



Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network

Release 2013 – 1,030 Newsy Stuff

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

December 28 2013



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INDIA, MUMBAI, DECEMBER 18 2013. OIL SPILL CLEANED UP ONE BUCKET AT A TIME

kenan machado & shanoor seervai



Photographers take pictures of oil contaminated water on the shores of a beach in Mumbai on Aug. 7, 2011.

More than a month after an oil spill was detected on the eastern coast of Mumbai, local authorities have been using an ingenious device to clean up the spill: buckets. The spill in question was caused by a pipeline owned by the Mumbai Port Trust, and was [first reported](#) by villagers in Mahul, near the eastern Mumbai suburb of Chembur, in late October. It's not clear when the spill actually happened, or what caused it, but it has spread to around ten acres of land comprising ecologically-sensitive mangrove forests, according to the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board. Typically, the Mumbai Port Trust appoints companies to clean up spills, but in this case it didn't appoint one, at least until recently. Over the last few weeks, some of its employees have been

using buckets to remove oil that has spread to mangroves and parts of the coastline, according to local environmentalists and the Port Trust. The incident underscores the lack of an effective system to clean up oil spills in India, say environmentalists. "No one is willing to take responsibility, no one wants to pay for the spill," said Debi Goenka, a Mumbai-based environmentalist. He added that there aren't enough systems in place to monitor pipelines and prevent leakages. In Mahul, the slow pace of clean-up is damaging the mangroves and hurting the livelihood of hundreds of fishermen as the oil has killed the fish in the area, said Stalin Dayanand, a social worker at nature conservancy organization Vanashakti, who is closely monitoring developments in the region. "People have lost at least three months' livelihood," said Rajendra Mahulkar, a local politician from Mahul. Over the last few decades, Mumbai has been the [victim of several oil spills](#) that have hurt its marine life and the livelihoods of those dependent on fishing. In October, more than 1,000 litres of oil poured into the Arabian Sea — on the outskirts of Mumbai — when a pipeline belonging to the state-owned Oil & Natural Gas Corp [leaked](#). In India, the [ultimate responsibility of cleaning oil spills](#) rests with the Coast Guard, which in turn, co-ordinates with local port authorities and oil companies whose oil is spilled. In the Mahul leak, the Mumbai Port Trust was expected to clean the spill because it was caused by pipeline in an area controlled by the Trust. Port Trust Secretary P. Mohana Chandran told The Wall Street Journal that the clean-up has taken "a little more time than it should have been ideally." Mr. Chandran said that Port Trust had invited bids last year to employ a company that cleans up spills, but had rejected all bids due to "technical issues." He declined to elaborate. Mr. Chandran added that the Trust has recently appointed a company to clear the Mahul spill, but didn't specify when they would begin work. A spokesman for Bharat Petroleum Corp Ltd., a state-run company whose oil was being carried in the pipeline, said that it had suggested names of several clean-up companies to the port authority. An official of the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, P. K. Mirashe, told The Wall Street Journal it was mulling over what action it should take against the port authority for its "slow response." For now, the Trust has been asked to provide weekly updates on how the leak is being cleaned up, said Mr. Mirashe. Environmentalists say that there aren't any serious consequences of delays in cleaning spills. The Pollution Control Board has "teeth that can't bite," said Mr. Dayanand, the environmentalist, adding that in the past, no government agency has been prosecuted.

<http://blogs.wsj.com/indiarealtime/2013/12/17/mumbai-oil-spill-cleaned-up-one-bucket-at-a-time/>

AUSTRALIA, NEW SOUTH WALES, SYDNEY, DECEMBER 18 2013. BP CONSIDERS SALE OF \$3BN AUSSIE DOWNSTREAM ASSETS

London-listed BP is mulling a \$3 billion sell-off of its Australian refineries and petrol stations, joining a growing list of oil giants reassessing their involvement in the industry. A divestment of BP's downstream assets was discussed as far back as 2010, when it was thought costs associated with the Gulf of Mexico disaster would prompt the global energy giant to consider an asset sale. BP's chief economist told The Australian Financial Review in February 2012 that the future of the refining industry was dire, with excess global capacity and the rise off alternative fuels sounding the death knell for many existing plants. Analysts have weighed in, pointing out that Australian refineries are smaller, older and less complex than their international peers which can take a variety of crudes. The strong Aussie dollar has added to the pain. Caltex Australia has since shut its Kurnell refinery and weighted its business towards marketing. Shell, which has already closed its Sydney refinery, has meanwhile put its ageing Geelong plant up for sale. If BP, Europe's second-largest oil and gas company which runs two of Australia's six refineries, was to bite the bullet and formally appoint advisers, it may look towards its lending bank syndicate



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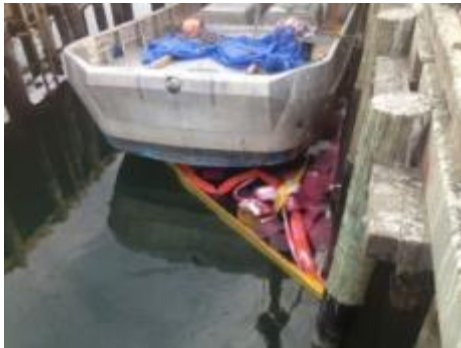
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which includes Deutsche Bank and UBS. The unconfirmed rumour doing the rounds is that BP has held back from \$50 million of spending needed at its Bulwer Island refinery in Brisbane, seemingly confirming its lack of interest in throwing money at the plants. The Brisbane plant has long been seen as a prime candidate to link up with Caltex's Lytton plant, just 300 metres away, but no deal has yet been done. BP's Kwinana refinery in Western Australia is better placed competitively but faces the same broader difficulties. Credit Suisse estimates Caltex's refining losses reached about \$150 million this year, signalling BP's losses may be similar. Elsewhere, Regional Express is among the parties that have expressed interest in buying Brindabella Airlines, which was placed into receivership on Sunday. Brindabella has licences over five monopoly routes to regional towns in NSW which would complement the Rex network. However, it is unclear if Rex is a serious buyer of the business, which Commonwealth Bank took out a fixed and floating charge over the assets in exchange for a \$4.6 million loan. Rex is separately urging the NSW government to take the valuable licences of Brindabella, which would open the way for Rex to apply to fly the routes itself.

<http://bit.ly/1cYFLJU>

USA, CA, VENTURA HARBOR, DECEMBER 19 2013. 300+ GALLONS OF DIESEL SPILLED IN VENTURA HARBOR

shane scott



Although Ventura Harbor has returned to its normal color, off the 1400 block of Spinnaker Drive, the water was a gooey red for days after two vessels collided, releasing more than 300 gallons of diesel fuel into the harbor. At 1 p.m. Nov. 18, the purse seiner Royal Pacific reportedly suffered a ruptured fuel tank when it collided with it the shrimp boat Golden Eagle, secured off a Ventura Harbor boatyard. Royal Pacific, which was carrying 1,000 gallons of diesel fuel, reportedly leaked between 300 and 500 gallons of diesel before Ventura Harbor Patrol staff members could deploy a containment boom and surround the vessel. Several agencies, including city and county fire departments, the Coast Guard and Harbor Patrol, along with staff from Patriot Environmental and Clean Seas, were on the scene, soaking the diesel into pads, and cleaning rocks and structures tainted by the fuel spill. "Patriot Environmental came down and spent days cleaning up the area, and cleaning up the rocks and removing the diesel,"

said Senior Harbor Patrol Officer Pat Hummer. "The good thing is that it happened in kind of a corner of the harbor," Hummer said. "The west winds typically blow to that corner, so it was fairly easy to contain the spill. It made it easier for the agencies to remove." While no human injuries were reported, California Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) personnel were called in to care for marine life affected by the spill. "We ended up with a fishery closure, because there was more than 42 gallons of fuel in the water," said Alexia Retallack, manager of the DFW's Office of Spill Prevention and Response. "We've had to assess whether it's safe to continue to fish in the area," Retallack said. "We need to ensure that this is a place that people can pull fish and mussels out of the local water and be safe." The process, which involves catching and analyzing both fish and mussels for contamination levels, is ongoing, Retallack said. Since oil floats, the most affected ocean life was near the surface. Three birds were captured and cleaned by volunteers from the University of California, Davis Oiled Wildlife Care Network, Retallack said. The ducks were taken to San Pedro, where they are currently being rehabilitated before their release back into the wild.

<http://www.thelog.com/Article/300--Gallons-of-Diesel-Spilled-in-Ventura-Harbor>

USA, W.VA, HUNTINGTON, DECEMBER 19 2013. PAR MAR OIL CO. SETTLES UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK VIOLATIONS AT TWO HUNTINGTON, W.VA. FACILITIES

Par Mar Oil Co. has agreed to pay a \$30,855 penalty to settle alleged violations of underground storage tank (UST) regulations at two facilities in Huntington, W.Va., the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced today. EPA cited the company for not complying with safeguards designed to prevent, detect, and control leaks of petroleum and other hazardous substances from USTs. Specifically, EPA alleged that the company did not comply with cathodic protection requirements, which are designed to prevent corrosion of steel UST systems. Federal and state regulations require cathodic protection testing every three years, and that cathodic protection be continuously maintained. The alleged violations were at two facilities in Huntington (Par Mar # 36, on 2207 8th Ave.; and Par Mar #37, at 3217 Washington Blvd.) which have a total of nine USTs used to store gasoline, diesel fuel and kerosene. The company allegedly failed to perform required cathodic protection testing at these facilities for four to five years, failed to timely repair cathodic protection for a tank at one facility for a year and did not



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repair it for flexible piping at the other facility for about three months. EPA cited the company after an inspection and a subsequent request for information. With millions of gallons of petroleum products and hazardous substances stored in USTs throughout the U.S., leaking tanks are a major source of soil and groundwater contamination. EPA and state UST regulations are designed to reduce the risk of underground leaks and promptly detect and properly address leaks thus minimizing environmental harm and avoiding the costs of major cleanups. As part of the settlement, the company did not admit liability for the alleged violation. The settlement penalty reflects the company's cooperation with EPA in correcting the alleged non-compliance and resolving this matter.

<http://www.epa.gov/oust/index.htm>

USA, MASS, LYNN, DECEMBER 19 2013. MAN, 62, SUFFERS BURNS IN 'FLASH FIRE' AT LYNN FACTORY

thor jorgensen

 **Watch the Video** [1 Person Burned by Flash Fire at Lynn Company](#)

A 62-year-old employee of a West Lynn chemical factory was "conscious and alert" after suffering burns but was hospitalized for treatment after what officials described as a "flash fire" Wednesday morning. The employee of Hawthaway Corp., 638 Summer St., received burns to his face, hands, and arms in the incident at about 10:30 a.m. Wednesday. He was taken to Massachusetts General Hospital. Lynn Fire Department spokesman Steven Archer said the incident occurred during what was described as a mixing process at the company. The victim was on a scaffolding above the plant floor when "something caused the substance to flash." A fire extinguishing system at the plant quickly put out the fire, but 37 people who were working in the factory at the time were evacuated. When firefighters arrived on the scene, the victim, who has worked for the company about three years, was with co-workers. The cause of the incident was unknown and remains under investigation, fire officials said. "As far as we know they have a good safety record," said Lynn Fire Chief James McDonald. Traffic has been detoured from Summer Street onto Linden Street. The Daily Item/Itemlive.com will provide updates and additional information as it becomes available.

http://www.itemlive.com/news/at-least-one-hurt-in-flash-fire-at-lynn-factory/article_e67cff0c-67fd-11e3-95eb-001a4bcf887a.html

MEXICO, CHIHUAHUA, CIUDAD JUÁREZ, DECEMBER 19 2013. EXPLOSION AT JUÁREZ CANDY FACTORY RULED ACCIDENTAL

Mexican authorities have ruled that a [deadly explosion](#) at a candy factory in Ciudad Juárez two months ago was accidental. Just before lunchtime on Oct. 24 a powerful explosion rocked the Blueberry candy factory in Ciudad Juárez. One person died in the immediate aftermath and later another seven died in the hospital. Twenty-one people were injured, some with severe burns. The explosion was the result of a chemical reaction involving corn starch and oxygen, according to a report issued this weekend by the Chihuahua State Attorney General's office. Corn starch is a primary ingredient in the candy-making process. The Secretary of Labor is still looking into potential safety violations by the factory, which has stopped production for the time being. The candies manufactured in the plant were sold in the United States

<http://www.kpbs.org/news/2013/dec/18/explosion-juarez-candy-factory-ruled-accidental/>

USA, CA, SANTA ROSA, DECEMBER 19 2013. AGILENT TECHNOLOGIES SETTLES HAZMAT VIOLATIONS INJURY SUIT

Agilent Technologies Inc. has settled a civil suit with the Sonoma County District Attorney's Office in connection with a hazardous materials explosion that seriously injured an Agilent employee in 2011. District Attorney Jill Ravitch said Agilent Technologies failed to report two workplace explosions on Sept. 23 and Nov. 8, 2010 that were similar to the incident at its facility in Santa Rosa on April 26, 2011. Patrick Colbus, 48, of Santa Rosa, was severely injured in an explosion while cleaning a molecular beam epitaxy machine that coats integrated circuits with a crystalline film, the company said at the time of the explosion. The first-floor lab was evacuated after the explosion, which involved red and white phosphorous, and 20 employees who complained of scratchy throats agreed to undergo a decontamination procedure. The Santa Rosa Fire Department referred the case to the District Attorney's Office in September 2012 for investigation of possible hazardous materials business plan violations. The investigation revealed Agilent did not comply with mandated reporting requirements under the state Health and Safety Code to inform first responders of releases or threatened releases of hazardous materials, Ravitch said. "Businesses should know that the law requires businesses to report the release or threatened release of a hazardous material that could present a danger to either employees or first responders," Ravitch said. Under the settlement of the civil suit, Agilent



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will pay an \$80,000 penalty and \$35,141.42 in emergency response and investigation costs to the Santa Rosa Fire Department, Ravitch said. Agilent also is required to change its internal policies so they are consistent with the Health and Safety Code, Ravitch said.

<http://www.ktvu.com/news/news/crime-law/agilent-technologies-settles-hazmat-violations-inj/ncN6z/>

USA, MA, UPTON, DECEMBER 20 2013. CHEMICAL SPILL AT UPTON RAILYARD

The town police and fire departments responded to the Grafton & Upton Railroad railyard facility Wednesday afternoon on a report of a hazardous material spill. The Upton Police Department Twitter account reported the spill at about 3:30 p.m. It said regulations called for the evacuation of an 150-foot radius around the spill, but no homes or businesses were within that radius. Doug Pizzi, a spokesman for the railroad, said 50 to 100 gallons of styrene were spilled in the course of work at the Maple Avenue railyard. "It's a chemical used to make plastic and Styrofoam," he said. "It was being transferred from a rail car onto a truck when the valve stuck open, spilling it onto the ground." Pizzi said the rail workers called the fire department and Clean Harbors, a hazardous material containment firm. He said that a cleanup took place shortly thereafter. "It's contained on the ground," he said. Pizzi said no danger was posed to the public. "Obviously, it's a hazardous material, and also a flammable material, but it was nowhere near an ignition source," he said, adding that he did not believe the chemical would cause lasting environmental harm.

<http://www.milforddailynews.com/newsnow/x348817291/Chemical-spill-at-Upton-railyard>

USA, N.M, ALBUQUERQUE, DECEMBER 20 2013. KIRTLAND FUEL SPILL SHOULD BE TOP PRIORITY, REP. LUJAN GRISHAM SAYS



Lujan Grisham: Spill threatens job growth.

Rep. Michelle Lujan Grisham said Wednesday that addressing the Kirtland Air Force Base jet fuel spill should be the New Mexico congressional delegation's "No. 1 priority." Responding to business leaders at the Albuquerque Economic Forum, Lujan Grisham said improved independent oversight of the Air Force's cleanup effort is needed. That could help show the decades-old plume of jet fuel leaked beneath Kirtland is being properly handled, she said. "I'm now thinking that it needs to be the No. 1 priority of the delegation," Lujan Grisham said. "We talk about jobs, jobs, jobs. We're not going to have any jobs in New Mexico if New Mexico's not a safe place and we don't have a protected ... safe drinking water system." The spill was discovered in 1999, when Kirtland officials found that an underground jet fuel pipeline had been leaking for decades and had potentially lost millions of gallons. Test wells have shown that groundwater contamination beneath Kirtland has spread to surrounding areas and is approaching public drinking water supplies. Currently, the Air Force cleanup plan is regulated by the New Mexico Environment Department. Also weighing in on the cleanup is the

Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority and a Kirtland-sponsored citizens advisory board. "They're doing their work in a vacuum, and it's not clear to us whether that work is sufficient to protect us," the first-term congresswoman said. New Mexico Environment Department spokesman Jim Winchester said the state agency has made an effort to communicate progress on the cleanup effort with members of Congress but welcomes increased interest in the issue. "NMED greatly appreciates any effort and support by the congressional delegation to make the cleanup one of their priorities," Winchester said in a prepared statement. "The Kirtland spill cleanup is the top priority of the New Mexico Environment Department." Lujan Grisham said the Air Force has been responsive to her requests for information on the issue, but residents have expressed reasonable skepticism about data coming from the established oversight system. An Air Force spokesman at Kirtland did not respond to a request for comment Wednesday. To address those concerns, Lujan Grisham on Wednesday proposed a new independent and "substantive" citizens group that would have more say in the work being done to protect the city's drinking water supplies. New Mexico needs "to get this resolved in a way that people have confidence in the process, because if we do it together then you don't get this group (saying), 'Kirtland is perfect,' and the environmentalists saying, 'Kirtland's not telling us the truth,' and people in the middle who aren't sure," she said. But Lujan Grisham said the cleanup project shouldn't become a federal Superfund site, because that approach would take oversight out of the hands of local authorities. Jennifer Talhelm, spokeswoman for Sen. Tom Udall, D-N.M., said the senator agrees the issue should be a focus, noting that Udall played a key role in getting the Air Force to commit to the agreed cleanup plan. "He'll continue to push to keep the Air Force accountable," Talhelm said.

<http://www.abqjournal.com/322938/news/lawmaker-fuel-spill-top-priority.html>



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USA, ALA, MOBILE, DECEMBER 20 2013. WOULD OIL SPILL EQUAL MOBILE EVACUATION? JUDGE, PLAINS SOUTHCAP CHALLENGE MAWSS EXPERT'S ANALYSIS

michael dumas

The consequences of an oil spill near the city's sole source of drinking water was the substance of testimony on Thursday during the fourth day of a condemnation trial between the Mobile Area Water and Sewer System and [Plains Southcap](#) oil pipeline company. After attorneys for the company rested around lunchtime, their MAWSS counterparts called Dr. Andrew Whelton, an independent consultant who teaches at the University of South Alabama and produced a report on such a worst-case scenario. His report, produced in October, stated a "crude oil spill in the Big Creek Lake watershed could have catastrophic consequences" for MAWSS. Whelton elaborated on that while on the stand, and stated that the system has no backup plan for the contamination of the water supply, or readily accessible secondary source of water should Big Creek Lake be compromised by oil. Such a "catastrophe," he said, could even result in an evacuation of some of the populace due to a lack of drinkable water available to them. Circuit Court Judge Robert Smith took exception with that fact, and openly challenged the witness, referring to testimony [given on Wednesday](#) by MAWSS Assistant Director Les Brown that could be contradictory. "I'm concerned with your statement, doctor," Smith said. "I find that to be extraordinary." The judge also referred to Whelton's representation as "not credible." Brown's lengthy testimony on day three of the trial identified a possible solution through a different water intake located near the north Mobile County town of Bucks. That facility, located on the Mobile River, is used to supply "raw water" to industrial companies, Brown said, and is not permitted for supplying water to Big Creek Lake. And although it might be possible, in the event of an emergency, to push 25 million gallons to a reservoir near the lake, it was never tested for such, he said. Whelton went one further and pointed out that the water of the Mobile River isn't viable to be filtered through the current MAWSS systems due to the difference in possible pollutants in river water, as opposed to Big Creek Lake water, which he referred to as being "like a puddle." Don Beebe, lead attorney for MAWSS, said the idea of a backup plan involving secondary water sources was moot in the event of an oil spill compromising the lake and the water system's equipment, as any oil in the system would require it to be shut down. "If oil is brought through the intake station and damages our equipment, we couldn't treat anything," Beebe said. However, even if there was no damage to MAWSS' equipment, using the treated river water would only theoretically produce 25-million gallons of usable drinking water, which is far less than the 36 to 60-million gallons demanded on a daily basis, according to Brown's testimony. "Even if that was allowed, it could not meet the demand that MAWSS' customers need," he said. Plains Southcap attorney Patrick Sims spent the better part of an hour trying to discredit Whelton's report, challenging the professor, who holds a doctorate in civil engineering, on the basis of his findings. Referring to some of Whelton's research, Sims asked him if a "lettered reader" of websites like Google Scholar could do just as well at pulling information as the professor had. "I totally disagree," Whelton said. Testimony will continue on Friday as MAWSS will call Dr. Gabriel Retana, a hydrodynamics modeler who is expected to speak about what oil could do if introduced into the watershed via Hamilton Creek, where the proposed pipeline will cross the watershed. Retana won't be the first modeler to take the stand, however. On Wednesday, Heidi Tillquist, a consultant with the engineering firm Stantec, testified to her analysis that the likelihood of a spill in the watershed was once in several-thousand years. Although both sides will likely give their closing statements on Friday, Judge Smith will not make a ruling until next week, according to attorneys on both sides. The judge has said, repeatedly, that he expects the case to be appealed to the Alabama Supreme Court, regardless of how he rules.

http://blog.al.com/live/2013/12/would_oil_spill_equal_mobile_e.html

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO, LE BRAE, DECEMBER 20 2013. FISHERMEN SUFFER LOSSES AS...PETROTRIN OIL SPILL SPREADS TO LA BREA



reshma ragoonath

The shoreline of Station Beach in La Brea is blanketed with oil after a spill that occurred in Point-a-Pierre on Monday, spread to other areas yesterday.

Hundreds of La Brea residents were in some discomfort last night because of toxic fumes emanating from an oil spill which Petrotrin claimed to have contained the day before. And residents are demanding answers from the state-run oil giant. A Petrotrin official last evening confirmed that based on reports they had received yesterday, a spill which they initially discovered in Pointe-a-Pierre on Tuesday, and claimed to have contained there, may have affected the Point Fortin and La Brea communities because of the movement of the tide. But



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this has offered little solace for irate resident Ashwain Modeste, who lives near Queen's Beach, also known as the "D Coffee," in La Brea, where the oil spill was most evident yesterday. He expressed horror upon seeing the thick oil sludge that lined the shoreline. "They (Petrotrin) say they have everything contained...look at that," Modeste said when the Guardian visited, pointing to the thick pools of oil along the shore. Modeste said the pungent smell of crude oil, which caused a nauseous feeling, was overwhelming and would have brought discomfort for his family last night. "I do not know how we going to make out with that here tonight (last night) and there is nothing that could be done now about it. The tide high and the wind strong," he lamented. Petrotrin, in a release issued earlier in the day, had assured that "it has mobilised all available resources to manage the spill response efforts in an effective and efficient manner and the situation is under control." However, it was clear to worried fishermen in La Brea that the oil spill was far from contained. Many fishermen yesterday looked on helplessly as their boats, moored near the shore at "D Coffee," became enveloped in the oily sludge. Their fishing nets, which were tied in the water, had all been destroyed. Fisherman Wilbert Ping, 59, of Freeling Street, La Brea, said he could not believe his eyes when he saw the oil spill heading to the shore around 1 pm. "When I see it (the oil spill) all the boats were already tied up. There was nothing nobody could do. The fishermen and them leave already. We tried to call some of them, but nobody could save their boats," he lamented. He said no one could go out into the water until Petrotrin cleaned the oily sludge. Last night, Petrotrin personnel, some wearing face masks and dressed in coveralls, gathered on the shore at Queen's Beach to assess the oil damage. Crews were seen emptying bags of Carsorb Peat Moss—an absorbant used to clean up oil spills—along the shore and in the water to stop the oil from spreading further inland. Earlier yesterday, however, the Petrotrin release had stated that following oil spill clean-up efforts on Tuesday, personnel at Petrotrin "observed from an aerial survey as well as boat surveys conducted today (yesterday), that there was no sheen or oil along the shoreline spanning Claxton Bay, San Fernando, Mosquito Creek and Otaheite." The release said: "Response efforts have been co-ordinated in collaboration with personnel from the Ministry of Energy and Energy Affairs and the Environmental Management Agency." But the environmental impact of the oil spill was clear yesterday, as crabs scurrying out of their holes to get their nightly meal last night were trapped in the sludge that lined the shore. Apart from the oily sheen on the water, oil was seen on the sand and the debris that washed ashore. Oil was also seen on the shoreline at Station Bay, which is almost a mile away from Queen's Bay. Andre Kirton, 50, who resides near Station Beach, said when he went for his evening run he was stunned to see the oil on the sand and the murky brown hue of the sea water. "We need to get someone to come in and clean up the beach. I was shocked to see the condition the beach was in because when I take my morning run today (yesterday), the beach was nice and clean and the air was not smelling like this," he said.

<http://guardian.co.tt/news/2013-12-19/petrotrin-oil-spill-spreads-la-brea>

USA, CA, OAKLAND, S DECEMBER 20 2013. GAS PUMP IGNITES INTO FIREBALL AFTER OAKLAND CRASH

 **Watch the Video** [Gas Pump Ignites into Fireball](#)



A fireball erupts after a car crashed into a gas pump at a station in Oakland.

A driver was arrested after a vehicle crash ignited a two-alarm blaze at a gas station in East Oakland Thursday morning, according to a fire dispatcher. At about 2:20 a.m., emergency medical crews and firefighters responded to a vehicle crash at a 76 gas station located at the intersection of 98th and Edes avenues, a fire dispatcher said. The fireball was caught on tape. Firefighters were able to contain the two-alarm fire at the gas station and remained at the scene Thursday morning, according to a fire dispatcher. The driver was arrested on suspicion of DUI, and the collision remained under investigation.

<http://sanfrancisco.cbslocal.com/2013/12/19/gas-pump-fireball-caught-on-tape-after-oakland-crash/>

AUSTRALIA, NORTHERN TERRITORY, DARWIN, DECEMBER 20 2013. SMOKING AND PETROL NOT A GREAT COMBO

A man has been hospitalised with burns and charged after allegedly breaking into a shed and handling a large container of petrol - while smoking a cigarette. Detective Senior Sergeant Mark Stringer said the incident occurred at Wilmont Street, in the Darwin suburb The Narrows, around 3pm on Wednesday. "The alleged offender broke into a large shed and located a container of petrol. He was smoking a cigarette at the time which has caused the petrol to ignite. The 19-year-old man received burns and is in a stable condition at Royal Darwin Hospital. "The shed was completely destroyed and the roof of an



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

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adjoining granny flat was also burnt," Snr Sgt Stringer said. "The damage bill is expected to be between \$50,000 and \$100,000. "The 19-year-old has been charged with arson, aggravated unlawful entry, stealing and damage property." He has been bailed to appear in Darwin Magistrates Court on 15 January, 2014.

<http://www.heraldsun.com.au/news/smoking-and-petrol-not-a-great-combo/story-fnk1w5y0-1226787334624>

USA, IA, CLAY CO, DECEMBER 20 2013. TANKER ROLLS IN SOUTHERN CLAY COUNTY

Damage to the vehicle estimated at \$100,000.



Clay County Sheriff's Office cited speed and road conditions in an accident involving a tanker truck in southern Clay County Monday morning. A tanker truck, owned by First Cooperative Association in Cherokee, rolled near the turn at Clay County Road B-53 and 270th Avenue at 10:15 a.m. Monday. Gary Meseck, 59, of Sioux Rapids, was eastbound in the 2010 International truck and fuel tanker on B-53, entering the curve at 270th Avenue, when the right side tires dropped off the shoulder of the road. The vehicle lost control and entered the west ditch, rolling onto its top. The road was closed until 4 p.m. when the tanker was removed from the ditch by a crane and tow truck. The Clay County Sheriff's Office suggested speed and road conditions contributed to the accident.

Damage to the truck and tank was estimated at \$100,000. Meseck was cited for failure to maintain control of the vehicle. The sheriff's office was assisted at the scene by Dickens and Webb fire departments, Spencer Ambulance and the Iowa Department of Natural Resources.

<http://www.spencerdailyreporter.com/story/2034481.html>

USA, N.H, MANCHESTER, DECEMBER 20 2013. JACKKNIFED PROPANE TANKER CLOSES I-293 TO TRAFFIC FOR HOURS IN AFTERMATH

paul feely & pat grossmith



A propane tanker jackknifed and slid off Interstate 293 north Wednesday morning, shutting down the highway for the rest of the day while crews unloaded the tank and removed the damaged truck. The entire highway reopened just after 8 p.m.

A tanker transporting 9,000 gallons of propane overturned on Interstate 293 North early Wednesday morning, forcing the closure of both sides of the busy highway for almost five hours and the evacuation of buildings near the accident scene. Crews from 15 state and local agencies were involved in getting the tanker back on its wheels and removing the propane. "This was a very complicated process, involving many different agencies and departments," said

District Fire Chief Michael Gamache. "But the vehicle was uprighted, the propane transferred, no injuries were reported and residents are back home." The tanker tipped over and became stuck in a snow bank just before 6 a.m. Wednesday north of Exit 7 near the Amoskeag traffic circle, city Police Lt. Maureen Tessier said. State police said the driver of the truck lost control, hit a passenger vehicle and jackknifed. Gamache said he was unaware of any injuries. Initially, one southbound lane of travel was shut down as workers prepared to remove the propane from the truck. Bill Boynton, public information officer for the state Department of Transportation, said the stretch of highway from Exit 7, after the Amoskeag traffic circle, to the split with Interstate 93 was closed at 11:30 a.m. Southbound lanes of I-293 were opened to traffic just before 5 p.m. Wednesday, while the left lane on the northbound side between exits 6 and 7 opened around 6:30 p.m., though the right lane remained closed. While the tanker was intact and no leaks were detected, fire officials requested an emergency evacuation of the nearby Stonyview Way Condominium complex at 1760 Front Street, as well as two homes north of the accident scene, due to the explosive nature of the cargo. "The evacuation was ordered as a precautionary measure as officials assessed the situation to determine the best course of action in removing the disabled tanker safely from the area," Tessier said. Gamache said fire officials found that a wider evacuation of buildings within a half mile radius of the accident wasn't necessary. The William B. Cashin Senior Activity Center at 151 Douglas Street in Manchester was designated as a shelter, though at 2 p.m. Wednesday a receptionist at the front counter of the center said they had not seen any evacuees arrive, and had received a call from fire officials telling them not to expect anyone the rest of the day. "We determined around mid-afternoon it was safe to let the



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residents back into their homes," said Gamache. "The danger wasn't completely gone, or we would have opened the highway, but the situation was under control enough to allow them to return." The propane tanker was righted using wrecker cranes, and placed on a flatbed truck. Officials then began the process of draining the propane gas, which lasted a little over two hours. Message boards along the state's highways were used to alert motorists to closures and detours. Route 3A was closed during the operation due to its proximity to the crash. Front Street remained open to traffic. A second accident involving an overturned propane truck happened about 1 p.m. Wednesday in Bow. No injuries were reported, but the truck brought down live electrical wires on White Rock Hill Road. The cause of the rollover had yet to be determined as of Wednesday evening, but police said slippery road conditions were likely a factor.

<http://www.unionleader.com/article/20131219/NEWS07/131219138>

AUSTRALIA, NORTHERN TERRITORY, KAKADU, DECEMBER 20 2013. WORKER 'NOT INJURED' AFTER SLIPPING ON TOXIC SPILL

michael coggan

Map: [NT](#)



This picture shows the tank which split at ERA's Ranger Uranium Mine near Kakadu on Saturday, December 7, 2013.

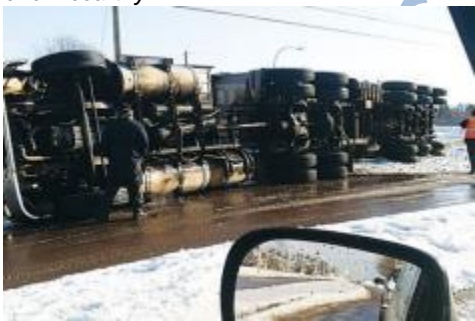
The operator of the Northern Territory's Ranger uranium mine says a worker who slipped over on a toxic spill last week was not injured. The Manufacturing Workers Union on Friday told the ABC that a man was given first aid treatment after falling up to his armpits into a slurry of acid and uranium. But Energy Resources of Australia chief executive Andrea Sutton denies a man fell into slurry up to his armpits. "We had an individual working that slipped over in the slurry material dropping to their hands and knees," Ms Sutton said. "The material was promptly washed off as per the site hygiene procedures and the material itself poses no serious threat to those working in the clean-up." The

union told the ABC a worker was injured on Friday and had refused to return to work. ERA says the person who slipped over did so on Tuesday, and did return to work. The company says the man who slipped over was wearing protective equipment including waist-high waders and acid-resistant gloves. The ABC has contacted the union for further comment.

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2013-12-16/mine-operator-denies-worker-fell-into-uranium-slurry-up-to-arp/5159642>

CANADA, P.E.I., O'LEARY, DECEMBER 21 2013. EMERGENCY SITUATION CLOSES ROUNDABOUT >> AMMONIA NITRATE INVOLVED

eric mccarthy



A transport truck carrying ammonia nitrate overturned late Thursday morning, close to the roundabout near O'Leary. Emergency crews are at the scene and have evacuated an area of about 500 metres from the overturned truck. This photo was captured by Darren MacLeod who passed by shortly after the accident occurred.

The O'Leary Corner roundabout was closed to traffic in all directions for over seven hours Thursday, and a nearby Tim Hortons restaurant evacuated, after a transport truck and trailer carrying pelletized ammonium nitrate overturned as it exited the circle. Emergency crews proceeded cautiously with the situation, making sure none of the ammonium nitrate, a chemical destined for the McCain's Fertilizer plant in Bloomfield, mixed with the truck's diesel fuel. Those

two substances, when mixed, can cause an explosion if exposed to a spark, explained provincial fire marshal, Dave Rossiter. Rossiter is head of the provincial Hazardous Materials (Hazmat) team that responded to the emergency situation. Some fuel had leaked, but Rossiter said the O'Leary Volunteer Fire Department ensured there was no mixing. The department kept hose lines charged, ready in case there were any fires or sparks to extinguish. Fire chief Blair Perry said no water had to be sprayed. Maritime Electric shut down power in the area for a short period as a precaution. Departments of Highways and Environment as well as the RCMP and Island EMS were on scene. The truck and trailer were carrying between 30 and 32 tonnes of chemical which had to be emptied before they could be up-



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righted. They were hauled from the scene around 6 p.m. but equipment was still on scene collecting the chemical. Rossiter said a private environmental company from Charlottetown was called in to drain the diesel fuel before the pin was pulled to separate the truck from its trailer. Throughout the operation traffic was diverted away from the O'Leary Corner, sending highway traffic onto routes 12 at Cascumpec and Route 14 at Coleman or onto the Howlan and Mill Roads. Two vehicles travelling the ice-covered Howlan Road slid off that road around 3:30 p.m., resulting in some emergency personnel being temporarily redeployed there.

<http://www.journalpioneer.com/News/Local/2013-12-19/article-3550395/Emergency-situation-closes-roundabout/1>

USA, CT, DANBURY, DECEMBER 21 2013. DANBURY GAS PUMP EXPLOSION LEAVES MAN CRITICAL

denis j. o'malley

 **Watch the Video Man Caught on Fire at Gas Station**



A Danbury man was in critical condition Friday after an explosion at Wheels gas station on Tamarack Avenue.

Heading in for an early shift at his security job at [Danbury Hospital](#) on Friday, [Jerry Valdez](#) decided to pick up a cup of coffee at Dunkin' Donuts before filling his gas tank. Cup of coffee in his cup holder, Valdez waited for a green light to pull into the Wheels/Friendly Citgo station at 27 Tamarack Ave. Then he noticed an abrupt orange glow in the corner of his eye. "All I saw was the orange fireball," he said Friday afternoon, pointing toward the gas station's second bay. An unidentified 60-year-old man from Danbury suffered extensive burns "over most of his body" when an explosion occurred around 6:20 a.m. as he pumped gas into his vehicle, Danbury Police Lt. [Christian Carroccio](#) said in a statement. The victim was taken to Danbury Hospital and later to the [Connecticut Burn Center](#) at [Bridgeport Hospital](#). A Bridgeport Hospital spokesman said the victim

was listed in critical condition Friday afternoon. Hours after the incident, a pair of yellow plastic "Out of Service" bags covered the two pumps in the station's second bay, its sheet metal and concrete curb stained black. Details on the cause of the explosion were not available Friday. An employee and management at the station declined to comment. No additional information was available Friday night. Efforts to reach Danbury's fire marshal Friday were not successful. Valdez described a terrifying scene. Smoke and flames rolled out of the pump, while staff members rushed toward it with fire extinguishers, he said. "I saw people running like in a movie," he said. He pulled across the street and into the station, but seeing the flames extinguished quickly, he pulled away. He glanced in his rearview mirror as he headed to work. "When I left the gas station, I looked back and saw a person on the ground," he said. "He was on fire." Anyone who witnessed the incident should call the [Danbury Police Detective Bureau](#) at 203-797-4662.

<http://www.stamfordadvocate.com/local/article/Danbury-gas-pump-explosion-leaves-man-critical-5082482.php>

PAKISTAN, HYDERABAD, SANGHAR, DECEMBER 21 2013. HAZARDOUS EXPLOSION: CNG CYLINDER BLAST IN VAN INJURES 12 PEOPLE



The explosion occurred under the rear side seats.

An explosion in the CNG cylinder of a passenger van left over a dozen people injured, including eight with serious burns wounds, in Sanghar on Thursday. The incident took place around 15 kilometres off Khipro tehsil near Samaro Shaakh on the road which connects Mirpurkhas with Sanghar district. Twelve injured persons, including a woman, were shifted to the Mirpurkhas Civil Hospital from where six critically injured persons were referred to Hyderabad. Javed Arain, 50, Saifal Machi, 50, Jagu Kohli, 40, Abdul Rheman Sangrasi, 40, Rafique Hingoro, 45, and Hashim Jat, 45, were admitted in the Burns Ward in Hyderabad Civil Hospital. According to Rafique Rajar, one of the injured at the Mirpurkhas hospital, the explosion occurred under the rear side seats. "We would have all died in the fire if the windows of the van were not open." He said that many passengers, including him, jumped out of the open windows. Regional Transport

Authority's (RTA) Mirpurkhas secretary, Pervez Hassan Qureshi, said that the van did not get a permit from the RTA for



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Mirpurkhas-Khipro route. Based on the initial investigation, he believes that the explosion occurred due to short circuit in wiring. The van was equipped with three cylinders placed under the passenger seats, which is illegal according to the law. A public transport vehicle, fueled by CNG, has to obtain a fitness certificate from the Hydro Carbon Institute of Pakistan. The van's conversion to CNG was also illegal, said the RTA official. According to Mirpurkhas SSP Zafarullah Dharejo, the van driver Shero Langhani and his unidentified helper escaped from the site of the explosion. The vehicle, however, was impounded by the Sanghar police.

<http://tribune.com.pk/story/647928/hazardous-explosion-cng-cylinder-blast-in-van-injures-12-people/>

USA, IN, LAKE STATION, DECEMBER 20 2013. INDIANA TOLL ROAD REOPENED AFTER TANKER TRUCK ROLLOVER

Photo's [9] [Tanker truck rollover closes eastbound Indiana Toll Road](#)



All eastbound lanes of the Indiana Toll Road are closed after a tanker truck rolled over in northwest Indiana.

The eastbound lanes of the Indiana Toll Road have been reopened after a tanker truck rolled over in northwest Indiana. The accident happened around 10:30 a.m. in the eastbound lanes of the Toll Road (I-90) near the Lake Station exit. All eastbound lanes have been closed at Milepost 21, and traffic is being diverted to the Lake Station exit (I-80/94, Route 51), a statement from the Toll Road said. The lanes will be closed for an estimated two hours, the statement said.

<http://abclocal.go.com/wls/story?section=news/local/indiana&id=9366121>

USA, OK, SAPULPA, DECEMBER 21 2013. CREWS CONTAIN FIRE, CHEMICALS

angene gibbs

Watch the Video's:

- [Chemical Spill Forces Sapulpa Businesses, Residents to Evacuate](#)
- [Chemical Spill Forces Evacuations in Sapulpa](#)
- [Chemical Spill, Fire at Tulsa County's Sulzer Chemtech Forces Evacuation of Nearby Businesses](#)

Thursday night area emergency crews responded to a fire call at a manufacturing plant warehouse near the Town West area. After crews contained the blaze, they spent hours containing the water run-off and dealing with potential hazardous situations with the remaining chemicals. "We knew the building contained chemicals, including a nitric acid mixture" said Sapulpa Fire Chief David Taylor. At 7:06 p.m. workers at Sulzer Chemtech activated an alarm at a warehouse. Sapulpa Fire Department crews arrived on the scene and deployed a hazardous materials plan. In addition to the Sapulpa Hazmat team, the Tulsa Fire Department sent a hazmat team. Fire crews said the building on fire had smoke pouring out. It was also right next to a larger building on the complex. Nitric acid is a chemical compound which is described as colorless, highly corrosive, poisonous liquid that gives off choking red or yellow fumes in moist air. It is usually stored in water solutions. Witnesses said they saw a plume and could smell some chemicals during the event. Emergency responders evacuated area businesses within a half mile radius. Portions of the Turner Turnpike were closed for a while. "We knew it was a defensive operation," Taylor said. "We did not want the runoff to get in the storm sewer system and the creek system." City of Sapulpa crews brought in fill dirt and worked with fire crews in building a dam system to contain the water used to fight the fire. Taylor said they were also able to dam up a nearby creek to contain the run-off. Crews from Sooner Environmental pumped the contained water into trucks for removal and disposal. Taylor said litmus tests showed the water collected on the hard surfaces showed at pH 4. The water collected in the creek showed a pH5. A pH of 7 is considered neutral. A pH showing 0-1 is considered highly acidic. Crews completed their containment and the initial clean up around midnight. Taylor said the cause of the fire is still under investigation. Taylor thanked all who responded to the incident. The Sapulpa Police Department activate their reserve units and helped to direct traffic and to secure the scene. Sapulpa Fire Department took the lead in incident command. Creek County Ambulance crews were on stand by, and the Tulsa Fire Department Hazmat team worked side by side with the Sapulpa Fire Department. The Tulsa Police Department, the Oklahoma Highway Patrol and the Oklahoma Red Cross were also on stand-by. "Everything went really well," Taylor said. Sulzer relocated into their facility near New Sapulpa Road and



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65th Street in 2009. Sapulpa Economic Development Director Ted Fisher said the company makes products for the petroleum industry at the site.

<http://www.sapulpaheraldonline.com/articles/2013/12/21/news/doc52b49cd96c33e399897400.txt>

USA, FLA, OKALOOSA CO, DECEMBER 21 2013. TANKER OVERTURNS ON I-10 IN OKALOOSA COUNTY

 **Watch the Video** [Tanker Overturns in Okaloosa County](#)



The Florida Highway Patrol is on the scene of an accident involving a semi-truck on Interstate 10 in Okaloosa County. The truck was traveling west on I 10 near Crestview around 5:30 this morning. Somehow the driver lost control and the truck flipped over. The wreckage blocked one of the westbound lanes. One person was taken to the hospital for treatment. No word if it was the driver of the semi. We will bring you more information as it becomes available.

<http://www.wear.tv/news/features/top-stories/stories/tanker-overturns-i10-okaloosa-county-39569.shtml>

USA, MA, CUMMINGTON, DECEMBER 21 2013. DRIVER KILLED IN CRASH WITH TANKER TRUCK ON ROUTE 9 IN CUMMINGTON

patrick johnson

A driver was killed in a collision with a fuel tanker truck on Route 9 Friday afternoon, officials said. The accident, reported just before 3 p.m., closed down Route 9 in both directions while officials cleared the scene. The road remains closed, said Mary Carey, spokeswoman for Northwestern District Attorney David E. Sullivan. Carey said the driver of an SUV heading west on Route 9 crossed over the center line and crashed head-on into a fuel tanker truck. The name of the driver is not being released until police notify his family. The driver of the tanker truck was not injured, Carey said. Carey said none of the fuel in the tanker spilled as a result of the accident. Cummington Police, Massachusetts State Police assigned to the Northwestern District Attorney's office and the state police Collision Analysis and Reconstruction Section are investigating the accident.

http://www.masslive.com/news/index.ssf/2013/12/driver_killed_in_crash_with_tanker_on_route_9_cummington.html

USA, S.C, MOUNT PLEASANT, DECEMBER 21 2013. LOCAL SHRIMPER NOT SURE IF THE COAST GUARD WILL TAKE HIS BOAT >> COAST GUARD HIRES COMPANY TO REMOVE FUEL

ava wilhite

 **Watch the Video** [Red Tape Stops Salvage Effort](#)



Rocky Magwood says he has to wade through federal red tape before he can get back on his boat and work to salvage it. Coast Guard officers are still roaming around the Lady Eva. The boat which is docked at the Wando Seafood Company on Shem Creek started sinking early Wednesday morning. "Financially, I can't do anything to the boat; I'm at a loss with anything. I was just trying to get bills paid and hang in there and hope that things were going to change," said Magwood. Lady Eva's captain says they were able to get the boat upright, but now it's stuck in a holding pattern. "We don't really know. The Coast Guard one minute tells me that they condemned it and they were going to take over the process and they were going to destroy it," Magwood said. But then

Magwood says recently he was told the government would give it back to him. He says it may be too late for the motors, however. "Just imagine putting salt water inside a motor that's supposed to be lubed with oil," he said, predicting the damage inside. While Magwood waits for a final say on his boat, others are organizing to make sure he'll be back on the water. "Rocky is a fourth generation fisherman. We are so much a dying breed and it means a lot to have our community come out and help each other," said Grace Edwards. "We want to support because it's part of our culture. We grew up being here in Mt. Pleasant." Magwood says there is any silver lining in this, it's that it happened near the end of the season. The Coast Guard says it removed 660 gallons of oily water, degreased the engine room and removed booming. On Sunday, Shem Creek



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Fisheries, a nonprofit, is holding a fundraiser in Mount Pleasant's Old Village at 118 Royal Avenue from 1:30 to 4 p.m. There is also a Rocky Magwood/Lady Eva Fund now set up at the Capital Bank on Johnnie Dodds Boulevard. Just show up in person and bank employees will walk you through the donation process.

<http://www.abcnews4.com/story/24276566/red-tape-stops-salvage-effort-for-lady-eva>

AUSTRALIA, NEW SOUTH WALES, NEWCASTLE, DECEMBER 21 2013. BIG BILL FOR HARBOUR DIESEL SPILL

stephen ryan



Mistake: Two hundred litres of diesel was accidentally discharged into Newcastle Harbour while the dredge Brage R was transferring fuel between tanks.

A Dutch company has been fined \$150,000 for a diesel spill in Newcastle Harbour after the crew left a fuel pump running while they went to dinner at Honeysuckle, the Land and Environment Court has heard. Two hundred litres of diesel was accidentally discharged while the Brage R was transferring fuel between tanks on the evening of May 3, 2011, the court heard. The diesel washed out to sea without any environmental damage done, although "patches of light diesel oil sheens were on the water surface in and near the Throsby Wharf and through to the Newcastle Port Corporation pilot station and Queen's

Wharf Brewery", Justice Terence Sheahan noted. The dredge, which is owned by Dutch company RN Dredging BV, was moored off Throsby Wharf when the fuel transfer was conducted. The dredge was manned by a crew of six but it did not have a cook, which meant the crew left the vessel for dinner on the night of May 3, leaving two contractors on board who were installing equipment. The crew forgot about the fuel transfer until one of them noticed the diesel spilling into the water upon their return from dinner. The pump was eventually shut off. RN Dredging BV spent \$17,000 cleaning up the spill. It was prosecuted by the Newcastle Port Corporation and was fined \$150,000 and ordered to pay the corporation's costs. The corporation also successfully prosecuted the German owners of a coal ship who were ordered last week to pay a \$1.2 million fine after the MV Magdalene discharged 72,000 litres of oil in the harbour in 2010. The clean-up bill for that spill topped \$1.7 million and was also met by the owners of the ship.

<http://www.theherald.com.au/story/1986544/big-bill-for-harbour-diesel-spill/?cs=305>

ENGLAND, WALES, RHONDDA CYNON TAF, DECEMBER 21 2013. FIREFIGHTERS STILL AT SCENE OF ABERDARE TANKER CRASH



The back wheels of the 18-tonne tanker hit the service bridge

The lorry, carrying 3,519 gallons (16,000 litres) of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG), hit the bridge near Werfa, Aberdare, at 09:20 GMT on Friday. A specialist urban search and rescue team from South Wales Fire and Rescue Service has been shoring up the bridge. No one was injured but two homes near the scene were evacuated. A crane has been brought in but crews have found it difficult to transfer the liquid gas to another tanker because of access along the narrow road. The back wheels of the 18-tonne tanker hit the service bridge and caused a small amount of damage. The incident happened near Nant Gwyn House. Icy conditions sparked a spate of road crashes early on

Friday across south Wales. The A470 was closed near Merthyr Tydfil after a collision between a car and a lorry, and South Wales Fire and Rescue Service said ice was causing problems in other areas. There was also a five-vehicle crash which closed the westbound A465 near Hirwaun. Fire crews were also called to another two-vehicle crash at Robertstown, Aberdare, because of black ice.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-south-east-wales-25464085>

NEW ZEALAND, MARLBOROUGH, DECEMBER 21 2013. MYSTERY SLICK GONE

penny wardle

A diesel slick covering part of Queen Charlotte Sound has evaporated, says the Marlborough harbourmaster. The spill stretched from Waikawa Bay to Allports Island and was reported by Strait Shipping ferry staff on Tuesday. Other people boating in Queen Charlotte Sound spotted the oil spill sitting on the water's surface. Harbourmaster Alex Van Wijngaarden



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said he did not know the source of the slick. However, that was often the case because a little bit of diesel could spread a long way on the surface of the sea, he said. "If you put a cup of diesel in an Olympic-sized swimming pool it would cover it," he said. Someone pumping a bilge, for example, could be unaware that the water contained fuel. Boats driving through the spill helped dispersal, he said. No action was needed and the spill had evaporated in a few hours. Asked whether the 16-metre yacht, Aqualuna, which burned and sunk at the Bay of Many Coves in Queen Charlotte Sound could have been the source of the slick, he said this was too far away.

<http://www.stuff.co.nz/marlborough-express/news/9538754/Mystery-slick-gone>

USA, R.I., EAST PROVIDENCE, DECEMBER 21 2013. EAST PROVIDENCE FIREFIGHTERS RESPOND TO 2 ALMOST SIMULTANEOUS, UNRELATED FUEL LEAKS

donita naylor



East Providence firefighters and officials from Clean Harbors were at the Aspen Aerogels plant at 3 Dexter Road in East Providence Thursday, investigating an ethanol spill.

Two incidents involving fuel leaks occurred almost simultaneously Thursday morning, a fire official said. A tanker truck being filled from a tank farm at Aspen Aerogels, 3 Dexter Rd., overflowed at about 10:30 a.m., bringing out the fire department and Clean Harbors, which contained the spill of about 4,000 gallons of ethanol before it reached the Seekonk River, Fire Lt. James Bellamy said. "We stood by as a precaution" with a foam truck, while Clean Harbors mopped up the spill, Bellamy said. Ethanol is more volatile than gasoline, he said, but the cold "temperature was in our favor." The Department of Environmental Management and the Coast Guard also stood by, he said. While firefighters

were at Aspen Aerogels, which makes high-tech insulation, a vehicle knocked over a fuel pump at the U-Haul location at 740 N. Broadway. The resulting fuel leak was quickly stopped, Bellamy said.

<http://www.providencejournal.com/breaking-news/content/20131219-east-providence-firefighters-respond-to-2-almost-simultaneous-unrelated-fuel-leaks.ece>

CHINA, SHANGHAI, DECEMBER 22 2013. TOXIC DELIVERY KILLS WORKER, INJURES SEVEN

methyl fluoroacetate apparently leaked on to the other parcels



A man was killed and seven others were injured in China after receiving parcels from a delivery company that had become contaminated with toxic chemicals, it was reported Saturday. The unnamed man, from China's eastern Shandong province, died after taking delivery of a box of shoes in late November which were tainted with methyl fluoroacetate, a highly toxic chemical, the Xinhua news agency reported citing the local post bureau. The bureau said four parcels delivered by Shanghai YTO Express, a private delivery company, were found to be contaminated by the chemicals, sickening five delivery workers and two recipients. The report did not state the condition of the injured. Xinhua said YTO had apologised for the accident and quoted a spokesman saying that the contamination occurred after a package containing the toxic chemical leaked

during transport. The company said the package was sent by a chemical plant in central China's Hubei province who claimed it was "innocuous". The spokesman was quoted as saying the delivery company staff had performed routine checks "according to company rules" and that it would cooperate with an ongoing police investigation. Chinese citizens are often angered by their country's poor safety record amid regular industrial accidents, health scares and contaminations. Chinese parents became particularly distrustful of domestic milk brands after a huge 2008 scandal involving formula tainted with melamine that killed six children and sickened 300,000 others. Their concern triggered a rush on milk powder, which saw shelves emptied around the world -- Hong Kong banned travellers taking out more than 1.8 kilogrammes of formula from March 1 this year. The safety of medicines is another key area where Chinese citizens have concerns. Recent scandals include drug capsules made from toxic raw material derived from scrap leather and the busting of a ring peddling counterfeit tablets. In 2008 a blood thinner called heparin, produced in China, was found to be contaminated and linked to dozens of deaths. Xinhua said the country's private



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delivery network was "one of China's fastest growing industries" but added experts said the sector was beset with problems like "poor service and lax supervision".

Related Stories

- [One dead, seven injured by contaminated China parcels](#)
- [Man killed by contaminated China parcels](#)
- [Toxic parcels kill one, injure seven](#)
- [China express company apologizes over "killer parcels"](#)
- [Chinese delivery company apologizes for poisoned packages](#)

<http://news.ninensn.com.au/world/2013/12/22/09/29/toxic-delivery-kills-one-worker-injures-seven>

USA, IA, DUBUQUE, DECEMBER 22 2013. POLICE: DUBUQUE MAN DOUSED GAS PUMP, LIT IT ON FIRE

Watch the Video's:

- [Dubuque Police Arrest Man for Gas Pump Fire](#)
- [Dubuque Man Doused Gas Pump, Lit it on Fire](#)



A Dubuque man allegedly doused a gas pump in fuel Wednesday night and lit it on fire, according to police. Richard Huffman, 45, faces a first-degree arson charge and is in the Dubuque County Jail on a \$50,000 cash bond. It happened around 9 p.m. Wednesday at the Oky Doky gas station on West First Street in downtown Dubuque. Nobody was injured and damage was limited to one pump, but the situation was still very dangerous. Oky Doky cashier Patty Doran learned about Wednesday night's gas pump fire as she headed into work Thursday. "Very scary," she said, recalling her reaction to the news. "We're so lucky. God was with us. You can't even imagine what could've happened." Oky Doky owner Tom Thompson said he got the call Wednesday night and rushed right over.

"Thank God nobody was hurt," Thompson said. "This is one of those things where, at the end of the day, you see a fire at a gas station, that's not a good thing, but it all worked out. Nobody got hurt." Huffman informed the cashier he wanted to fill up a gas can. When the pump was authorized, officials say, Huffman took the nozzle, started spraying the pump with gasoline and then lit it on fire. The cashier saw what was happening and immediately hit the emergency stop button, which shuts down all gasoline flow and electricity to the pumps. This single action kept a bad situation from getting much, much worse. "(The) product burned out pretty quick," Thompson said, "thanks to the fire department being here. Just stellar performance." He said police and fire officials arrived on the scene within three minutes of the incident. Firefighters put out the remaining flames. Dubuque fire chief Dan Brown said the situation was a very serious one. "Absolutely, when you have somebody that intentionally sprays gasoline on something and tries to ignite it," Brown said. "Gasoline is very volatile and can almost be to the point of explosive, so that's a very dangerous thing. It's even fortunate that that individual who lit it didn't become involved in the fire itself." Oky Doky was able to re-open five of its six gas pumps for business about an hour after the incident. "Due to the nature of the design, you're able to isolate off these dispensers so you can safely push product through on the other ones, so we're very fortunate to get back up," Thompson said, adding he hopes to get the burned pump fixed in the coming weeks. Huffman was arrested and taken to the Dubuque County Jail. Public court records show Huffman has a long history of treatment for mental illness and substance abuse. He faced another first degree arson charge in 1998, and the court found him not guilty due to his mental health condition. He then spent some 13 years in treatment facilities.

<http://www.kwwl.com/story/24267208/2013/12/19/police-dubuque-man-doused-gas-pump-lit-it-on-fire>

SOUTH KOREA, SEOUL, DECEMBER 22 2013. RUPTURED OIL PIPELINE CAUSES SMALL OIL SPILL IN HAN RIVER

A defunct pipeline near the Han ruptured early Saturday morning, causing a small oil leak in the river that flows through South Korea's capital city, fire department officials said, adding that the spill has been contained. Authorities estimated that likely 0.5 liters of oil have escaped into the water when workers from a local garbage disposal company accidentally damaged the pipe at around 4:20 a.m. while they were collecting trash at the southern end of Seongsu Bridge. The leak caused a one-kilometer-long, 10-centimeter-wide oil band to form on the river. The fire department said it has erected an "oil fence" to prevent the spill from spreading and poured 200 liters of neutralizing agents into the water. A source at the site said the oil may be kerosene. The 46-kilometer-long pipeline was originally used to transport oil from the southern part of Seoul to Uijeongbu, just to the



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north of the capital city. The control over the pipeline that had been by the United States military up till the 1970s was subsequently handed over to South Korea in 1992. It was confirmed shut as of 1993. Damage control teams said that there are no further leaks.

<http://www.globalpost.com/dispatch/news/yonhap-news-agency/131220/ruptured-oil-pipeline-causes-small-oil-spill-han-river>

USA, N.Y, WESRCHESTER CO, THORNWOOD, DECEMBER 22 2013. VETS SCRAMBLE TO RESCUE DUCKS, GEESE AFTER OIL SPILL IN THORNWOOD POND




The efforts being made to save the geese and mallards at Central Animal Hospital in Scarsdale, Dec. 20, 2103. Here a duck is being worked on.

An overnight leak from a residential heating oil tank into a pond in Thornwood left a dozen geese and ducks coated with fuel and sent wildlife rehabilitators, veterinarians and their staffs scurrying to save them. "We're rehydrating them, keeping them warm," Dr. Jason Siegelheim, of Central Animal Hospital in Scarsdale, said of the eight Canada geese and three mallards brought to his office Friday afternoon. "Once they're stabilized, we're getting them cleaned off." He said some of the birds had oil coming out of their nostrils; others appeared listless, their heads hanging low. "Some of them aren't too stable, some of them are doing well," he said. In the meantime, contractors for the Department of Environmental Conservation were knee-deep in Leith's Pond in Carroll Park, containing the spill with floating booms and using a vacuum to remove oil from the water's surface. DEC Environmental Specialist Todd Ghiosay, who was overseeing the cleanup effort at the pond, said the leak was

traced to a resident's above-ground heating-oil tank, which had corroded. He said about 100 gallons of fuel spilled from the tank as Thursday turned into Friday and seeped into a storm drain. From there, it flowed into the pond. The pond's surface, partially covered with ice, was stained with the oil's rainbow sheen. The air smelled strongly of fuel. The homeowners, through their insurance, will be liable for the cleanup, Ghiosay and Mount Pleasant Supervisor Joan Maybury said. Wildlife rehabilitator Loraine Izzo, who helped rescue the birds, said more ducks and geese would likely find their way into the oily mess as the cleanup continues. "It makes me feel angry that there aren't more precautions in place to stop something like this," she said.

<http://www.lohud.com/article/20131220/NEWS/312200080/Vets-scramble-rescue-ducks-geese-after-oil-spill-Thornwood-pond?odyssey=mod%7Cnewswell%7Ctext%7CFrontpage%7Cs>

USA, LA, WESTLAKE, DECEMBER 22 2013. I-10 IN LAKE CHARLES OPEN AFTER PLANT FIRE >> FIRE AT A FURNACE WHICH HOLDS VINYL CHLORIDE AND HYDROCHLORIC ACID

 **Watch the Video's:**

- [Axiall fire](#)



I-10 has reopened following a fire at the Axiall refinery west of Lake Charles. The fire has also been extinguished and sources tell WBRZ News 2 some plant workers are headed back into the facility. At about 1:30 Friday afternoon, an incident forced evacuations and a shelter in place. Company spokesperson Patricia Prebula said there was a fire at a furnace which holds vinyl chloride and hydrochloric acid. "We know of no offsite impact at this point," Prebula told the Lake Charles newspaper, [the American Press](#). But, shelters in place were issued for communities surrounding the plant. The situation developed a day after Axiall joined the state in announcing the state was potentially going to be home to a new, \$3 billion world-scale ethane cracker. The project would be built in conjunction with a related ethylene derivatives plant. But, a specific location was not released. In addition to Westlake, Axiall also has an operation in Plaquemine. A design would be drafted next year and, if the company's board of directors approves the project, commercial operations could begin by 2018.

Friday's fire is under investigation.

<http://www.wbrz.com/news/i-10-in-lake-charles-open-after-plant-fire/>



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TRINIDAD & TOBAGO, PORT-OF-SPAIN, DECEMBER 22 2013. TRINIDAD'S STATE-OWNED OIL COMPANY PROBES OIL SPILLS NEAR VENEZUELA

Trinidad's state-run oil company is investigating several oil spills that occurred near Venezuela's east coast and have sickened several people. Petrotrin officials evacuated coastal residents late Friday as crews work to clean up the spills that affected impoverished fishing communities in Trinidad. The oil's smell has caused several people in the communities to feel sick, and they have been treated at clinics and released. Trinidad's Environmental Management Authority said one spill was reported late Wednesday and officials observed roughly one mile (two kilometres) of thick, black oil along the shore at the time. Authorities have not said how many total gallons (litres) of oil have been spilled. Petrotrin said leaks in various pipelines apparently caused most of the spills. The majority of them have been contained.

<http://www.calgaryherald.com/news/world/Trinidad+stateowned+company+probes+spills+near+Venezuela/9314645/story.html>

TRINIDAD, PORT-OF-SPAIN, DECEMBER 23 2013. TRINIDAD BOOSTS SECURITY AROUND FUEL INSTALLATIONS AMID STRING OF OIL SPILLS

Trinidad & Tobago is boosting security around fuel installations amid a string of oil spills in a southwestern area of the energy-rich southern Caribbean nation. Gasket and pipeline leaks appear to have caused most of the problems, but Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar has told reporters that acts of sabotage are a possibility. Energy Minister Kevin Ramnarine says security is being boosted around marine installations. State-owned fuel company Petrotrin says there have been five separate spills in four days. It's not clear how many gallons (litres) of oil have leaked. Crews on Sunday were trying to clean up the spills around hard-hit La Brea and three other coastal towns in Trinidad's southwest. Petrotrin says dispersants and containment material have been spread around the fouled sites and fishing settlements have been evacuated.

<http://www.vancouversun.com/news/Trinidad+boosts+security+around+fuel+installations+amid+string/9315912/story.html>

TRINIDAD, PORT-OF-SPAIN, DECEMBER 23 2013. FOUL PLAY >> ... PETROTRIN DISCOVERS FIFTH LEAK

Radhica sookraj



President of Petrotrin Khalid Hassanali gives members of the media an update on the oil spill in South yesterday.

Aerial and land surveillance around Petrotrin's land and marine operations have been beefed up as a fifth mysterious oil spill developed in its oilfields, raising speculation of sabotage. The latest leak occurred at the Petrotrin W-D 2 lease operatorship block in Rancho Quemado, Erin, spilling between 80 and 100 barrels of oil on land. The field is operated by Trinity Oil and Gas. During a press conference held at Petrotrin's Learning Resource Centre at Pointe-a-Pierre yesterday, Petrotrin president Khalid Hassanali said the clean-up at Rancho Quemado would take days. Asked whether sabotage was involved, Hassanali said the leaks were "still under investigation." "Yesterday afternoon, however, Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar said Petrotrin was investigating the leaks as possible acts of sabotage. But, she said, there was no evidence as yet to substantiate this. "At the moment we cannot blame anyone, but the nature of it indicates there may be sabotage," Persad-Bissessar said, as she delivered toys to her constituents in Siparia yesterday. Hassanali also warned thieves to refrain from tampering with Petrotrin's \$33 million physical assets. "Tampering

with oil and gas assets can be hazardous and dangerous. It can cost you your life," Hassanali said. Asked whether the valves were maintained regularly, Hassanali said, "Yes, there is a standard industry practice to check the valves. "We cannot operate hazardous equipment that operates at high pressures without a proper maintenance programme in place." This is the fifth leak in four days. On Tuesday a weld leak developed on the No 10 Sea Line at the Pointe-a-Pierre port while fuel oil bunkers were loading a barge named Marabella. Later that same day, a gasket on a 16-inch line on Riser platform 5 in Trinmar's Main Field, also leaked, spilling oil into the sea. On Wednesday, thick crude began surfacing at Coffee Beach and Carrat Shed beaches in La Brea, affecting over a dozen fishing vessels. Residents had to be evacuated. On Thursday, a fourth leak was reported at Platform 17 in Petrotrin's Trinmar Operations East Field. Saying he was concerned about the number of the leaks in such a short space of time, Hassanali said, "We cannot draw definite conclusions at this point in time, but we are investigating." He



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also noted that earlier this year, pipes were removed at Mount Pelle, Chatham, by scavengers of scrap iron. Admitting that it was difficult to monitor every installation, Hassanali said aerial and land surveillance has been boosted. Khalid also revealed that the source of the spill in La Brea was mysterious. "There are no oil installations on the land in that area. The nearest installation is in Guapo, so it is disturbing. From the helicopter we can find no evidence or traces or sheens or pools moving in the direction of La Brea, so it is certainly mysterious." He said samples have been taken and are currently being analysed.

Ramnarine: We are Boosting Security

Energy Minister Kevin Ramnarine said the prevalence of the leaks—which wreaked havoc on plant, animal and human life—was cause for concern. "We are boosting security around all marine installations. We will revise the whole security arrangements in Trinmar and on our land fields," Ramnarine said. He said he would speak with Petrotrin's security to install cameras on Petrotrin's land exploration fields and at the Trinmar acreage. "We are looking at purchasing some drones—remote controlled aircrafts with cameras. This is a cheap way to monitor our installations," Ramnarine explained. Manager of Health, Safety and Environment, Sham Deyal, also said yesterday that attempts were being made to contain the spills. "We are spraying dispersants, and we are using an absorbent which will prevent the oil from sinking. We are scrapping all contaminated materials, sand and other debris and moving them to specific areas." Deyal said 2,000 feet of containment have been used at La Brea, while a further 1,000 feet has been placed at Vessigny, to prevent the spread of oil. Up to late yesterday, oil was seen along the coastlines of La Brea, Chatham, Granville and Cedros.

<http://guardian.co.tt/news/2013-12-22/foul-play>

NIGERIA, BAYELSA, YENAGOA, IKARAMA, DECEMBER 23 2013. BAYELSA COMMUNITY FLEE HOMES OVER OIL SPILL



Oil company taking time to clear spillage.

Some residents near Shell's oil field in Ikarama, Yenagoa Local Government Area, Bayelsa State, said they abandoned their homes to avert possible health hazards from prolonged exposure to oil spill. They said that they fled their homes because of the company's delay to clean up the November oil spill. A spokesman of the community, Freeborn Roland, said that he and other residents near the impacted area abandoned their homes because of the health implications, especially on their children. "My house is surrounded by the spill and because we don't have money we were initially reluctant to take the option of relocation. We have been enduring and suffering the negative health impacts, especially my children, my older children suffered the same thing in

the past. This spill happened not long after my wife gave birth to twins. It was a matter of life and death as my new babies also came down with strange symptoms. Luckily, through the help of a Good Samaritan, I have been able to relocate my family twice this year due to oil spill in this environment," he said. Also, Ayibakuro Warder, a women leader in the community, said she was concerned about the health implications of the spill. "We have been lamenting all these years about oil spills. Our livelihood has been negatively impacted in terms of damage to farmlands and poor crop yields," she said. Mrs. Warder said that water in the area had been polluted due to incessant oil spills and aquatic lives had been affected. The spill from the Rumuekpe crude delivery line discharged about 482 barrels of Bonny Medium crude stream into the environment on November 2. According to the Joint Investigation Visit, JIV, report on the spill, the spill impacted an area of 6400 square meters. The report added that the spill stretched beyond the oil firm's right of way into the adjoining areas. According to the JIV report, recovery of the spilled oil commenced on November 12, while clean up of the spill site would be completed in April 2014. Investigations, however, showed that the clean up exercise had yet to commence. A spokesman of the oil firm, Precious Okolobo, declined comments on the slow response to the spill.

<http://premiumtimesng.com/regional/151880-bayelsa-community-flee-homes-oil-spill.html>

NIGERIA, EDO, DECEMBER 23 2013. ARMY DESTROYS TWO TANKERS USED TO SIPHON FUEL FROM PIPELINE

The Nigerian Army on Sunday publicly burnt two tankers used by suspected vandals to siphon crude oil from a burst pipeline at Ugo, along the Benin-Abraka road in Edo. The Commander of Operation Thunder Storm, Idris Lawan, supervised the tankers' destruction, which was witnessed by an official of the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation, NNPC. Mr. Lawan said that the tankers were impounded by the army's pipeline protection team which acted on a tip-off. He, however, said that the tankers' owners fled on sighting the security team, adding that the tankers would not have been burnt if the owners were



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caught. "You can see that one of the tankers is already loaded with crude while the other was trying to load. If we had caught those using the tankers to steal crude, we would not have burnt the tankers; instead, we have prosecuted their owners," he said. According to him, the tankers' destruction would serve as a deterrent to others. Mr. Lawan reiterated the army's resolve to stamp out pipeline vandalism in the area, warning pipeline vandals to desist from the act or face arrest and prosecution. He said that the army was collaborating with other security agencies to stamp out pipeline vandalism in Edo and its environs. The two tankers, with registration number XC 808 AKL and ABJ 678 XA, could carry 33, 000 litres and 42, 000 litres of fuel respectively.

<http://premiumtimesng.com/regional/151888-army-destroys-two-tankers-used-siphon-fuel-pipeline.html>

ANGOLA, LUANDA, DECEMBER 23 2013. ENVIRONMENT MINISTER PLEDGES FOR GREATER ATTENTION TO OIL SPILL

The minister of Environment, Fátima Jardim, said this week in Luanda that the Angolan government will pay more attention to cases of oil spills resulting from exploration and exploitation of this resource by oil companies operations. "Angola has a very broad legal framework for the fines to cases that are detected", said Fátima Jardim, when assessing the activities of the sector in 2013. Without disclosing the companies, the minister said that 20 cases were recorded in 2013, whose findings follow their legal procedures. According to her, during last weekend another case was recorded in the province of Cabinda. The most relevant case happened with the oil company ENI, which due to the oil spill during exploration activities had to pay to the Angolan state USD 3.5 three million as indemnization. "The state will now no longer be based only on measures of environmental education and awareness, but it will enforce the law, it will continue to strengthen their capacity to improve inspection and sanction all damages to the environment", he said.

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201312220094.html>

USA, IN, MADISON CO, DECEMBER 23 2013. STATE ROAD BACK OPEN AFTER TANKER OVERTURNS IN MADISON COUNTY



Indiana State Police (ISP) closed State Road 38 early Sunday morning, Dec. 22, 2013, in Madison County, Ind., after this tanker overturned.

State police said a gasoline-carrying tanker truck overturned early Sunday morning in Madison County, closing State Road 38 for cleanup that took nearly five hours. Indiana State Police (ISP) said at roughly 2:40 a.m. that the tanker was driving on SR 38 roughly 500 feet east of State Road 13 when it drove off the south side of the roadway and overturned. Troopers said SR 38 would be closed for about four hours while crews load and upright the tanker. As of 7:15 a.m., the roadway was back open. ISP said no one was hurt in the crash.

<http://www.theindychannel.com/news/local-news/tanker-overtorns-in-madison-county-closing-state-road>

INDIA, MANGALORE, DECEMBER 23 2013. LPG TANKER TOPPLES NEAR ADDAHOLE

A bullet gas tanker carrying liquid petroleum gas (LPG) from Mangalore to Bangalore toppled near Puttur on Mangalore-Bangalore national highway on Saturday. The incident occurred at around 7am at Addahole, two kilometres from Gundya of Puttur taluk. The tanker, which was carrying 12 tonnes of LPG belonging to the [Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited](http://www.bharatpetroleum.com), was heading towards Bangalore from Mangalore when it toppled in a sharp bend after the driver lost control. Selwa, the driver of the tanker, sustained minor injuries. The tanker was damaged and there was gas leakage. Fire tenders from Mangalore, Bantwal, Belthangady and Puttur taluk rushed to the spot. The quantity of leakage is yet to be measured. Meanwhile, traffic was diverted at Nellyadi and Gundya to avoid inconvenience in rescue operations. No houses are located near the spot and there was no major damage to public property. This is the second mishap on the stretch in 2013. On April 9, 2013, eight persons were killed when a bullet tanker carrying LPG overturned and the gas leakage fuelled a blaze engulfing the vehicle and neighbouring buildings at Perne near Puttur.

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/mangalore/LPG-tanker-topples-near-Addahole/articleshow/27749536.cms>



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INDIA, NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 23 2013. GOVERNMENT TELLS ANFO USERS TO GET INDUSTRIAL LICENCES

The government has asked those using ammonium nitrate and fuel oil (ANFO) as explosives at mines to get [industrial licences](#). Cement makers such as [ACC](#), [JK Cements](#) & [Ambuja Cements](#), which use the material at limestone quarries, and other [ANFO](#) users have three months to apply for these permits. While manufacturers of these explosives work under an industrial licence, those who combine the two — 94% ammonium nitrate with 6% fuel oil — at mine sites have been working with permits from the Petroleum and Explosives Safety Organisation (PESO). The home ministry had been worried about stolen ANFO finding its way into bombs and other explosive devices used by terrorists. In a letter dated November 20, the commerce ministry's Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion has written to the PESO that the use of ANFO would still require an industrial licence under the IDR Act 1951. The chief controller at the PESO has since conveyed the same to the ANFO users about licences. Those affected acknowledge the security concerns, but they say the new requirement further burdens a sector already overwhelmed by red tape. "Safeguards through checks or inspections by intelligence personnel can be made prerequisites to the explosive licences we seek anyway," said an executive of a leading cement company who didn't want to be named. "We will make a presentation to the government to this regard," the executive said. A ministry official, who asked not to be named, said the rules, as clarified by the law ministry, already prescribed an industrial licence and the government was merely ensuring its implementation. Meanwhile, differences over ammonium nitrate rules, which were issued in 2012 and would come into effect in January, have held up explosive licences — a development that according to industry officials could impact at least 10 cement units. The new rules require the users to get a no-objection certificate from the Directorate General of Mines Safety at Dhanbad. "The NOC requires the antecedent of the users to be verified. The directorate has neither the machinery nor the power to do that. It's the job of the police or local administration," said Rahul Guha, the director general of mines safety. "Secondly, as per the rules, only the director general of mines safety can issue such an NOC. There is no provision of delegation," Guha said. The labour ministry has flagged these concerns to the industry ministry. In recent years, Naxalites have carried out targeted attacks for explosives, like one in 2009 on National Aluminium Company's Panchpatmali mines in Odisha's Koraput district. India's largest miner, NMDC, which has also been a victim, says it doesn't use ANFO because it is less effective on the compact and hard ironbearing rocks at its Chhattisgarh mines. "We use site mixed slurry and emulsion explosives which cannot be misused in the same manner. We have lost cartridge explosives and detonators though," said an NMDC director.

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/news-by-industry/indl-goods/svs/chem/-/fertilisers/government-tells-anfo-users-to-get-industrial-licences/articleshow/27761994.cms>

INDIA, KARNATAKA, HONNAVAR, DECEMBER 24 2013. HONNAVAR: TWO KILLED IN TANKER-TRUCK COLLISION

 [Photo's \[8\] 2 killed in tanker-truck collision](#)



An empty gas tanker and a fruit truck collided head-on at Apsarkonda, NH-66, near Manki on Sunday December 22, in which both drivers were killed on the spot. The gas tanker was returning from Karwar to Mangalore and the fruit-loaded truck was on its way to Sangli, Maharashtra. The deceased has been identified as Joshi K D (27) from Kerala who was driving the truck and Maruti Madivar (25) from Hangal, driving the gas tanker. Chetan from Gadag, accompanying the driver in the oil tanker, is seriously injured. After initial treatment in Honnavar Government Hospital, he was shifted to Manipal. After getting the information, Manki PSI P B Konnur, ASI Beriappa along with a police team rushed on the spot. A case has been registered in Manki police station. The bodies were taken to Honnavar Government Hospital for post-mortem.

http://www.daijiworld.com/news/news_disp.asp?n_id=208613

MALAYSIA, KAMPUNG KEBUN, PENGKALAN KUBOR, , DECEMBER 24 2013. RESIDENTS OF KAMPUNG KEBUN SHAKEN BY DEAFENING FIRECRACKER EXPLOSIONS

Residents of Kampung Kebun, Pengkalan Kubor, here, were today shaken by 10-minute long firecracker explosions from a lorry at a storage area belonging to the Customs Department. The incident at 1.10pm resulted in slight injuries to two women and a three-year-old boy who tried to escape to save themselves. No loss of life or damage to property of residents was reported in the chain explosions which reverberated until five kilometres away. The storage facility for seized goods is located about 10 metres from the residents' houses. A resident, Nurul Izzah Yaacob, 24, who is heavily pregnant, said she was resting on the first floor of her house when she was shaken by the explosions. "Subsequently, the explosions sounded louder and I



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

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alerted my husband who was in the room, to save ourselves. "I am fortunate to have not been seriously injured which can affect my pregnancy," said Nurul Izzah. Another resident, Che Asiah Mohamed, 59, said initially the explosions sounded like that of firecrackers but they became louder. "I ran to save myself and fell down the stairs. As a result, I hurt my right leg which has become swollen," she said. State Customs director Datuk Azis Yacub, when contacted, confirmed the incident but declined to comment further.

<http://www.bernama.com.my/bernama/v7/ge/newsgeneral.php?id=1003036>

USA, MI, CASCADE TWP, DECEMBER 24 2013. EMPLOYEE WHO FELL INTO DILUTED ACID TANK FOLLOWED PROPER SAFETY PROTOCOL, SAYS LACKS ENTERPRISES

jonathan van zytveld



Employees at Lacks Enterprises prepare products for shipping. On Monday, a 45-year-old employee was rushed to the hospital after accidentally falling into a tank of diluted acid.

A local man is recovering at Spectrum Health Butterworth Hospital after an early morning slip at [Lacks Enterprises](#) resulted in a dip into a tank of diluted acid. [Around 6:30 a.m. on Monday](#), the 45-year-old man was performing a maintenance function when he slipped and fell into an adjacent tank of diluted chromic acid. Luckily, he was wearing proper safety equipment and a harness, and only his legs were dunked. Jim Green, executive director of human resources at Lacks Enterprises, said the employee was well-trained and reacted quickly by removing himself from the tank. The man's name was not released. "When I

heard, my first fear was that he didn't have his property safety equipment, but he did," Green said. "I don't want to conjecture, but it could have been a lot worse." The man, a Lacks employee of around 10 years, was attended by coworkers who hosed him down to remove the chemicals, according to protocol. Emergency medical responders transported him to Butterworth not long after the accident. Chromic acid is created as a result of the plating process as chrome plates are covered in acid. The vat in question was a reclaimed tank, diluted roughly 50 percent from full-strength acid and significantly colder. A tank of acid can run up to 160 degrees, Green said, and the vat was approximately 70 degrees at the time of the accident. Green said Lacks is investigating the situation to learn what went wrong and how safety can be further improved. He added the employees all handled the situation properly, and were adequately trained to do so. "I spoke to him personally today, and I hope to be in touch again with him soon," Green said. "We anticipate a full recovery." Green was unsure of the extent of the employee's burns, but noted that he was stable and receiving treatment.

Related Stories

- [Man falls into tank of acid in Grand Rapids area](#)
- [Man who fell into chromic acid tank at work followed safety protocol](#)
- [Man falls into tank of acid](#)
- [Man rushed to hospital after falling into tank of acid Monday morning](#)

http://www.mlive.com/news/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2013/12/employee_who_fell_into_diluted.html

USA, WA, BREMERTON, DECEMBER 24 2013. KITSAP TRANSIT FINED FOR FUEL TANK REGISTRATIONS

The state Department of Ecology fined Kitsap Transit \$1,000 for deficiencies with underground fuel tanks at its Charleston Boulevard facility. The agency said two tanks weren't registered and Kitsap Transit was missing seven months of release detection test records. The tests electronically show the level of fuel in the tank. If the level falls without fuel being pumped, it indicates a leak. Hayward Seymore, Kitsap Transit vehicle and facilities maintenance director, said the only problem was the agency has nine fuel tanks at the site but only seven were registered. That has been corrected. Kitsap Transit's fine was part of \$283,166 in third-quarter penalties the Department of Ecology announced Monday. The money is used to pay for environmental restoration and enhancement projects, research and development, permitting and regulatory programs, and education and assistance.

<http://www.kitsapsun.com/news/2013/dec/23/kitsap-transit-fined-for-fuel-tank-registrations/>



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