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Release 2010 – 626 Newsy Stuff

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IRAQ, BUSHEHR PROVINCE, KHARG ISLAND, JULY 26 2010. PETROCHEMICAL FACTORY BLAST LEAVES 4 DEAD IN IRAN



An explosion at a petrochemical factory in Iran has killed four people, official news agency IRNA reported on Sunday. The explosion occurred on Saturday evening at the petrochemical complex on Khark Island in the southern Bushehr province due to high pressure in the factory's central boiler, following which a fire broke out, the agency said. The bodies of three of the victims have been found so far and the fire is under control. Relief workers are helping persons injured in the incident, the agency said. Electricity supply has been temporarily cut in the province, the agency said. Khark Island accommodates Iran's largest oil terminal in the Persian Gulf. The Khark petrochemical plant employs more than 400 people.

<http://en.rian.ru/world/20100725/159941610.html>

PAKISTAN, QUETTA, JULY 26 2010. FIRE ERUPTS AT PETROL PUMP IN QUETTA

A mini petrol pump caught fire in Double Road area here and spread around to engulf a market of old goods and motor garages located next to it. Efforts are on to bring under control the fire which has so far destroyed over a dozen vehicles besides gutting a number of shops. According to eyewitnesses, soon after eruption of fire at the petrol pump, two blasts were also heard.

<http://www.thenews.com.pk/updates.asp?id=109148>

TAIWAN, TAIPEI, JULY 26 2010. FIRE AT FORMOSA PLASTICS NAPHTHA UNIT UNDER CONTROL: SPOKESMAN

A fire that broke out at a Formosa Plastics Corp. naphtha cracker plant in Yunlin County Sunday night is under control and there were no fatalities or injuries, a spokesman for the company said Monday. The blaze, which erupted at the No. 2 plant of the company's petrochemical complex in Mailiao, will not have any impact on the group's production or sales of oil products, according to spokesman Lin Keh-yen. The fire had been brought under control but was still smoldering, Lin said. The cause of the fire is still under investigation and the company is evaluating losses caused by the fire, Lin said, adding that Formosa Plastics Chairman Wang Wen-yuan has not yet given any instructions over the matter. The fire could have been caused by a leak, but further investigation is needed, the refiner's Mailiao management said. It was the second fire to hit the petrochemical complex this month. On July 7, the company shut a naphtha cracker at the petrochemical complex after a fire. Expressing uneasiness about frequent fires at the refiner, hundreds of local citizens rallied outside the petrochemical complex Monday, calling for suspension of its operations. Yunlin County Magistrate Su Chih-fen said that the central government should carry out its supervisory responsibilities and avoid putting public safety at risk after giving its approval for a sixth Formosa Plastics naphtha cracker project

<http://af.reuters.com/article/energyOilNews/idAFTOE66P00X20100726>

FRANCE, L'ETANG DE BEURRE, JULY 26 2010. THREE HUNDRED BRITISH TOURISTS AMONG THOUSANDS EVACUATED AFTER WILDFIRE THREATENS OIL REFINERY IN SOUTHERN FRANCE

ian sparks



Containment: The blaze started near oil refineries L'Etang de Beurre

The blaze began in parched woodland close to oil refineries at L'Etang de Beurre, 18 miles west of Marseille. Hundreds of firefighters and water-bombing aircraft battled the flames as they moved eastwards, destroying vast swathes of arid vegetation. Emergency services said by Sunday morning the wind had dropped and the fire was gradually being brought under control. Colonel Girard Patimo, who headed the operation, said: 'The fire luckily moved through unpopulated areas, and thanks to the wind dropping the fires are well on the way to being under control.' But the mayor of the village of Sausset, Eric Diard, whose village narrowly escaped the blaze, said: 'The fires are a tragedy for the area, especially in the middle of the tourist season.' Police have now opened an investigation into the cause of the

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blaze, which are a common in the south of France in the summer, and many of which are started deliberately by arsonists. The blaze is the latest natural disaster in the region in just over a month.

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/worldnews/article-1297482/Hundreds-evacuated-wildfire-threatens-oil-refinery-southern-France.html?ITO=1490>

USA, CA, SAN FRANCISCO, JULY 26 2010. ETHANOL DUMP POSES NO RISK TO WATERWAYS

andrea koskey

The less than 300 gallons of ethanol that spilled into the sewer off Pier 50 on Sunday afternoon pose no threat to The City or its waterways, according to San Francisco Fire Department officials. According to Battalion Chief Bob Postel, a distillery located on the pier unintentionally drained the flammable liquid into the sewer during the company's alcohol-making process. Postel said the minimal amount of ethanol did not pose a health threat to the sewer system or the sewer treatment plant. He said if the ethanol had drained directly into the Bay, it also would not pose a threat. As a precaution, though, Postel said the Fire Department tried to wash down the liquid rather than have it sit in the sewer. "It's like if you tried to light your gin-and-tonic on fire," he said. "It doesn't happen. We're just making sure we water down the sewers."

<http://www.sfexaminer.com/local/Ethanol-dump-poses-no-risk-to-waterways-99214119.html>

INDIA, KOCHI AIRPORT, JULY 26 2010. ACID BAG CREATES A SCARE AT KOCHI AIRPORT

john mary

A plastic bag containing chemicals with foul smell created a scare at Nedumbassery international airport as it was being loaded on to a Chennai-bound Kingfisher flight here yesterday. Personnel loading the cargo on to Kingfisher IT 2482 flight found the packet before the departure of the flight at 8.30 am, a spokesman of the Cochin International Airport Company Limited (CIACL) said. The courier bag, delivered by Blue Dart, had three bottles containing boric acid and some chemical liquid, sent by Hindustan Unilever Company to a detergent firm in Pondicherry. A CIACL spokesman said the courier had not specified the contents in the bag. The baggage was later taken for a detailed investigation and officials of the courier service and Hindustan Unilever Company were summoned to the airport, for clarifications. CIACL director ACK. Nair set up a three-member committee, comprising representatives of Blue Dart, Hindustan Unilever and the airport cargo operator to conduct a detailed probe. But he denied reports that a fire broke out in the cargo hold of the aircraft. Soon after the incident all 38 passengers and crew alighted and the aircraft was thoroughly checked. The flight later left for Chennai without the baggage. Security personnel said that the incident was the result of the negligence of CIAL X-ray screeners who screened the baggage at the cargo section. It was a clear security lapse of cargo screeners, they said. But what really baffled the security agencies was how the packet passed through the high-resolution scanners and security checking. A separate investigation would be held how the CIXL X-ray screeners on duty failed to detect the chemical liquid baggage. An expert said boric acid was harmless in a normal concentration but it doesn't have any explosive property either alone or when it comes into contact with other chemicals. A diluted form of the acid is being used as an eye lotion. But like most other chemicals, it can cause distress when inhaled.

<http://www.thepeninsulaqatar.com/india/121445-acid-bag-creates-a-scare-at-kochi-airport.html>

INDONESIA, JAKARTA, JULY 26 2010. INDONESIAN GOVT TESTING QUALITY OF PREMIUM GASOLINE

Indonesia's Gas and Oil Director General Legowo Evita said that the government was randomly conducting quality tests on premium gasoline at refueling stations. "We have not yet been conducting the test but are now taking samples," the director general said at a break during a working meeting with the House of Representatives (DPR)'s on Thursday. She said that the quality testing of premium gasoline was done in cooperation with state-owned oil and gas firm Pertamina. It will among other things be done at the Gas and Oil Research and Development Center (Lemigas), the director general said. Evita said the government so far had a team in charge of conducting quality tests on circulating fuel oils. "We have a team to do that job but the job is not done on a continuous basis," she said. Evita said the specification of premium gasoline must have a value of 88 octanes. "Sometimes we know we do not have gasoline of 88-octane because we have no octane 88 gasoline production, so we cover the balance with imports," she said.

http://www.downstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a_id=23457

USA, MN, MINNEAPOLIS, DECEMBER 26 2010. DIESEL SPILL IN MINNEHAHA CREEK

Minnehaha Creek was contaminated with diesel oil when the oil out of a generator spilled right down a storm sewer. It all started just west of 50th and France Avenue in south Minneapolis. A kayaker called in the problem to the Minnesota Pollution

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Control Agency on Saturday afternoon. Jason Moran was one of the first to respond. "I noticed a strong smell from my vehicle and my eyes immediately began to water," said Moran. Moran traced the fuel to a storm sewer outlet in Arden Park and eventually to Lunds on west 50th Street about a quarter mile away. A generator at the grocery store was leaking 15 to 20 gallons of red diesel fuel. "We are in conversation with them to figure out why it happened; potential enforcement activates related to the spill because this should have never happened." As containment booms were put into place warnings spread to stay out of the water, at least a dozen kids tubing down the creek got out doused in diesel. The MPCA gets hundreds of these types of calls and thousands of other spill reports each year. If people don't call, there's no way of knowing how many go undetected. Sunday afternoon crews had flushed the storm sewer with 2,000 gallons of water and the fowl smell is mostly gone. Experts say people can get back out on the creek but everyone we talked to would rather wait.

<http://www.myfoxtwincities.com/dpp/news/diesel-spill-in-minnehaha-creek-july-25-2010>

AUSTRALIA, SOUTH AUSTRALIA, ADELAIDE, JULY 27 2010. COURT TOLD COMPANY LACKED REMORSE OVER FATAL EXPLOSION

Map: [Gladstone 5473](#)



Poor maintenance was blamed for an explosion that killed three workers

A munitions factory in the mid-north of South Australia was a 'ticking time-bomb' because of poorly-maintained equipment, the industrial court has been told. The factory at Gladstone exploded in 2006, killing three workers and injuring two. The Industrial Relations Court found friction inside a poorly-maintained chemical blending machine caused the explosion and found the company Quin Investments and chief operating officer Nik Kuzub guilty of failing to maintain a safe work environment. During submissions on penalty, the prosecution said the company had a 'slapdash' approach to maintenance, had shown no remorse and embarked on a finger-pointing exercise during the trial. Some of the victims' families told the court in statements they found the negligence despicable. Both Kuzub and the

company could face maximum fines of \$100,000. A penalty will be handed down in September. The defendants have lodged appeals against their convictions.

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2010/07/26/2964295.htm>

AUSTRALIA, NEW SOUTH WALES, SYDNEY, JULY 27 2010. SPARK SETS WORKER ALIGHT AFTER SLIP IN FLAMMABLE LIQUID

glenda kwek

A young Sydney worker who slipped on flammable liquid suffered horrific burns when his clothes were set alight by a spark from a lathe. The 25-year-old is in a critical but stable condition in Royal North Shore Hospital with 40 per cent burns to his body. Police say the man had been decanting a drum of paint thinners at Pak-Mor Waste Equipment, a sheet metal fabrication business, on Walker Street in South Windsor when he slipped on a puddle of the flammable liquid about 12.30pm. As he began to clean up the spill with a shovel, sparks from a lathe close by set his clothing on fire, enveloping him in flames. His colleagues dragged him away and doused the fire. Bruce Butler, the owner of nearby business Butler Steel Fabrications, said he saw a large plume of black smoke blowing out from the building. WorkCover officers and police from the Hawkesbury Local Area Command are investigating the accident. A WorkCover spokesman said two investigators visited the business yesterday, but were still trying to confirm the circumstances of the accident.

<http://www.smh.com.au/nsw/spark-sets-worker-alight-after-slip-in-flammable-liquid-20100716-10czz.html>

USA, UT, SALT LAKE CITY, JULY 27 2010. HOW BAD WAS RED BUTTE SPILL? ANSWERS MAY HAVE VANISHED INTO THIN AIR

judy fahys

Neil Vickers would like to know what made him and his wife sick the weekend a Chevron pipeline leak sent tens of thousands of gallons of crude oil down the creek that runs through his east Salt Lake City yard. What was in those fumes? What will it mean for his family's health? Could it really be as harmless as health and environmental officials said? "It was clear we were exposed to something," said the University of Utah neuroscientist, who studies the sense of smell. "But it was not clear at what levels." For Vickers and anyone else with questions about the post-spill air, there might never be answers. The data evaporated in those crucial first days after the June 12 discovery of the Red Butte Canyon leak. Why? Because during the

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period when most of the hazardous crude oil components changed from liquid to vapor and vanished, the government agencies coordinating the spill response did not take the type of air-quality measurements that would tell what kind of exposure residents along Red Butte Creek experienced. Agencies acknowledge that in the early days after the spill they didn't perform tests that would show how much toluene, benzene, naphthalene and hundreds of other hazardous components residents might have breathed. Still, the agencies supervising the spill response and part of the Unified Command — including the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Salt Lake Valley Health Department and Salt Lake City — insist the air-quality monitoring was sufficient. The state Division of Air Quality never got involved in any spill monitoring because it does not have the proper equipment. Nor does the EPA, according to an e-mail from Richard Mylott, of the agency's regional office in Denver. Instead, the EPA relied on Chevron and Salt Lake City to take air samples to keep tabs on the safety of emergency crews shortly after the spill came to light. "Not to belabor the point, but such organization [as the Unified Command] is a necessity in ensuring an effective, coordinated response," the e-mail said. "In this case, several of the agencies involved in the Unified Command have authorities related to air quality." Chevron had begun air testing that first morning "to ensure the safety of employees and our contractors," company spokesman Mickey Driver said. Based on those results, the oil giant decided crews did not need respirators. Six days later, on June 18, the company also arranged for 24-hour air-quality monitors outside of seven creek-side houses at the request of the homeowners, Driver said, and later added more. Chevron is deliberating about whether to release its air-sampling data. Salt Lake City's earliest efforts focused on checking the explosion risks and ensuring fumes did not endanger response workers, said the capital's spill czar, Renee Zollinger. The city never saw a total count of volatile organic compounds higher than 75 parts per million, she said, well within the safe range for workers.

Tests Begin

By June 14, city officials agreed that more information was needed on the hazardous chemicals likely to be released from the oil. So the city took the initiative to hire an environmental consulting firm, which later that night gathered its first samples at Liberty Park. The next morning, testing began up and down the spill area, and the city started posting daily results online June 18. "We do know the maximums," Zollinger said. "We just don't have the detail about exactly how much there was at every point along the spill." Zollinger said the fine points of short-term exposure to crude oil are not well-studied. And, to complicate things, some people suffer profoundly from fumes, while others go unaffected. For those with "miserable and debilitating symptoms," she said, the discomfort almost certainly passes when the fumes are gone. At a community meeting earlier this month, Zollinger and other Unified Command members dwelt on the good news part of what they know. They repeatedly reaffirmed that residents had not been exposed to vapors nearly hazardous enough to cause long-term harm. A city-hired toxicologist examined the complaints and suggested that whiffs of the fumes might be triggering a memory about the discomfort they felt at the time of the spill — the same way she still gets a stomachache when she smells curry because of a bad experience in college years earlier. Declarations like that stung like a slap in the face to some residents. If the spill hasn't harmed them, as the officials said, then why are some of them and their children still getting headaches, feeling nauseated, breaking out in rashes and tearing up from eye irritation?

Regulators' Role

Cherise Udell, founder of Utah Moms for Clean Air, criticized the government agencies for not collecting crucial data in the spill's early hours. She said it was "like the fox watching the henhouse" to rely on Chevron's information when the responsibility for public health and safety rests with regulators. "Our public agencies are not doing their jobs," she said, "because they are too cozy with Chevron."

Udell's husband, it turns out, is a petroleum engineer, and he said the only way to understand the hazard was to perform certain tests promptly. Oil leaking from Chevron's pipeline should have been sampled immediately and compared with oil sampled downstream at Liberty Park. A clearer picture of what creek-side residents were breathing could be determined by examining the chemical constituents and their volumes. The data had to be collected as the spill was happening because so much of the vaporization takes place as soon as the oil is exposed to air. "It's time-critical," Kent Udell said, "because the exposures are probably happening very quickly and at extremely high exposures." Miriam Rotkin-Ellman, a specialist in public health and environmental science for the Natural Resources Defense Council, agreed that launching the in-depth air-quality tests four days after the spill began on June 11 is unlikely to prove informative for residents concerned about their exposure. Rotkin-Ellman, who is part of a team looking at the health impacts of the Deepwater Horizon spill in the Gulf of Mexico, is not surprised about the low levels of hazardous air pollutants now being detected in Salt Lake City after the Red Butte Creek spill. "They are monitoring for something that was already released into the air and something people were already exposed to," Rotkin-Ellman said. "[Immediate] monitoring is the only way to tell what the health threats were."

'Don't worry' » Another creek-side resident, who asked that her name not be used because of fear of reprisal, said it was frustrating to sort through the advice given her in the early post-spill days, when she was plagued with rashes and eye

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irritation. Response workers urged her not to worry and told her to keep the air in her house circulating. "They were like, 'We've got it under control. Don't worry about it.'" As long as the spill team denies the vapor problem, she said, it won't be looking for solutions. For Udell, who remains unconvinced that adequate monitoring was done, "the damage is already done." Still, she would like to see studies of the spill's long-term impacts on the health of nearby children and women who are pregnant. She also would like the state Division of Air Quality to get the equipment it needs to play a meaningful role the next time there is a hazardous-chemical emergency. "They were completely absent," she said, "which I found shocking."

<http://www.sltrib.com/sltrib/news/49943201-78/spill-oil-health-chevron.html.csp>

NIGERIA, ABUJA, JULY 27 2010. TANKER ACCIDENT CLAIMS 10

chika mefor

About 10 people were feared burnt to death when a petroleum tanker vehicle transporting fuel fell on its side and caught fire at Madalla Market, Suleja, Niger State. Suleja, on the outskirts of Abuja, is a high density neighborhood with low-priced houses, and home to hundreds of workers who shuttle from there to their places of work in the Federal Capital Territory. Sixteen other people were also said to be injured and are now receiving treatment at various hospitals in the town. Property including stalls and vehicles trapped in the fire were also destroyed. As the time of going to press, the police had not confirmed the number of deaths or injured. However, assisting the police to clear up the accident scene, and restore flow of clogged traffic were men and officers of the Federal Road Safety Corps, (FRSC), the Fire Service, Civil Defence Corps and the National Emergency Management Authority (NEMA). Madalla Market, Suleja is on the busy Kaduna-Abuja Expressway and, in recent times, there had been concerted but unsuccessful efforts to relocate it elsewhere. Eyewitness account narrates that the incident occurred around 12 noon when the tanker was believed to have had a brake failure and rammed into a vehicle before falling on its side and bursting into fire which quickly spread to other vehicles and stalls in the market. Leadership gathered that 16 people burnt in the inferno were taken to nearby Lucas Hospital and Maternity Madalla, where they were receiving treatment. "Two of the hospitalized persons are said to be in critical condition. We are doing every possible thing to ease their pain" the doctor on call said, but refused to give his name. Three others were taken to the General Hospital, Suleja. The chairman of Suleja Local Government Area, Malam Rabi Barde, who arrived the scene soon after, described the incident as pitiable, adding that efforts were being made to assist the victims.

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201007260411.html>

AUSTRALIA, NEW SOUTH WALES, SYDNEY, JULY 27 2010. CALTEX WORKERS EVACUATED AFTER LEAK

Some workers at the Caltex refinery site in south Sydney were evacuated after a gas leak, which has now been contained. The NSW Fire Brigade was called to the lubricating oils refinery operation at the Kurnell site 22km from the CBD after 9am (AEST) on Monday after workers raised the alarm. The emergency resulted from a leak in a pipeline to a pressure gauge on a propane tank. Caltex crews set up water sprays to disperse the gas and evacuated some maintenance staff as a precaution. Two Fire Brigade crews went to the scene and were continuing to work to isolate and disperse the gas vapours, a brigade spokesman said.

<http://news.smh.com.au/breaking-news-national/caltex-workers-evacuated-after-leak-20100727-10t85.html>

UK, SUFFOLK, JULY 27 2010. VILLAGE HOMES EVACUATED OVER GAS TANK IN SUFFOLK FIRE

Thirty homes and businesses in a small Suffolk village were evacuated for several hours because of a fire involving a gas cylinder. Crews from Norfolk and Suffolk were called to the fire at a house in Mendham, near Harleston, at lunchtime. The fire service set up a 500ft (200m) cordon after spotting an acetylene gas cylinder. About 100 villagers were allowed home just before 1600 BST after the fire was put out and the cylinder checked.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-suffolk-10766968>

USA, N.Y., NEW YORK, JULY 27 2010. JURORS HEAR CLOSINGS AT JFK BOMB PLOT TRIAL >> DEFENDANTS WANTED TO BLOW UP JET FUEL TANKS

tom hays

Two men accused in a terrorist plot hoped to cause a spectacular explosion that would kill thousands at New York's Kennedy International Airport and avenge U.S. oppression of Muslims, a prosecutor said Monday at the men's trial. The defendants wanted to blow up jet fuel tanks at the sprawling airport, causing an explosion "so massive ... that it could be seen from far, far away," Assistant U.S. Attorney Zainab Ahmad said in closing arguments in federal court in Brooklyn. Their vision prompted them to code name the plot "The Shining Light," the prosecutor said. Defense attorney Mildred Whalen countered by accusing

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a government informant of manipulating a ragtag crew of delusional dupes who had "seen too many Bruce Willis movies." She called her client Russell Defreitas a "weak-minded, foolish man with a big mouth." Defreitas, 66, a former JFK cargo handler, and Abdul Kadir, 58, once a member of Parliament in Guyana, were arrested in 2007 before they could get beyond the planning stages after the informant — a convicted drug dealer — infiltrated the plot and made a series of secret recordings. Prosecutors say Defreitas did reconnaissance on the airport, sought the help of a militant Muslim group in Trinidad along with Kadir and dreamt of delivering a devastating economic blow to the United States. Defreitas, a naturalized U.S. citizen from Guyana, "is a classic homegrown extremist," Ahmad said. At trial, the government's evidence included tapes of Defreitas that showed he was determined to avenge the mistreatment of Muslims in the United States and abroad with an attack that would "dwarf 9/11," Ahmad said Monday. He also told the informant that his U.S. citizenship gave him cover, the prosecutor added. "The don't expect nobody in this country to do something like this," she quoted him as saying. "They have their eyes on foreigners, not me." As part of the plot, Defreitas and the informant traveled to Guyana to try to meet with Kadir and show him homemade surveillance videotapes of the airport's so-called fuel farms, the prosecutor said. The plotters also discussed reaching out to Adnam Shukrijumah, an al-Qaida operative and explosives expert who was believed to be hiding out in the Caribbean at the time, she added. Defreitas' bragging about his inside knowledge of JFK "doesn't mean he's breaking the law," his attorney said Monday. "He's just acting like a fool." Kadir, while testifying on his own behalf, has denied he was a militant Muslim who spied for Iran for years before joining the JFK scheme. He told jurors he warned the plotters they were violating their religion. "Islam does not support aggression or killing innocent people," he recalled saying to them. Kadir's attorney, Kafahni Nkrumah, argued Monday that prosecutors had exaggerated the threat. "Forget all the bogeyman stuff," he said. In a rebuttal argument, Assistant U.S. Attorney Marshall Miller said Defreitas was devious enough to imagine destruction on a grand scale — and smart enough to know he needed help from Kadir and others to pull it off. "Many people who commit crimes aren't rocket scientists," he said. The jury was expected to begin deliberating Tuesday. Shukrijumah, an FBI-most wanted terrorist, was indicted in federal court in Brooklyn this month on charges he was involved in a failed plot to attack the New York City subway system with suicide bombers.

http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5imyS6Rxh0dCsz_QlXiqWrCjtdtEwD9H70CL00

USA, MI, CALHOUN CO, MARSHALL TWP, JULY 27 2010. 840,000 GALLONS OF OIL LEAK INTO CREEK

sarah lambert

• **Watch the Video:** <http://www.wvmt.com/articles/residents-1379472-marshall-spill.html>

• **Watch the Video:** http://www.wzzm13.com/news/most_popular_story.aspx?storyid=125080&provider=top

• **Watch the Video:**

<http://www.battlecreekenquirer.com/article/20100726/NEWS01/307260016/840+000+gallons+of+oil+leak+into+creek>

• **Photo's** <http://www.wvmt.com/news/oil-1379456-closes-road.html>



Dead fish lie in the mix of water and oil near where Talmadge Creek flows into the the Kalamazoo River, near A Drive North in Marshall Township Monday afternoon.

A leaking pipeline spilled about 840,000 gallons of oil into a creek leading to the Kalamazoo River today according to estimates from Enbridge Energy Partners, the company taking responsibility for the spill. The leak resulted from a pipeline malfunction that was still under investigation tonight, said Tom Fridel, general manager for Enbridge Liquids Pipelines in Chicago. The 30-inch pipeline carries about 8 million gallons of oil per day from Griffith, Indiana, to Sarnia, Ontario, according to Enbridge. The leak originated at the Enbridge site, at 16000 Division Drive near the border of Marshall and Fredonia townships. The oil spilled into Talmadge Creek, which flows northwest into the Kalamazoo River. After the oil leak was detected, the pipeline pumps were shut down and the valves upstream and

downstream from the leak were closed, according to a press release from Houston-based Enbridge and the Calhoun County Sheriff's Office of Emergency Management. Authorities are monitoring up to the Ceresco Dam and beyond, said Durk Dunham, the county's emergency management director. The timing of the spill is bad because recent storms have widened the river and caused it to carry the oil more quickly, said Calhoun County Sheriff Al Byam. The oil already has started to make its way west past the booms set up by workers in Marshall Township. The Emmett Township Department of Public Safety issued a warning this evening telling people not to fish or swim in the river. The department said oil was leaking past barriers and toward Historic Bridge Park and said people should avoid the water. Two homes near the leak were evacuated because of safety concerns, but no more evacuations were anticipated, according to the press release. By late afternoon today, a thick

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layer of oil was visible at the juncture of the creek and the Kalamazoo River, near A Drive North and 15 1/2-Mile Road in Marshall Township. Many small fish washed up on the banks of the river today. River access points were staffed by the sheriff's department or Enbridge employees, and A Drive North near the spill was blocked off and policed by the Fredonia Township Fire Department on Monday afternoon. Battle Creek resident Jim Blankenship said he smelled oil and called 911 around 9 p.m. Sunday as he was leaving the Marshall Moonraker on 17-Mile Road. A call came into the dispatch center at 9:25 p.m., said Jeff Troyer, executive director of the Calhoun County Consolidated Dispatch Authority. The center dispatched the Marshall Fire Department, which then called Marshall Township around 11 p.m. because the spill occurred in the township, Troyer said.

<http://www.battlecreekenquirer.com/article/20100726/NEWS01/307260016/840+000+gallons+of+oil+leak+into+creek>

USA, MI, CALHOUN CO, MARSHALL TWP, JULY 27 2010. RESIDENTS REACT TO OIL SPILL

 **Watch the Video** <http://www.wwmt.com/articles/residents-1379472-marshall-spill.html>

 **Photo Gallery** <http://www.wwmt.com/articles/residents-1379472-marshall-spill.html>



An underground oil line in West Michigan has ruptured, sending crude oil flowing into the Kalamazoo River. Crews were out working all day on Monday and do have the leak plugged, now the focus is turning to cleaning up the mess left behind. The oil flowed under I-69 into Squaw Creek in Marshall. The spill forced crews to shut down A Drive and Division Drive and rerouted traffic off Michigan Avenue. The pipeline that leaked was owned by Enbridge Energy and part of a pipeline known as the Lakehead System. That system is a 1,900 mile pipeline, the longest in the world. It starts in Canada and travels through Michigan. The mess is affecting a lot of people. There's oil in the water and on the plant and animal life in the area. Those who live in the area think the black crude may have been bubbling out of a ruptured pipe since Sunday night. "We had our windows all opened up and my wife started getting headaches," said Terry Reniger, who lives near the spill. Reniger says it was

morning before he saw anyone from Enbridge Energy. "The finally came down and check and they found oil underneath the roads," said Reniger. Enbridge says as soon as its control center noticed a drop in pressure in its 30 inch, high pressure crude oil pipe the pumps were shutdown. It's not clear exactly when that was but Enbridge estimates about 20,000 barrels of crude escaped. "It's enough to make you sick," said John LaForge. LaForge says he can't escape the smell or the oil. "I come home and I see oil in my yard," said LaForge. "I mean this is raw crude oil is what this is and it's a very foul smell." LaForge says the smell, while bad, is the least of his worries. "My concern is just clean water and my house," said LaForge. Calhoun County Emergency Management says there is no immediate threat to drinking water, but determining the spill's impact on wildlife will take time. "I'm worried cause I've got a big swamp back here," said Reniger. "The wild life that's back here, I don't know, we've got swans back here and ducks, we got all kinds of deer." Enbridge has said it is taking full responsibility for the spill and will pay for cleanup. The Department of Public Safety is advising people to stay out of the Kalamazoo River as the leak is affecting areas along the river from Marshall to Emmett Townships. Officials say it's not safe to be swimming or fishing there. The DNRE says it has gotten reports of a lot of birds covered in oil. If you spot an animal covered in oil, don't touch them, call the DNRE or Enbridge and let them know where you spotted the animal.

<http://www.wwmt.com/articles/residents-1379472-marshall-spill.html>

MALAYSIA, KUALA TERENGGANU, JULY 27 2010. REGARD SAFETY AT PETROL STATIONS SERIOUSLY

Safety at petrol stations must be taken seriously not only by customers, but also its operators and staff, Terengganu deputy police chief SAC Hamzah Md Jamil said. "To continue achieving zero crime at petrol stations, I advise for the staff to be trained on how to act during emergencies. "Risks on personal safety and property can be reduced if efforts are taken to enhance the safety precaution," he said at the launching of the Rakan Cop with Shell here Monday. He said, 16 cases involving petrol stations were recorded in 2009 throughout the state, with nine cases recorded until June this year. Terengganu also recorded four cases involving counterfeit money at petrol stations last year, and one case so far this year. Hamzah said the state also showed improvement, with index crime cases dropping by 25 per cent during the period between January and June this year. He said that during the period, 2,066 cases were recorded compared to 2,755 cases in the same period last year.

<http://www.bernama.com/bernama/v5/newsindex.php?id=516476>

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AUSTRALIA, TASMANIA, HOBART, JULY 27 2010. WORKPLACE STANDARDS, TASMANIA - DANGEROUS SUBSTANCES NEWS UPDATES

[CONNECTIONS magazine Issue 2](#) out now

Information Sheets

- [Hazchem placarding of Dangerous Substances Locations](#) (IS074)
- [Dangerous substances locations - Creating legends/symbols for site maps](#) (IS075)

<http://www.wst.tas.gov.au/>

CHINA, GUANGDONG PROVINCE, DAYA BAY, JULY 27 2010. HUIZHOU REFINERY RESUMES NORMAL OPERATION AFTER TANK FIRE ON SAT.

CNOOC Huizhou Refinery in Guangdong province has resumed normal operation after the fire of a raw material tank in Daya Bay on Saturday. According to the local government of Huizhou city, the fire did not trigger a blast and caused no casualties. It also did not cause spillover impact on the environment. On July 24, one of Huizhou Refinery's coking raw material tanks caught fire and brought about 600,000 yuan of losses to CNOOC. The tank, with storage capacity of 15,000 cubic meters, stored more than 4,000 cubic meters of coking oil when the fire broke out. Huizhou Refinery, CNOOC's first large refinery with processing capacity of 12 million metric tons (tonnes) per year, started operation last year and mainly processes acidic but low sulphur crude oil from Penglai 19-3 in Bohai, which is operated by US-based ConocoPhillips and 51 percent owned by CNOOC Ltd.

http://www.tradingmarkets.com/news/stock-alert/ceo_cnooc-huizhou-refinery-resumes-normal-operation-after-tank-fire-on-sat--1066754.html

USA, TX, ANGLETON, JULY 27 2010. OSHA CITES THERMAL POLYMER SYSTEMS TANKER CSE FATALITY

The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration has cited Thermal Polymer Systems LLC of Angleton, Texas, following an explosion inside a permit-required confined space that killed one worker and injured two others. "This company exposed its workers to the hazards of confined space entry," said Mark Briggs, OSHA's area director for the Houston South Area Office. "In this case, the ventilation system was not on to remove the flammable and toxic vapors of the primer being used by the employees, and the internal atmosphere of the tank was not being monitored with a combustible gas meter to alert the employees that the atmosphere was becoming toxic and inflammable." OSHA issued citations alleging four willful and 28 serious violations following an investigation that began January 28 when two workers were burned while applying primer inside a tanker trailer. One worker died and another remains hospitalized with burns to over 90 percent of his body. A third worker, the attendant monitoring the confined space in the event of an emergency, was blown off the tank when the vapors ignited. The willful violations were for failing to eliminate and control hazardous atmospheres, such as flammable gas, through ventilation; complete confined space entry permits; use intrinsically safe lights in hazardous locations; and annually fit-test employees for respirator use. A willful violation is one where there was intentional disregard for safety and health. Serious violations include failing to mark exits; ensure flammables storage areas had self-closing doors; conduct workplace hazard assessments; monitor, evaluate, and annually review and retain records for the confined spaces; implement a hearing conservation program, and secure compressed cylinders. A serious violation is one that could cause death or serious physical harm to employees when the employer knew or should have known of the hazard. Penalties for the violations total \$161,600. The company has 15 business days from receipt of the citations to comply, request an informal conference with OSHA's area director in Houston, or contest the citations and penalties before the independent Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission.

<http://www.reliableplant.com/Read/25738/Thermal-Polymer-workplace-fatality>

USA, PA, PITTSBURGH, JULY 27 2010. DEAD WORKERS' FIRM FINED TWICE, SECOND WORKER IDENTIFIED

tom fontaine

A company welding at an Indiana Township gas well that exploded and killed two workers paid federal fines imposed for two well fires in the past three years, records show. The Allegheny County Medical Examiner's Office identified on Monday the second Northeast Energy Management Inc. worker killed Friday as Andy Yosurack Jr., 56, of Creekside in Indiana County. Authorities identified the other worker as Kevin Henry, 46, of New Florence in Westmoreland County. "Andy never complained about his job. He could be welding in 100-degree heat with a helmet, mask and heavy gloves on. He'd just say, 'Yeah, it's a tough job,' and smile," said Randy Corosu, 53, of Creekside, Yosurack's friend of more than three decades. Yosurack started working with Northeast Energy this year and liked the company, saying it paid him well and allowed him to use a company

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truck, Corosu said. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration investigated Indiana County-based Northeast Energy twice in the past three years when fires broke out on drilling sites, OSHA records show. It fined Northeast Energy \$12,442 for its role in a September 2007 fire on a drilling rig in Clarion County, in which one worker suffered second-degree burns to his face and neck. The company paid \$5,965 through a settlement with the agency, a spokeswoman said. OSHA fined Northeast Energy \$4,000 for starting a fire on a drilling rig in Charleroi in November 2008. OSHA said the equipment and electrical wiring the company used wasn't safe for hazardous locations. The company paid the fine. Northeast Energy and Monroeville-based Huntley & Huntley Inc., which owns the well where Friday's explosion occurred, did not return calls seeking comment yesterday. Huntley & Huntley hired Northeast Energy to perform maintenance on one of two oil storage tanks. The force of the blast flung one of the tanks, measuring 12 feet tall by 8 feet wide, more than 70 yards. The fire burned for 10 hours before a crew from Wild Well Control Inc. of Houston, Texas, arrived and extinguished it by forcing water into the opening. "We are moving forward with our investigation. We're interested in determining the cause of this problem as soon as possible," said state Department of Environmental Protection spokeswoman Helen Humphreys. DEP spokesman Tom Rathbun said the agency hopes to complete its investigation within 45 days. DEP plans to meet with fire officials, OSHA representatives and a third worker who was at the site but not injured by the explosion, he said. OSHA, the Allegheny County fire marshal and Huntley & Huntley are investigating. Confirming Yosurack's identity took days because of severe burns to his body. The medical examiner's office used dental records to identify him. The office didn't rule on a cause of death for the workers, pending results of toxicology and other tests. Corosu said Yosurack loved his three daughters and young granddaughter, and had a passion for the martial arts, hunting and the Pittsburgh Steelers. Yosurack owned Yosurack's Fitness Center in Indiana for many years, running a martial arts school from the center that trained hundreds of students. He taught children how to hunt deer and turkey. The son of a Marine drill instructor, Yosurack "tried to portray this hard, outer demeanor, but inside he was golden," Corosu said. Not that Yosurack, a fifth-degree black belt in taekwondo, wasn't tough. "He was probably one of the toughest men I've ever seen. He could hold his own against anybody. But he was a very even-keeled guy who got his greatest thrills and excitement from helping other people."

http://www.pittsburghlive.com/x/pittsburghtrib/news/breaking/s_692048.html

AUSTRALIA, WESTERN AUSTRALIA, PERTH, JULY 27 2010. NO PLAN TO DEAL WITH BIG OIL SPILL OFF WA

ben cubby

Reefs and islands along northern Australia's Kimberley coast are highly vulnerable to spills from a new offshore gas drilling and processing plant whose operator will not make contingency plans for a large spill. In its environmental impact statement, Inpex, a Japanese company planning to extract 8.4 million tonnes of liquefied natural gas a year, has said it will deal with a major leak of hydrocarbons if it occurs. The statement contains maps of the predicted impacts of any smaller leaks from the Ichthys offshore gas project. They show that in the wet season, hydrocarbons from the well head could be expected to reach bird-breeding areas along the coast, and possibly reefs and islands. A larger leak, similar to that from the Montara oil and gas well in the Timor Sea last year, would probably douse areas of the coast. "Spill modelling has not been included for the longer-term sub-sea well failure scenarios because of their very low likelihood," the statement says. "In the event of a failure, modelling would be 'undertaken at that time for current weather conditions and spill flow rates, to guide response efforts'." "Large hydrocarbon spills from the offshore development area ... are predicted to reach some point on the shorelines of Browse Island, Scott Reef and the Western Australian Kimberley coast." The environment group WWF-Australia said Inpex had avoided outlining its plans for an oil or gas leak to downplay such a prospect. "Their report acknowledges that they are putting this region under a very serious threat but then say they do not need a plan to cope with their worst-case scenario," said WWF-Australia conservation manager Gilly Llewellyn.

<http://www.theage.com.au/national/no-plan-to-deal-with-big-oil-spill-off-wa-20100726-10sly.html>

NIGERIA, ABUJA, JULY 28.7 2010. AFTER TANKER CRASH NORMALCY RETURNS TO MADALLA

chika mefor

Normalcy and calm have returned to Madalla, a suburb of the FCT, after the outbreak of fire in the market following the collapse of a petrol tanker, which was loaded with fuel. People were seen going about their businesses while many others had returned to the market to sell their wares. However, normalcy is yet to return to the hospitals where victims of the fire disaster were taken to, as their families and friends trooped in in numbers to see them. On a visit to Lucas Hospital and Maternity, the doctor on duty, Dr Valentine Ugwuegbu, through a representative, said that the victims were responding to treatment. "Two of the victims who were in critical condition are now out of danger," he said. Out of the 16 victims brought in to the hospital on the day of the incident, only four were still at the hospital as the families of the other victims had taken them away. On Sunday, a

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petrol tanker heading towards Abuja had a brake failure and rolled over a car parked along the roadside. Many lives and property were lost. Few hours after the first incident, another fire broke out as a caterpillar tried to remove the wreckage, not knowing that there was still fuel in the tanker. This resulted in another fire which claimed many more lives and property. Labaran Alhassan Remi, a trader who was at the scene of the incident said more than eight people perished in the second fire, including a commuting motorist and bystanders. Remi also said that over ten people lost their lives while many others got injured; six cars were destroyed, including three motorcycles.

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201007270308.html>

USA, OH, MARION, JULY 28 2010. CAR COLLIDES WITH TANKER IN MARION CO., KILLING 1



The Ohio Highway Patrol is investigating Monday's fatal crash on Ohio 98 near Patten Pike. A northbound driver apparently collided with a southbound tanker truck around 5:45 p.m., forcing both vehicles off the road. The condition of the truck driver is unknown at press time.

One person was killed Monday when a car collided with a tanker along state Route 98. The crash happened shortly before 7 p.m. According to the Ohio State Highway Patrol, a car apparently crossed the median and struck the rig head-on, 10TV News reported. One person inside the car was killed, authorities said. The person's identity was not released by investigators. There were no reports of other injuries. The tanker was hauling soybean oil that spilled onto the road after the wreck. State Route 98 was closed for several hours as authorities cleaned up.

<http://www.10tv.com/live/content/local/stories/2010/07/27/story-marion-tanker-crash-fatal-state-route-98.html?sid=102>

USA, PA, DAUPHIN CO, REED TWP, JULY 28 2010. SPILLED FUEL FROM TRUCK CRASH NEAR JUNIATA AND SUSQUEHANNA RIVERS HAS REACHED 8 TO 10 MILES DOWNSTREAM, OFFICIALS SAY

chris a. courogen

 **Watch the Video** http://www.pennlive.com/midstate/index.ssf/2010/07/spilled_fuel_from_tanker_truck.html

 **Photo Gallery** http://www.fox43.com/news/wpmt-tanker-spill-bridge_0,1091248.photogallery

 **Watch the Video** <http://www.whitm.com/news/stories/0710/758871.html>



A white oil sock-net boom is placed near the confluence of the Juniata and Susquehanna rivers after a westbound truck, hauling thousands of gallons of fuel, crashed just before 7 a.m. near the Clarks Ferry truck stop in Reed Township, Dauphin County.

Spilled fuel from a [truck crash this morning](#) near the confluence of the Juniata and Susquehanna rivers has reached as far as 8 to 10 miles downstream, state police say. "Communities downstream have been warned," said Trooper. Ed Asbury. "Harrisburg may shut a water intake on the river." Asbury said the state Department of Environmental Protection will be testing water samples downstream to determine the impact of the spill, which happened when a tanker carrying about 7,000 gallons of fuel overturned on U.S. Routes 22/322 in Reed Township, Dauphin County. Asbury said there was a minor fish kill where the fuel

went into the Juniata. The crash happened around 6:50 a.m., just west of the [Clarks Ferry bridge](#). Asbury said the driver of the tanker, owned by Nittany Oil Co. of State College, swerved to avoid a box truck that pulled out in front of him from the Clarks Ferry Truck Stop parking lot. The tanker clipped the other truck and rolled over, rupturing a tank filled with 6,300 gallons of gasoline and 1,000 gallons of diesel fuel. Nearly all of the fuel spilled, Asbury said. Only an inch or two remained in the tanker. A passerby pulled the truck driver from the wreckage and moved him a safe distance away, said Asbury. The driver, whose name has not been released, was coherent and responsive. He was taken to Penn State Milton S. Hershey Medical Center for treatment. Emergency responders from Dauphin, Perry and Cumberland counties spread foam around the truck to prevent fire and erected booms on the Juniata River and an effort to contain the spill. All traffic on Routes 22/322 is being detoured using U.S. Routes 11/15 on the west side of the river and state Route 147 on the east side. PennDOT has lifted truck restrictions on that route and has tripled the length of the green cycle on the traffic light in Marysville. [Traffic](#) northbound on 11/15 was flowing well just before noon. Southbound traffic, though, was moving slowly between the 11/15-22/322 interchange and Marysville. Asbury said PennDOT hopes to reopen 22/322 by around 3:30 this afternoon, in time for the evening rush hour. Asbury said

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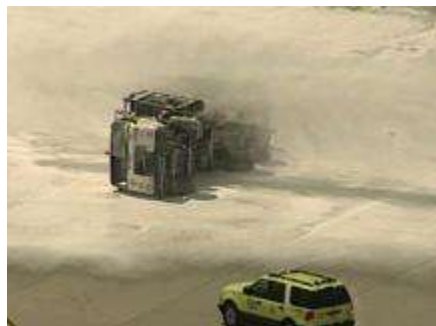
police are continuing their investigation. They are interviewing the box truck driver and also plan to examine the mechanical condition and speed of the tanker.

http://www.pennlive.com/midstate/index.ssf/2010/07/spilled_fuel_from_tanker_truck.html

USA, PA, PHILADELPHIA, JULY 28 2010. AIRPORT FUEL TRUCK CRASH DELAYS FLIGHTS >> FOAM USED TO PREVENT FIRE; NO INJURIES REPORT

• **Watch the Video** http://www.myfoxphilly.com/dpp/news/local_news/Overturned_Fuel_Truck_PHL_072710

• **Slideshow** http://www.myfoxphilly.com/dpp/news/local_news/Overturned_Fuel_Truck_PHL_072710



An overturned fuel truck and a resulting spill are causing flight delays at Philadelphia International Airport. The truck came to a rest on its side on a portion of the tarmac near Gate "F." Fire officials said the vehicle was doused with flame-retardant foam to prevent any possible flames or explosion. Fire officials said the call came in at 12:52 p.m. and the truck was carrying 200 gallons of fuel. The incident was placed under control at 1:10 p.m. No injuries were reported. Authorities were not immediately saying what might have caused the truck to overturn. The crash is under investigation. Traffic is stopped going to and from terminal "F" as crews clean up the fuel spill. That terminal is mostly used by US Airways for regional express flights, which shuttle passengers to and from smaller cities and destinations. While there's an early afternoon lull in the schedule Tuesday, US Airways says some delays may be experienced later in the afternoon

when service picks up with a wave of inbound flights.

http://www.myfoxphilly.com/dpp/news/local_news/Overturned_Fuel_Truck_PHL_072710

USA, LA, ST. DENNIS, BAYOU, JULY 28 2010. BOAT CRASHES INTO OIL WELL, CREATING NEW SPILL IN GULF OF MEXICO



Oil and natural gas are seen shooting into the Gulf of Mexico from a damaged well near Bayou St. Dennis, La.

Fox News is being told by the Homeland Security director for Jefferson Parish, La., that a new oil leak has sprung up in the Gulf of Mexico after a boat struck an oil well in the early morning hours on Tuesday. A tugboat or other workboat collided with the well near Bayou St. Dennis, La., shearing off its valve structure and releasing pressurized natural gas and light oil, DHS official Deano Bonano told Fox News. Cleanup workers are currently booming off the area and the scene at sea has been taken over by federal agents. The U.S. Coast Guard, Jefferson Parish police and

fire officials, as well as Vessels of Opportunity boats have all been dispatched to the scene. Federal officials do not know who owns the well, but a contractor who handles wild wells is also on the way, Bonano said. Oil is spewing about 20 feet in the air from the severed 4-inch pipe, a contractor who flew over the leak told Fox News. The area has been evacuated and civilian boats are being told not to enter the scene, where "a fair bit of oil" is leaking out, the contractor said.

<http://www.foxnews.com/us/2010/07/27/boat-crashes-oil-creating-new-spill-gulf-mexico/>

USA, TX, ORANGE CO, PINE FOREST, JULY 28 2010. TCEQ CONFIRMS CONTAMINATED DIESEL WAS SOLD AT SERVICE STATION

lindsey kovacevich



The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality confirms to KFDM News that test results confirm contaminated diesel fuel was sold at a service station in Orange County. The King family recently bought a \$50,000 Dodge Ram truck. On July 10 they bought diesel at J.R. Conoco on FM 105 near Pine Forest. They say their new truck immediately stopped running and they had to spend \$16,000 on repairs. The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality began investigating J.R. Conoco north of Vidor on July 15. The king family filed a complaint after filling their new truck with diesel on July 10. They say it ruined their engine. During the same week the Kings filed their complaint, the TCEQ was called out to the Conoco station to investigate a report of a diesel spill. Witnesses said they saw

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workers from the gas station deliberately pumping diesel into a nearby ditch. State regulators say they can't be certain that the contaminated diesel found in the King's truck is the same as the diesel at the Conoco station but gas receipts and other evidence show they most likely are connected. Results from the diesel sample show that the diesel didn't meet one of the two standards and water was found in the sample. State regulators vow to move forward with their investigation despite the owner's request for a delay. "In speaking with the owner of the facility, he indicated that he would return to the country in the next few weeks and ask that we delay proceedings with our enforcement action," Heather Feldman, TCEQ Regional Director, told KFDM News. "Our response is that we are going to follow our proceedings and move forward." The owner of the Conoco was notified of several violations and the TCEQ will send him a letter spelling out fines and penalties the owner will face. The investigation is continuing.

<http://www.kfdm.com/news/truck-38745-fuel-diesel.html>

AUSTRALIA, NORTHERN TERRITORY, DARWIN, JULY 28 2010.

eleni roussos

Map: [Darwin 0800](#)



The runaway fuel tanker came to a halt outside a crash repair shop in Darwin overnight.

Police say it is lucky no-one was seriously injured when a driverless fuel tanker rolled through Darwin's CBD streets this morning before coming to a halt outside a crash repair business. The tanker was at a petrol station on Daly Street, when it began to roll away at 1am. "Apparently the brakes failed on the tanker as it was refuelling the bowsters at Shell, Daly Street," Duty Superintendent Louise Jorgensen said. "It caused it to roll down the driveway of the service station, across McMinn street, into Mirambeena Street and it sort of nudged a power pole, curled around it. "It stopped just at the entrance of a roller door of a crash repair business." She said

the driver, who was not in the truck at the time, attempted to stop it. "He sustained leg injuries when he jumped onto the cabin to stop it or steer the truck to safety," she said. She said it was amazing that no-one else was caught up in the accident. "Luckily there was no fuel on board and very luckily there was nothing in the tanker's way." In total, the tanker travelled about 80 metres before it came to a rest.

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2010/07/28/2966184.htm>

NEW ZEALAND, AUCKLAND, JULY 28 2010. RECORD FINE IMPOSED FOR PETROL STATION LEAK



Three companies found guilty of spilling 10,000 litres of petrol have been ordered to pay the heaviest fine imposed in a regional council case in Auckland. Petrol Alley Services (GAS), URS New Zealand and Brown Bros (NZ) were found guilty in the Auckland District Court over a fuel leak from a petrol station in Line Rd, Glen Innes. The companies have been ordered to pay a fine of \$160,000, as well as court costs of \$80,000. The court has also demanded an investigation of the fuel which remained in the ground, and the companies could be forced to pay a further \$200,000 for a clean-up. Prosecutor Auckland Regional Council said the charges and fine sent a strong message to large companies to be tighter in their procedures. "The fines were due to the seriousness of the incident," said lawyer Janet Whiteside. "The whole industry needs to take a message from this sort of incident

so it can't happen again." The three companies had claimed they were not at fault and had done everything reasonable to stop the petrol escaping. Engineering consultancy URS hired contractors Brown Bros to test the site for contamination by former owner Caltex. Brown Bros accidentally drilled a hole the size of a 50c piece in a fuel line used to carry 91 octane. The spill occurred when new owners GAS reopened the petrol station with the help of another company, Fuelquip. Fuelquip - which had already pleaded guilty - tested the fuel lines, unaware of the hole. The petrol leaked into the Ruapatoka Stream, 75m away, killing some wildlife. GAS had argued that the chance of a company such as URS or Brown Bros drilling a hole in a fuel line and not repairing it was extraordinary, and the company could not have foreseen it. URS and GAS each argued they could not have been expected to predict mistakes by the other. Judge Fred McElrea ruled that URS and Brown Bros did not take necessary precautions to prevent a fuel leak, and that GAS failed to order the testing of the fuel lines. GAS paid about \$205,000 in cleaning up the site after the spill in December 2007. The judge ruled that this cost should be shared by the other

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companies. GAS lawyers said 200,000 litres of petrol and oil had been sucked from the stream and the service station, and experts had said there was no need for further cleaning-up. But the ARC believed there were still pollutants in the soil, and successfully called for further remedial work.

http://www.nzherald.co.nz/crime/news/article.cfm?c_id=30&objectid=10661748

USA, TX, TEMPLE, JULY 28 2010. 18-WHEELER TANKER ACCIDENT IN TEMPLE CAUSES GAS SPILL

Clean-up crews and authorities were on the scene of an accident between two 18-wheelers Tuesday morning in Temple. Temple Police and firefighters responded to the intersection of North Highway 317 and FM 2483 around 7 a.m. where a fuel tanker truck and a gravel truck were involved in a side-to-side collision. The driver of the fuel truck was not injured, however, the other driver was transported to Scott & White Hospital with minor injuries. HAZMAT and a state-contracted clean-up company, Grones, were called to the scene due to the gravel truck gas tank spilling between 50 and 90 gallons of diesel fuel. Temple Police say the driver of the fuel truck was traveling southbound on the highway and failed to yield right-of-way as it was turning left into a private drive, causing it to collide with the other truck.

<http://www.kxxv.com/Global/story.asp?S=12878988>

INDONESIA, LAMPUNG, JULY 28 2010. INDONESIAN GAS EXPLOSION TERROR CONTINUES



State oil and gas company Pertamina gas cylinders are continuing to explode with devastating consequences.

A Lampung man suffered severe burns after a three-kilogram LPG cylinder exploded on Wednesday, just a day after provincial authorities confiscated hundreds or illegal gas cylinders stocked in a number of stores. Sukardi was cooking instant noodles in his home in Tanggamus when the explosion — the latest in an almost daily rash of similar explosions throughout Indonesia — occurred. The victim's family bathed his badly burned body in a pool of water before he was rushed to Abdul Muluk Hospital in Bandar Lampung. On Tuesday, the Lampung Office of Industry and Trade and state oil and gas company Pertamina launched a crackdown, confiscating 189 three-

kilogram gas cylinders and 50 12-kilogram cylinders without the required Indonesian National Standards (SNI) certification. The shop owners said the cylinders had been ordered from Jakarta. Raid coordinator Dedi Syailendra told Metro TV that the confiscated cylinders would be taken to Pertamina headquarters in Lampung. "We conducted the raid based on complaints from locals who were concerned about the distribution of allegedly illegal gas cylinders," Dedi said. Another gas explosion took place in Makassar, South Sulawesi, on Tuesday night. Two people were badly injured after a 12-kilogram cylinder exploded in their kitchen. Police said the explosion was caused by a faulty hose. On Monday, Pertamina president director Karen Agustiawan said that when the government's disastrous kerosene-to-gas conversion program was launched in 2006, the company was solely responsible for the program. Since then, four ministries — finance, industry, trade and manpower — had become involved, she said. "In the beginning, Pertamina was given sole charge of the scheme because it did not seem problematic," Karen said. "Then more and more authorities became involved and the scheme experienced more problems. "There are now too many institutions involved and it would be better if we reduced them to a maximum of two." When asked whether Pertamina was ready to take sole charge of the program she said: "We are ready." There have been hundreds of gas stove explosions since the conversion scheme was introduced, involving many deaths and severe injuries. With the toll from the explosions continuing to mount, President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono earlier this month ordered an investigation into the problem. Most of the explosions have involved the three-kilogram cylinders distributed by the government, leading to follow-up efforts to replace faulty parts, arrest illegal distributors and compensate victims.

<http://www.thejakartaglobe.com/news/indonesian-gas-explosion-terror-continues/388165>

CHINA, NANJING, JULY 29 2010. CHINESE LPG GAS STATION EXPLODES

A gas facility exploded on Wednesday in the Chinese city of Nanjing, local media and an oil company official said. Pictures showed flames leaping from the site and towering over a nearby three-storey building, with a column of dark smoke rising into the sky. Xinhua news agency said there were some casualties, but gave no further details. An official from state-owned oil giant Sinopec said the facility was a local liquefied petroleum gas plant. A nearby Sinopec petrol station was unaffected. LPG is butane or propane which is sold in bottles and commonly used as a convenient domestic fuel or used as a low-emission fuel for cars or buses.

<http://af.reuters.com/article/energyOilNews/idAFTOE66R03E20100728>

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USA, MA, BLANDFORD, JULY 28 2010. POLICE REPORT ACID LEAK ALONG MASSACHUSETTS TURNPIKE

• **Watch the Video** <http://www.wggb.com/Global/story.asp?S=12885092>

• **Watch the Video** <http://www.wvlp.com/dpp/news/local/hampden/Blandford-rest-area-still-closed>

Several public safety and environmental agencies are working to contain a carrier truck that is leaking sulfuric acid waste at a Massachusetts Turnpike service plaza in Blandford. The Blandford Service Area on the westbound side of the Massachusetts Turnpike was closed Tuesday after a tractor trailer developed the leak. State police said the tanker, which has been isolated, contained approximately 40,000 pounds of the waste sulfuric product. Police said haz-mat officials are trying to locate the source of the leak within the tanker. State police said there was no danger to the surrounding area, however, the substance posed a threat to those exposed to it. Police said the truck driver suffered an initial minor exposure and that the leak was limited to the rest area.

http://news.bostonherald.com/news/regional/view/20100727police_report_acid_leak_along_massachusetts_turnpike/

USA, LA, NEW ORLEANS, JULY 29 2010. CRIMINAL PROBE OF OIL SPILL TO FOCUS ON 3 FIRMS AND THEIR TIES TO REGULATORS

A team of federal investigators known as the "BP squad" is assembling in New Orleans to conduct a wide-ranging criminal probe that will focus on at least three companies and examine whether their cozy relations with federal regulators contributed to the oil disaster in the Gulf of Mexico, according to law enforcement and other sources. The squad at the FBI offices includes investigators from the [Environmental Protection Agency](#), the U.S. Coast Guard and other federal agencies, the sources said. In addition to BP, the firms at the center of the inquiry are Transocean, which leased the Deepwater Horizon rig to BP, and engineering giant Halliburton, which had finished cementing the well only 20 hours before the rig exploded April 20, sources said. While it was known that investigators are examining potential violations of environmental laws, it is now clear that they are also looking into whether company officials made false statements to regulators, obstructed justice or falsified test results for devices such as the rig's failed blowout preventer. It is unclear whether any such evidence has surfaced. One emerging line of inquiry, sources said, is whether inspectors for the Minerals Management Service, the federal agency charged with regulating the oil industry -- which is itself investigating the disaster -- went easy on the companies in exchange for money or other inducements. A series of federal audits has documented the MMS's close relationship with the industry. "The net is wide," said one federal official who spoke on the condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak publicly. The [Justice Department](#) investigation -- announced in June by Attorney General [Eric H. Holder Jr.](#) and accompanied by parallel state criminal probes in Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama -- is one of at least nine investigations into the worst oil spill in U.S. history. Unlike the public hearings held last week in Kenner, La., by a federal investigatory panel, the criminal probe has operated in the shadows. But it could lead to large fines for the companies and jail time for executives if the government files charges and proves its case. Justice Department officials declined to comment Tuesday. Holder, in an interview with CBS News this month, confirmed that investigators are conducting a broad probe. "There are a variety of entities and a variety of people who are the subjects of that investigation," Holder said. In an additional avenue of inquiry, BP disclosed in a regulatory filing Tuesday that the Justice Department and the Securities and Exchange Commission are looking into "securities matters" relating to the spill, although no more details were included. Scott Dean, a spokesman for London-based BP, said the company "will cooperate with any inquiry the Justice Department undertakes, just as we are doing in response to other inquiries that are ongoing." Brian Kennedy, a spokesman for Transocean, a former U.S. firm now based in Switzerland, declined to comment, as did Teresa Wong, a spokeswoman for Houston-based Halliburton. Halliburton informed its shareholders about the Justice Department probe in its July 23 quarterly report to securities regulators. It also noted that the department warned the company not to make "substantial" transfers of assets while the matter is under scrutiny. The probe is in its early stages, with investigators digging through tens of thousands of documents turned over by the companies, beginning to interview company officials and trying to determine the basics of who was responsible for various operations on the rig. Although lawyers familiar with the case expect that environmental-related charges -- which have a low burden of proof -- will be filed, some doubted that investigators can prove more serious violations such as lying or falsifying test results. "That's hard to prove," said one lawyer, who spoke on the condition of anonymity because details of the investigation are not public. "It's hard to show that somebody who could have died on the rig was malicious and reckless and intentionally did something that jeopardized their own life." The emerging focus creates potentially awkward interactions on several levels. Investigators are probing companies, especially BP, which the government has been forced to work with in cleaning up the oil that cascaded into the gulf. And the former Minerals Management Service, which sources said has attracted the attention of criminal investigators, is helping to lead the federal panel that conducted last week's hearings in Louisiana. Federal auditors have in recent years documented a culture at the MMS in which inspectors improperly accepted gifts from oil and gas companies,

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moved freely between industry and government and, in one instance, negotiated for a job with a company under inspection. After the most recent investigation was released in May, Interior Secretary [Ken Salazar](#) said he had asked his department's acting inspector general, Mary Kendall, to expand her inquiry to include whether MMS failed to adequately inspect the Deepwater Horizon rig or enforce federal standards. One law enforcement official said criminal investigators will look for evidence that MMS inspectors were bribed or promised industry jobs in exchange for lenient treatment. "Every instinct I have tells me there ought to be numerous indictable cases in that connection between MMS and the industry," said this official, who spoke on the condition of anonymity because the investigation is unfolding. Melissa Schwartz, a spokeswoman for the former MMS (now called the [Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement](#)), declined to comment. FBI agents and other investigators are working with prosecutors from the environmental crimes section of the Justice Department, along with local U.S. attorney's offices. Officials would not provide details about the new squad starting in the FBI's New Orleans office. Sources said it is known internally as "the BP squad," though it will examine all companies involved with the Deepwater rig. After learning what is in the thousands of documents, investigators plan to "start trying to turn one witness against the other, get insider information," said the law enforcement official. The official said that no decisions on criminal charges are imminent and that "you can bet on it being more than a year before any kind of indictment comes down."

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/07/27/AR2010072706052.html>

CHINA, NANJING, QIXIA, JULY 29 2010. CHINESE FACTORY EXPLOSION INJURES 100'S >> BLAST AT DISUSED CHEMICAL PLANT IN NANJING KILLS AT LEAST 12

 **Slideshow** <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-asia-pacific-10787548>



Residents and a firefighter carry a man injured in an explosion at a chemical factory in Nanjing.

An explosion at a chemical factory in east China has killed at least six people and left hundreds injured, state media reported today. The blast damaged buildings and vehicles within a hundred-metre radius of the plant in Nanjing, injuring passengers on a passing bus. Nearby residents fled, many fearing an earthquake, as shockwaves hit their homes and windows shattered. At least six people were recorded dead at nearby hospitals, according to the state news agency Xinhua. It said reporters had seen burnt bodies carried from the disaster scene. Local media reported that more than 300 people had been taken to hospital and at least 50 were

seriously injured. One victim was reportedly crushed as he slept, when the ceiling of his home collapsed on him. He died in hospital. Xinhua said an early investigation showed the blast was triggered by a gas leak from a pipeline at the disused factory in Qixia district, in the north of Nanjing. Photographs showed flames several storeys high shooting from the rubble and a huge cloud of black smoke, but Xinhua reported that firefighters had brought the blaze under control. Rescuers are combing through the wreckage. "The ceiling boards fell in and the windows shattered," said an employee at the nearby Nanjing Qixia Maigaoqiao hospital. "A lot of us thought it was an earthquake – we heard a big noise, but we thought it was thunder. "A couple of minutes later, ambulances started coming in and that was when we realised it was an explosion. There was a huge flow of people. Some of their heads were covered in blood and their skin was peeling off their bodies. Some had lost all their hair." She added that casualties were still coming in, although more slowly. Staff from other hospitals had come to help treat the wounded, she said. Xinhua reported that long-term patients were evacuated to make way for the wounded and that some hospitals had almost run out of blood. Residents donated blood at a mobile collection vehicle near the site.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2010/jul/28/chinese-factory-explosion-nanjing>

INDONESIA, JAKARTA, JULY 29 2010. LPG EXPLOSIONS LEAVE 7 DEAD, 51 INJURED: POLICE

There have been 32 reported cases of gas explosions in the capital as of July 2010, killing 7 and injuring 51 people, City Police spokesperson Sr. Comr. Boy Rafli Amar told detiknews.com. The police had increased efforts to prevent future explosions by intensifying monitoring of gas filling stations, and also planned to raid gas manufacturers, Boy said. Five illegal gas canister manufacturers had been apprehended during raids between January and July this year. "We will raid more factories and arrest those who produce gas canisters that do not meet national standards," Boy said. The police are working with Pertamina to coordinate the operation.

<http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2010/07/29/lpg-explosions-leave-7-dead-51-injured-police.html>

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