it's just because they're not aware. I think there's a need for further legislation coupled with renewed prevention awareness. " The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department on March 22 arrested three people and executed 26 search warrants as part of a federal criminal investigation into the improper sale of nitrous oxide, according to a news release from U.S. Attorney's Office. Parker said the 15-month investigation, dubbed "Operation No Laughing Matter," had caused a dent in the availability of nitrous oxide. "Now it's underground. Prior to the warrants, it was open and sold. People involved in those businesses are out of business. Now it's sold like another drug. We can tell based on open discussions on social media about drug parties. It's decreased dramatically in the L.A. County Sheriff's Department area. " Paul Chabot, the founder of Rancho Cucamonga-based Inland Valley Drug Free Community Coalition, said the problem is not a new one. "At the age of 12 when I was in drug rehab for marijuana, I witnessed other kids in my program using nitrous and getting very sick," Chabot said in an email Wednesday. "This was 27 years ago. The problem is not new. Despite recent and massive arrests in Los Angeles last month of the illegal sale of nitrous oxide, where more 20 federal search warrants were served and more than \$20 million of nitrous oxide was seized, nitrous is readily available, legally from medical facilities and the auto repair industry. " On Wednesday, Claremont McKenna spokeswoman Alissa Stedman said the college is focusing on assisting the family. A memorial service for Mirza will be held in the fall.

[http://www.dailybulletin.com/news/ci\\_23301566/huffing-raises-questions-after-death-claremont-college-student?source=rss\\_viewed](http://www.dailybulletin.com/news/ci_23301566/huffing-raises-questions-after-death-claremont-college-student?source=rss_viewed)

#### USA, PA, HARRISBURG, MAY 25 2013. DOE LOOKS FOR ORPHAN WELLS

The federal government is pushing new efforts to deal with an old problem – abandoned oil and gas wells. In Pennsylvania, there may be as many as 100,000 orphan wells. If the wells were not sealed properly, they could explode. As The Allegheny Front's Kate Malongowski reports, the government is using high-tech helicopters to find out where these wells are located.

<http://bit.ly/1777045>

#### BRAZIL, RIO DE JANEIRO, MAY 24 2013. ONE DEAD IN FUEL TANK FIRE IN RIO DE JANEIRO



One person died and seven other were injured when a huge fire destroyed at least six large fuel storage tanks outside Rio de Janeiro, local government sources said. The fire broke out in the storage area of fuel and lubricant distributor Petrogold in Duque de Caxias, a municipality in the Rio metropolitan area, and it took firefighters four hours to bring it under control. The Duque de Caxias city hall confirmed the death of one of the storage center's workers and the fact that seven others had been admitted to Adao Pereira Nunes Hospital. The man who died, apparently, inhaled toxic gases before being picked up by an ambulance. The flames, which could be seen several kilometers (miles) away, spread to six fuel tanks and part of the administrative facilities at the site, which firefighters had difficulty accessing due to explosions caused by the blaze. Given the difficulty of fighting the fire directly within the storage area, firefighters from

six stations deployed to battle it were limited to a great extent to spraying water on the roofs and the yards of nearby homes to try and prevent the flames from spreading. Firefighters also ordered the evacuation of residents in homes on six streets near the site, which is close to the highway linking the cities of Rio de Janeiro and Teresopolis.

#### Related Stories

- [One killed in Brazil giant fuel depot blaze](#)

<http://www.laht.com/article.asp?ArticleId=785166&CategoryId=14090>



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## Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network Release 2013 – 966 Newsy Stuff

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

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### USA, PA, HARRISBURG, MAY 25 2013. DOE LOOKS FOR ORPHAN WELLS

The federal government is pushing new efforts to deal with an old problem – abandoned oil and gas wells. In Pennsylvania, there may be as many as 100,000 orphan wells. If the wells were not sealed properly, they could explode. As The Allegheny Front's Kate Malongowski reports, the government is using high-tech helicopters to find out where these wells are located.

<http://bit.ly/1777045>

### PAKISTAN, GUJRAT, MAY 25 2013. EXPLOSION IN GUJRAT SCHOOL VAN KILLS TEACHER, 17 CHILDREN



*Men stand around a burnt-out school bus, after a gas cylinder on it exploded killing seventeen children, on the outskirts of Gujrat.*

An explosion in a travelling school van in Gujrat's Koh Fateh area killed a teacher and 17 schoolchildren, reported Express News on Saturday. Earlier Express News reported that it was a cylinder blast however after investigation, it was known that the explosion was apparently caused by a spark when the driver of the dual-fuel van switched from gas to petrol. Police chief Dar Ali Khattak told AFP that the fuel gas cylinder was intact. The children were aged between five and 15 years old, a police official said, adding that a female teacher also died. Another police official, Abid Khan, said the driver fled after the fire. Emergency teams reached the scene to assist the children. The injured were shifted to Aziz Bhatti Hospital which was near the site of the incident. Five children are reported to be in a critical condition and were sent to Lahore for treatment. Bodies of the

victims are unrecognisable and parents demand DNA testing to claim their children. It is estimated that the van transported nearly 25 children to school every day. The funeral of the deceased was offered later during the day.

<http://tribune.com.pk/story/554237/school-van-cylinder-blast-in-gujrat-kills-teacher-17-children/>

### NEPAL, CHITWAN, DHADING, MAY 25 2013. 3 DIE AS OIL TANKER PLUNGES, BURSTS INTO FLAMES

rameshwor karki

A loaded petrol truck coming to Kathmandu veered off course on the Prithivi Highway at Ghoptebehir of Darechok-3, Chitwan district on Thursday, plunging 250 meters to the bank of the Trishuli River before exploding into flames and killing the three people on board. The oil tanker (Na 4 Kha 3264), carrying 20 thousand liters of petrol from Amlekhganj, skidded off the road at around 11 P.M. [break]. According to police, the half burnt body of tanker owner Gopal Singh Lama of Basamadi, Hetauda-5, was taken out from the burning truck. Lok Bahadur Gurung, a police inspector stationed at Mugling, informed the two others killed were tanker hands Suresh Lama and Prakash Bista of Nibuwatar-6, Makawanpur district. According to Gurung, Lama and Bista were burnt to ashes and the huge fire razed everything at the site. It was raining in the night and police surmise that the accident might have taken place after the driver fell asleep at the wheel. Lama's half burnt body has been sent to Bharatpur Hospital for autopsy. Police are investigating to establish the cause of the accident, according to Inspector Gurung.

[http://www.myrepublica.com/portal/index.php?action=news\\_details&news\\_id=55144](http://www.myrepublica.com/portal/index.php?action=news_details&news_id=55144)

### USA, PA, ELK CO, HIGHLAND TWP, MAY 25 2013. THREE KILLED IN ELK CO. CRASH

Three people are dead following an accident in Highland Township, Elk County. Firefighters were called to the scene along Route 66 around 9:07 Thursday night. Highland Township fire chief William Edinger said it was one of the worst crashes he has seen. "It was total chaos. It was a mess, pieces of vehicles were everywhere. I go up and check out the car and it was a total disaster," Edinger said. According to witnesses, the car was trying to pass a line of water trucks. While doing so, witnesses said it hit a water truck that was traveling the opposite direction. Police said that the driver of the car was 33-year-old Robert Higginbotham. He was pronounced dead at the scene. Higginbotham's passenger, 33-year-old Clyde Nelson II was also pronounced dead at the scene. A second passenger, 36-year-old Delores Woodall was flown to the hospital. Police said Woodall was pronounced dead at the hospital. All three victims are from Kane, McKean County. Troopers said the driver of the water truck was uninjured. Chief Edinger said that there has been a lot of trucks in the area due to Marcellus Shale drilling. He said a number of their calls have been involving large tankers and cars. "The minute we started seeing the increase of Marcellus wells going in, the heavier truck traffic. It's increasing really bad," he said.

<http://www.wjactv.com/news/news/three-killed-elk-co-crash/nX3Fk/>



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#### USA, IA, CHARLES CITY, MAY 25 2013. ABOUT 49,000 GALLONS OF ETHANOL LEAKED FROM DERAILED TANKERS

*kristin buehner*

Approximately 49,000 gallons of ethanol escaped from two of three tanker cars derailed Monday as a result of the washout of rail lines of the Canadian Pacific Railroad, spokesmen for the railroad and the Iowa Department of Natural Resources said Friday. Ethanol in the water can decrease oxygen levels enough to kill fish or other aquatic organisms, DNR spokesman David Knoll said. Three cars and a locomotive derailed at about 11:30 p.m. Monday into the Little Cedar River east of Charles City. The eastbound 80-car train was transporting ethanol. "Monitoring shows normal oxygen levels" in the river, Knoll said. "Staff have found no dead or distressed fish for up to 20 miles below the derailed train." Liquids also leaked from a derailed locomotive. Although much of it was recovered by the railroad, an estimated 300 to 400 gallons of diesel fuel and approximately 100 pounds of lubricating oil went into the stream, Knoll said. Floating booms and absorbent pads will remain in place to capture as much diesel fuel as possible until the area is dry. The railroad's environmental recovery firm will monitor the site throughout the end of May. The DNR will continue to monitor the situation and cleanup and consider appropriate enforcement action. An environmental remediation plan will be submitted to the DNR for remediation work and water monitoring. The railroad line was returned to service Friday morning after full track infrastructure repair work and mandatory inspections were completed.

[http://globegazette.com/news/local/about-gallons-of-ethanol-leaked-from-derailed-tankers/article\\_6d331018-c4ed-11e2-8290-0019bb2963f4.html](http://globegazette.com/news/local/about-gallons-of-ethanol-leaked-from-derailed-tankers/article_6d331018-c4ed-11e2-8290-0019bb2963f4.html)

#### INDIA, UTTAR PRADESH, ALLAHABAD, MAY 25 2013. 3 MAKING FIRECRACKERS KILLED IN BLAST

A middle-aged woman and two minor girls were killed in an explosion in a house in Sirsa town area under Meja police station on Friday afternoon. Police said the blast took place during manufacturing of illegal fire-crackers by the house owner. The blast was so powerful that the double-storey house was reduced to rubble. Hearing the sound of explosion, locals rushed to the spot and informed the police which took the badly injured persons to hospital where they were declared dead by the doctors. As per reports, residents of Sirsa market under Meja police station on Friday afternoon heard a loud explosion in the house of Jaleel Ahmad. Within seconds, the two-storeyed structure collapsed under the impact of the blast. Locals rushed to the spot and found Jaleel's wife Rukhsana (35) and her daughter Sheeba (15) and a neighbourhood girl, Shaheen (9), lying in pools of blood.

[http://articles.timesofindia.indiatimes.com/2013-05-25/allahabad/39520549\\_1\\_house-owner-fire-crackers-loud-explosion](http://articles.timesofindia.indiatimes.com/2013-05-25/allahabad/39520549_1_house-owner-fire-crackers-loud-explosion)

#### USA, MN, DOVER, MAY 25 2013. ANHYDROUS AMMONIA TANK ROLLS NEAR DOVER

*ken hanson*



*Firefighters from Dover, Eyota and Rochester work at the scene of an overturned anhydrous ammonia tank Friday afternoon.*

An anhydrous ammonia tank being towed by a pickup went into a ditch and rolled early Friday afternoon near Dover. The Rochester Fire Department's chemical-assessment team was sent to the accident and worked with local fire departments to assess any danger, according to Rochester Fire Department spokesman Steve Belau. An Interstate 90 rest area is near the location. No leaks or other problems were found at the scene. No dangerous conditions were found at the scene. Rochester firefighters were leaving the scene at 2 p.m.

Members of the Dover/Eyota Fire Department and Olmsted County Sheriff's Office responded to the mishap.

[http://www.postbulletin.com/news/local/anhydrous-ammonia-tank-rolls-near-dover/article\\_d4b563b9-ef05-5a89-9750-d661891d865d.html](http://www.postbulletin.com/news/local/anhydrous-ammonia-tank-rolls-near-dover/article_d4b563b9-ef05-5a89-9750-d661891d865d.html)

#### NIGERIA, LAGOS, MAY 26 2013. NSCDC ARRESTS PIPELINE VANDAL WITH 4,000 LITRES OF PETROL

The Lagos State command of the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) said it had arrested a suspected pipeline vandal and recovered 4,400 litres of petrol from the suspect. The NSCDC Commandant in the state, Mr Dayo Adesuyi, told newsmen on Friday that the suspect was arrested at Ibeju-Lekki area of the state. Adesuyi explained that the petroleum product was concealed in 17 drums. "When I came on board, I went round some local government areas in the state, with a



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view to strategising my operations. We cannot continue to lose millions of naira to criminal activities. "I have discovered that the most singular criminal activity against our economy is pipeline vandalism. The command will ensure that this activity is stopped. "Based on information, we arrested the suspect with vandalised petroleum product. We are going after others involved in the crime. The suspect will be prosecuted to serve as a deterrent to others," he said. On security management in the state, Adesuyi called for collaboration and partnership among all security agencies. The commandant called on Nigerians to always provide information on criminal activities to security agencies. "We also require collaboration from other security agencies. We are working towards the same focus to ensure that Nigeria is safe. We are not enemies; we should be working towards same goal. "I appeal to my brothers and sisters in para-military agencies to cooperate with us in Lagos command to put a stop to pipeline vandalism," he said.

<http://tribune.com.ng/news2013/index.php/en/news/item/12790-nscdc-arrests-pipeline-vandal-with-4-000-litres-of-petrol>

#### PAKISTAN, KARACHI, MAY 25 2013. DRIVER KILLED, TWO INJURED IN OIL TANKER CRASH



A speeding oil tanker turned turtle at Karsaz area of the metropolis on Saturday, killing the driver and injuring two others. According to reports, the tanker overturned while taking a sharp turn at Karsaz flyover. As a result, driver Abdul Jabbar died on the spot while two others were injured. Meanwhile, thousands of litres of oil started flowing out of the tanker after it developed a leak. The traffic flow remained suspended for a long time due to the overspill. A larger number of people gathered at the site of the incident and started filling up their bottles and buckets with oil. Later, rescue teams reached the scene and shifted the injured to a nearby hospital.

<http://www.pakistantoday.com.pk/2013/05/25/city/karachi/driver-killed-two-injured-in-oil-tanker-crash/>

#### SCOTLAND, CAIRNRYAN, MAY 26 2013. CUSTOMS AGENTS SEIZE 24,000 LITRES OF ILLICIT FUEL CONTAINING BLEACH, CAT LITTER AND ACID AT CAIRNRYAN FERRY PORT

Customs agents have seized 24,000 litres of dodgy diesel contaminated with bleach, cat litter and even acid. The huge haul from Ireland was found hidden in a lorry at Cairnryan ferry port on Wednesday morning. Customs experts believe it's rebated fuel – the Irish version of red diesel. The smugglers hid it in 960 drums which were packed in cardboard boxes, loaded on pallets and shrink-wrapped. They then put lives at risk by carrying it on the ferry in an unsafe vehicle – all in bid to dodge £17,000 in duty. A man from County Antrim was questioned over the haul. Rebat fuel is dyed green in Ireland. Like red diesel here, it's only supposed to be used in farm vehicles. The crooks remove the colour using acid, bleach or cat litter. They then sell it to unscrupulous UK drivers for about £1.10 per litre, compared to about £1.36 for legal fuel. Fuel gangs cost the UK about £310million a year in lost duty. Anne-Marie Gordon, assistant director of criminal investigations at HMRC, said the crooks were putting people in danger by transporting the diesel across country. She also warned drivers who buy dodgy diesel that it could damage their engines, because the laundering process strips out important lubricants.

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/customs-agents-seize-24000-litres-1909998>

#### ARGENTINA, BUENOS AIRES, MAY 26 2013. YPF-REPSOL BATTLE



A man walks inside a YPF fuel station in Buenos Aires. A year after Argentina seized the local business of Spanish oil firm Repsol, there seems little prospect of a quick deal on compensation despite signs that both sides would rather avoid a costly, drawn-out legal battle. A man walks inside a YPF fuel station in Buenos Aires. A year after Argentina seized the local business of Spanish oil firm Repsol, there seems little prospect of a quick deal on compensation despite signs that both sides would rather avoid a costly, drawn-out legal battle.

<http://thepeninsulaqatar.com/business/238619-ypf-repsol-battle.html>



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