

Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network

Release 2010 – 643 Newsy Stuff

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

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USA, LA, ALEXANDRIA, SEPTEMBER 19 2010. VEHICLES DAMAGED WHEN DIESEL FUEL IS SOLD BY MISTAKE AT A CIRCLE K IN ALEXANDRIA

richard sharkey



Some fuel pump handles remain covered Friday at the Circle K store at 5819 Masonic Drive in Alexandria. Earlier this week, diesel fuel was coming out of gasoline pumps and vice versa, a state agency reports. That led to some vehicles' fuel systems being damaged.

James Johnson pulled in for gas in Alexandria, got \$30 worth and headed toward Bunkie. It didn't take long before he realized something was wrong as his 2008 Chevrolet Silverado pickup pulling a loaded 26-foot-long trailer began to slow down. "I noticed it didn't have the power" it normally does, Johnson said. Later, "it didn't want to crank." He soon discovered the problem -- there was diesel fuel in his vehicle, which is designed for gasoline. He was among the victims of a mistake in which diesel was put into a gasoline tank and gasoline was put into a diesel tank at the Circle K store at 5819 Masonic Drive. It's unclear how many people were affected, but Johnson said he understands it was hundreds. The incident led to the pumps at the store being shut down, although the gasoline pumps have now been cleared as no longer contaminated, according to Sam Irwin, press secretary for the state Department of Agriculture and Forestry. An Ag Department inspector investigated complaints about the pumps and found that indeed diesel had been put in a tank meant for gasoline and vice versa, Irwin said. Circle K officials could not be contacted for comment Friday. The manager of the Masonic Drive store referred questions to marketing official Tim Brown, but efforts to reach him and other Circle K officials for comment were unsuccessful. Putting diesel into a vehicle designed for gas can damage the fuel system, but putting gas into a vehicle designed for diesel is even worse, according to Brother Fowlkes of Darrell's Auto Service, which is at 6304 Masonic Drive, not that far from the Circle K. Fowlkes said some of the vehicles which got the wrong fuel at Circle K were brought to his shop for repair. Because some customers were bringing their vehicles to Darrell's, Fowlkes was familiar with the Circle K fuel problem. "They dropped 3,000 gallons of diesel in the gas and 3,000 gallons of gas in the diesel," Fowlkes said. Johnson said, "It's just going to mess up your fuel system." The good news is that Circle K and its insurer, Wells Fargo, have been helpful in taking care of customers whose vehicles were affected, Johnson said. Irwin said Agriculture officials received 10 complaints about the fuel mixup on Tuesday. "We got the first complaint at 8:15 in the morning. We sent out one of our inspectors" and all the gas pumps were shut down by 9," Irwin said. Samples of the fuel were drawn and taken to a Baton Rouge lab for testing, he said. "The gas pumps over at that station have all been cleared, but there's still a problem with the diesel. The diesel still has some contamination in it," Irwin said. Some of the fuel pump handles at the store were covered on Friday afternoon. The people who complained to Agriculture were sent letters to let them know of the fuel contamination, Irwin said, and it's up to the victims to work with Circle K concerning repairs to undo the damage. Agriculture inspectors do check calibration on gas pumps -- "if you're pumping five gallons, you're going to get five gallons" - and check the octane to make sure it's as advertised. They also investigate complaints about gas pumps. Asked if this type of fuel mixup is rare, Irwin said, "I wouldn't say it's rare, but it's not commonplace. But accidents do happen." Johnson, 50, of Alexandria wasn't the only one in his family who fell victim. His stepson also ended up with the wrong fuel in his vehicle from the Circle K. But while his stepson was able to get his vehicle's fuel system fixed right away, Johnson is still waiting on his to be repaired. He has been driving the truck some even though it's not running right because he hasn't been able to find a big enough rental truck with a tow package that he needs to haul the "red lead sled" trailer needed for his work for Window World of Alexandria. And he didn't want to take advantage of the insurance company by taking off work and seeking reimbursement for that. He said the insurance company for Circle K "is doing a fantastic job" in dealing with him and other affected customers. Fowlkes agreed, saying, "They have cooperated to every end trying to make everything right." Johnson said he is a regular at that Circle K, and the fuel mixup wouldn't stop him from going back. "It was a simple mistake" that could have happened at any station. He noted that he often doesn't get a receipt for his fuel purchases, but he did that day. His stepson didn't have a receipt, but Circle K took care of his vehicle because it was shown to have diesel in the fuel system, Johnson said. For the vehicles being brought to Darrell's with the diesel in the gas tank, Fowlkes said, the first thing that needs to be done is to drain and clean the gas tank. Then, the lines have to be flushed, the fuel filter needs to be replaced, the spark plugs need to be changed, and then the injectors need to be flushed and cleaned. "You just have to clean the fuel system on it," Fowlkes said, and after that it's usually ready to go after getting a full tank of good gas. Such an incident doesn't usually ruin the vehicle entirely, he said. When diesel is put into a vehicle designed for gas, "it's going to lose power, it's going to start blowing smoke out of the tailpipe and eventually just die,"

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Fowikes said. Repairing the fuel system is not cheap -- it can cost more than \$1,000 -- as several hours of work are needed to repair certain vehicles.

<http://www.thetowntalk.com/article/20100918/NEWS01/9180336/1002/Vehicles-damaged-when-diesel-fuel-is-sold-by-mistake-at-a-Circle-K-in-Alexandria->

CANADA, SASKATCHEWAN, FORT QU'APPELLE, SEPTEMBER 19 2010. ANHYDROUS AMMONIA TANKER TRUCK COLLISION KILLS WOMAN



The crash happened on Highway 10, about two kilometres west of Balcarres, Sask. A 54-year-old woman has been killed in what police are calling a "near-head-on" collision between a car and a semi-trailer truck hauling a tanker of ammonia. Police said the crash happened Friday night around 7 p.m. CST on Highway 10 two kilometres west of Balcarres, Sask., about 90 kilometres northeast of Regina. The vehicles struck each other on the driver-side corners, and the impact sent both the truck and the car into the ditch, police said Saturday. The woman, the only person in the car, was pronounced dead at the scene. The trucker was taken to hospital for treatment of minor injuries and released. A portion of the highway was still closed

Saturday morning for the investigation and cleanup. Police said a specialized hazardous materials team was called in to deal with the truck's cargo. The tanker was carrying anhydrous ammonia, a toxic chemical used commercially in the production of fertilizer.

<http://www.cbc.ca/canada/saskatchewan/story/2010/09/18/sk-fatal-mva.html>

USA, AKA, KETCHIKAN, SEPTEMBER 19 2010. DIESEL FUEL SPILLS WHEN CRANE TIPS ON BARGE.



Coast Guardsmen from Marine Safety Detachment Ketchikan and Station Ketchikan assess damage from an overturned crane on board the 150-foot Amack Towing barge Quartz Hill Sept. 16, 2010. The crane's fall forced two barge crewmen to jump into the water to avoid being hit prompting a response from the Coast Guard, Ketchikan Police Department and Alaska State Troopers.

Crews on Friday cleaned up diesel fuel that spilled when a crane tipped over on a barge near Ketchikan. The Coast Guard says no one was injured in the mishap Thursday evening at Ward Cove, but two workers dove into the water to avoid the falling crane. Coast Guard officials say the crane fell as the crew of the 150-foot barge Quartz Hill was anchoring a buoy. The Coast Guard says about 75 gallons of diesel spilled from the overturned crane, with an unknown volume of the fuel reaching the water. The barge is owned by Amak Towing of Ketchikan. Company

manager John Thompson says the fuel was cleaned up and boom was placed around the area.

<http://www.adn.com/2010/09/17/1459869/diesel-fuel-spills-when-crate.html>

CHINA, ZHEJIANG PROVINCE, JINHUA, SEPTEMBER 19 2010. ACID LEAK IN E. CHINA CAUSES TOXIC FUMES



A worker walks along a street enveloped in yellow and red smoke in Jinhua city in east China's Zhejiang Province on Friday, September 17, 2010.

Dark red and yellow toxic fumes blanketed streets in Jinhua city in east China's Zhejiang Province on Friday after eight tons of highly corrosive acid leaked from an abandoned chemical plant, Xinhua News Agency reports. About 10 tons of strong acid leaked from an obsolete tank, according to the owner of the plant, surnamed Jin, who was later summoned by police to assist with the investigation. Local police, firefighters and environmental protection officials managed to get the leak under control in more than two hours. No casualties were reported.

<http://english.cri.cn/6909/2010/09/18/53s595188.htm>

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USA, LA, LAKE CHARLES, SEPTEMBER 19 2010. COLLISION NEAR GAS STATION SENDS FLAMES SHOOTING

brandon Richards

 **Watch the Video** <http://www.kplctv.com/Global/story.asp?S=13172169>



A two-car collision near a gas station sent flames shooting as one of the vehicles crashed into a gas pump. It happened around 9:30 A.M. at the intersection of 18th and Lake Street in front of the Conoco gas station. Eyewitnesses said a black SUV was traveling southbound and tried beating a yellow light when it struck a maroon sedan. The driver of the broadsided sedan was taken to St. Patrick's Hospital. She was later released. Witnesses said she was trapped in her car and they had to pull her out. "We just wanted to get her out of danger," said Sheila Anderson, an eyewitness who along with Heather Fontenot pulled the driver of the sedan to safety. "One accident was enough." "If that would have blown up, she could have been dead," said Fontenot. "She was too close to the gas station. We had to help her get out. That would have been horrible." The driver of the SUV jumped out of her vehicle and ran away from the gas pump fearing it would explode even further, according to witnesses. Workers at the gas station quickly shut off the gas before a

larger fire broke out. The gas pump was completely charred and the canopy covering the gas pump was also damaged and leaning to one side. Traffic on Lake Street was closed for over an hour as crews worked to remove debris from the road. Lake Charles Fire Department and Lake Charles Police responded to the scene.

<http://www.kplctv.com/Global/story.asp?S=13172169>

USA, MN, DETROIT LAKES, SEPTEMBER 19 2010. GAS PUMP KNOCKED OVER, FALLS ONTO WOMAN IN DETROIT LAKES

Police say a Lake Park woman filling up at a Detroit Lakes gas station was injured late Thursday when a van knocked over the gas pump and it fell on her, bursting into flames. Detroit Lakes Police Chief Kelvin Keena identified the victim as 29-year-old Jessica Endres. She was taken to St. Mary's Innovis Health in Detroit Lakes with a significant cut on her arm, bruising and scratches, Keena said. A condition report wasn't available. The van's alleged driver, Gayleen Schulz-Mohamed, 42, of Pelican Rapids, was arrested on suspicion of DWI and criminal vehicular operation and taken to the Becker County Jail. According to Keena: The driver and her husband were leaving the Holiday Station at 233 Frazee St. E. in a maroon minivan around 10 p.m. when she backed into a barricade protecting vent poles for the underground gas tanks. She then drove forward and hit a parked car and veered off and hit the gas pump. The pump was knocked over onto Endres and burst into flames. The van's driver then backed up and hit another car. Police arrived and tried to move everyone away from the burning pump, but Keena said some bystanders were being belligerent and wouldn't leave. No one else was injured in the incident, he said.

<http://www.inforum.com/event/article/id/291564/group/News/>

JORDAN, AMMAN SEPTEMBER 21 2010. NO CASUALTIES REPORTED IN WEST AMMAN GAS STATION FIRE

rana husseini



Police officers and firefighters gather at a gas station in Amman after a fire was put off on Sunday evening.

A fire that broke out at a gas station in the Um Utheina neighbourhood on Sunday evening was brought under control without any reported casualties, official sources said. The fire started at 6:48pm when a Jordan Petroleum tanker was unloading fuel in a special reserve well located at the gas station, an official source told The Jordan Times. "A small explosion occurred because of the fire, but investigators are still unable to determine how the fire started," the official said. He added that around 15 Civil Defence Department (CDD) fire engines rushed to the scene and sprayed foam on the well and surrounding area. "The CDD teams managed to bring the fire under control at around 7:10pm and managed to prevent it from

spreading or causing any further damage to the station," a second source said. The sound of the explosion caused panic among area residents and caused a traffic jam in the area. Residents in surrounding neighbourhoods of west Amman including Abdoun also said they heard the explosion. "We were extremely lucky because the CDD responded quickly to the

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fire and the foam used to extinguish the fire helped prevent any further threats to the gas station and the surrounding area," the source said. The CDD formed a committee to investigate the incident, the source said.

<http://www.jordantimes.com/?news=30190>

USA, N.C, CAMP LEJEUNE, SEPTEMBER 20 2010. LAWMAKER CRITICIZES MILITARY OVER WATER AT NC BASE

Military leaders cared more about fending off bad press than helping Marines sickened by contaminated water at Camp Lejeune, a North Carolina lawmaker claimed at a hearing Thursday focused on health concerns at the sprawling Marine base in his state. Democratic Rep. Brad Miller said Navy and Marine Corps leaders have been "relying on the advice of lawyers, hiding behind science that is slow and uncertain, and spending more energy on public relations than on helping Marines and their families." A Marine Corps official said the military's actions when the contamination was first discovered were "astounding." "I think they were ignorant, quite frankly, of some of the implications," said Maj. Gen. Gray Payne, who until recently was responsible for Marine Corps facilities, including environmental protection. "I think we were lulled into a sense of complacency, or at least a lack of urgency. ... There were many, many errors made on behalf of the Marine Corps." Payne, who was not in that role at the time of the contamination, testified before a House Science and Technology subcommittee. Wells at the base were contaminated by fuel leaks and other sources of pollution, and health officials believe as many as 1 million people may have been exposed to tainted water before the wells were closed two decades ago. Tests done in the early 1980s showed that water at a base treatment plant was "highly contaminated" with chlorinated hydrocarbons, but officials did not test individual wells to find the contamination source. Three men who have developed cancer after living at the base also testified at the hearing. Peter Devereaux said he was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2008, which has since spread to his spine, ribs and hip, and is incurable. "This disease has not only ravaged me it has also ravaged my entire family," said Devereaux, who was stationed at the base from 1980–82. Devereaux said the Marines knew about the contamination but said nothing. He said he was initially denied disability benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs, but won an appeal last month. He called on the VA to expedite the process for people in his situation. "You feel like you have to beg for something," he said. James Watters, stationed at the base from 1977 to 1979, said he was diagnosed with advanced renal cell carcinoma in 2007. "It is my firm belief," he said, that Marine Corps and Navy leaders "have abandoned and betrayed their wounded from Camp Lejeune, including women and children, and left them to suffer and die." He, too, called on the VA to streamline disability claims for people who have been sickened at the base, saying it took him a hard battle to secure those benefits for his family. Thomas J. Pamperin, a senior official at the VA for policy, told the subcommittee that the department processes disability claims on a case-by-case basis for people who were possibly exposed to chemical contaminants at Camp Lejeune. "VA stands ready to provide treatment and compensation for any veteran whose current disability is the result of service at Camp Lejeune," he said.

Online: Camp Lejeune: <http://www.lejeune.usmc.mil/>

<http://technews.tmcnet.com/topics/associated-press/articles/102762-lawmaker-criticizes-military-over-water-nc-base.htm>

USA, VIRGIN ISLANDS, ST. CROIX, SEPTEMBER 20 2010. HOVENSA GAS LEAK MAY HAVE DIRTIED CISTERNS

charlotte amalie

U.S. Virgin Islands officials are urging St. Croix residents to avoid drinking cistern water due to an industrial gas leak at the Hovensa oil refinery. Health Commissioner Julia Sheen says Hovensa officials reported a low-concentration leak of light vacuum gas oil and hydrogen sulfide that lasted for 20 minutes Sunday before being contained. Environmental officials found no trace of the chemicals in the air, but Sheen urged people not to drink cistern water from rooftops as a precaution. The cause of the leak was not clear. Hovensa is owned by New York-based Hess Corp. and Petroleos de Venezuela SA, Venezuela's state oil company. It has a processing capacity of 500,000 barrels per day.

<http://www.businessweek.com/ap/financialnews/D9IB6T4O0.htm>

INDIA, MUMBAI, SEPTEMBER 20 2010. PRODUCER & DISTRIBUTOR BOTH LIABLE FOR LPG LEAK

In case there is leakage in the cooking gas (liquefied petroleum gas or LPG) cylinder, the regulator or the tube resulting in a mishap causing loss of life or injury and damage to the household goods and/ or building structure, whom would you blame? Obviously, the LPG distributor and the producer both. But no one claims responsibility. The distributor disowns it on the ground that it supplies the cylinders, regulators and the plastic tubes as they are received from the manufacturers. The LPG producers, however, put in a specious plea that their relationship with the distributors is that of 'principal to principal' and not of 'principal and agent' and hence, the liability of any deficiency in service committed by a distributor leading to injury to a consumer is not fastened to the manufacturers. Are these pleas justified or legally sustainable? The consumer courts have

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recently supplied answer thereto by repelling both of them and thereby putting an end to the controversies causing immense mental tension to the suffering consumers. In the case of Indian Oil Corp Ltd (IOC) Vs Rakesh Kumar Prajapati 2008 CTJ 1083 (CP) the facts were that the complainant, Rakesh Kumar, an auto rickshaw driver, got a gas connection from Smriti Indane Gas Agency, Bhopal, which was insured with United India Insurance Co Ltd. There was leakage from the cylinder/ regulator. A complaint was made to the dealer but it did not take any action. Later, a fire accident occurred due to the leakage of LPG as a result of which Pratiksha, the complainant's two- year- old daughter, died due to burn injuries. His wife was also badly injured. Kumar is stated to have spent Rs 80,000 on the treatment of his daughter and wife. He filed a consumer complaint and the matter went up to the apex National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission. IOC pleaded that their contract with the dealers is on principal to principal basis and error, if any, committed by the dealer, cannot make the manufacturer liable. Repelling this contention, the Commission held in this case that the dealer as well as IOC were jointly liable to compensate the complainant. Reliance was also placed on the Liquefied Petroleum Gas (Regulation of Supply & Distribution) Order dated April 26, 2000, (published in the Gazette Notification), which makes it clear that " the distributor/ dealer would be acting only under the authority of the company and not independently." In the case of Govindrao & Ors v Hindustan Petroleum (O. P. 343 of 1999) decided by the National Commission on November 24, 2009, which granted a compensation of ` 20,79,354 to be paid jointly by the manufacturers and the distributors, the Commission held that " despite that the manufacturer has inserted the clause that the agreement is between principal to principal, the clauses clearly lead to the conclusion that the dealer was an agent of the manufacturer." In this case also the leakage from the gas cylinder led to huge fire causing immense loss to the property. In yet another case of D. Shanker v Gopi Agencies & Ors 2010 CTJ 1015 (CP), decided by the National Consumer Commission on July 13, 2010, leakage of gas resulted in a fire in the complainant's house which lead to the death of his wife and caused injuries to his daughter. The complainant claimed compensation of ` 8.44 lakhs in consumer complaints filed by Shanker and his daughter Sangeeta. Here, too, the manufacturer, IOC, urged that their contract with the dealers being on principal to principal basis, they cannot be hauled up for any deficiency on the part of the dealer. Rejecting this contention, the National Commission, before whom the case had come up in revision, held both dealer and IOC guilty and directed them to pay a consolidated sum of ` 5 lakh as compensation to the complainant. The above decisions result in the conclusion that barring such stray cases where the fault lies only with the distributor, in all other cases where the cylinders, regulators and tubes are found to be defective, leading to the leakage of gas and causing damage to the life and property of the consumers, both the distributors and manufacturers have been held liable and the manufacturers' contention that they are not liable, even vicariously, holds no water.

<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/site/Story/113339/Business/producer-&-distributor-both-liable-for-lpg-leak.html>

USA, CT, DARIEN, SEPTEMBER 20 2010. HYDROGEN PEROXIDE LEAK CLOSES DARIEN REST AREA

martin b cassidy

The northbound I-95 rest area near Exit 13 in Darien was shut down for nearly four hours Sunday afternoon after a hydrogen peroxide solution leaked at the site, according to state police. The closure and response by the [Darien Fire Department](#) slowed traffic in both directions for hours as firefighters flushed the spill with water, according to police. The Darien Fire Department shut down the rest area around 1:45 p.m., but reopened parking for cars shortly before 6 p.m., according to police. Attempts to reach Darien Fire Chief [Rick Weatherstone](#) and other department officials were unsuccessful Sunday. The [Fairfield County Hazardous Incident Response Team](#) did not respond to the unit, said Norwalk Fire Chief [Dennis McCarthy](#). Hydrogen peroxide is a non-flammable liquid that can result in spontaneous combustion if it evaporates on organic material, and can be hazardous if fumes are inhaled in high enough concentrations, according to the federal [Occupational Health & Safety Administration](#).

<http://www.ctpost.com/local/article/Hydrogen-peroxide-leak-closes-Darien-rest-area-665883.php>

USA, PA, HAZELTON, SEPTEMBER 21 2010. PA. TIRE DEALER FOUND NEGLIGENT IN GASOLINE LEAK

A Luzerne County, Pa., civil jury last week found Tranguch Tire Service Center in Hazleton, Pa., negligent for allowing underground gasoline contamination. The jury also found Exxon Mobil was partially responsible the 1993 spill in Hazleton that leaked hundreds of gallons of gasoline into the soil, though the oil company itself did not act negligently. In phase two of the trial, the jury decided the two families who sued the tire dealership and Exxon Mobil won't receive compensation for the contamination of part of their neighborhood. The jury ruled Tranguch acted on behalf of Exxon Mobil by selling its gasoline at its Church Street station and acted negligently. However, the ruling said Exxon Mobil did not act negligently and was not operating under the state Underground Storage Tank Compliance Act, which requires inspection and maintenance of

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underground fuel tanks. Local news reports said at the time of the contamination, dozens of residents nearby lived with gasoline under their home and sometimes fumes inside.

http://www.tirereview.com/Article/79562/pa_tire_dealer_found_negligent_in_gasoline_leak.aspx

USA, TX, LUBBOCK, SEPTEMBER 21 2010. FUEL SPILL BACKS UP TRAFFIC AT 34TH STREET 7-ELEVEN

alyssa dizon

A fuel truck spewed several gallons of oil Sunday morning at a Lubbock 7-Eleven. At around 9:10 a.m., firefighters and police officers responded to the spill at 2501 34th St., at the intersection with South University Avenue. Traffic was re-routed for 45 minutes to an hour in the area while crews worked to clean up the fuel, Lubbock police said. A police officer was transported to University Medical Center for oil-fume inhalation, but he was released shortly thereafter. Police said the truck spilled about 30 to 35 gallons of oil.

<http://lubbockonline.com/local-news/2010-09-20/fuel-spill-backs-traffic-34th-street-7-eleven>

AUSTRALIA, QUEENSLAND, TOOWOOMBA, SEPTEMBER 20 2010. CREW RUSHES TO MOP UP FUEL SPILL

stephanie bauer



Queensland Fire and Rescue personnel and nursery staff clean up a fuel spill.

Between two and three thousand litres of boiler fuel spilt at a nursery located in Castle Road, Cabarlah, at the weekend. It is believed the oil leaked from a storage tank and it was discovered on Saturday about 8.30am. Toowoomba Fire and Rescue attended the scene with environmental officers from the Toowoomba Regional Council. About 400 litres of the non-hazardous fuel was cleaned up by hand. The remaining fuel had to be cleaned up by earth-moving equipment. It is unknown yet what effect the fuel has had on the surrounding environment. The owners of the property declined to comment.

<http://www.thechronicle.com.au/story/2010/09/20/crew-rushes-to-mop-up-fuel-spill/>

USA, CO, DENVER, SEPTEMBER 20 2010. BLENDING LESS THAN 80 PERCENT BIO FUEL MAKES PETROLEUM DIRTIER



Oil refinery in Barton Texas 2009.

WillieDiesel, the Willie Nelson bio-diesel, is a scam as is all bio-fuel not meeting scientific purity standards when mixed with any petroleum product. Any thing less than what the United States Environmental Protection Agency and Department of Energy call "Neat" bio-fuel which is 80% or more of Ethanol or Soy (Methanol is a carcinogen that poisons public and private groundwater drinking supplies and banned in the late 1990's) makes the petroleum dirtier. Ethanol raises the Reid Vapor Pressure (RVP), the volatility and evaporation rate of gasoline in a fuel tank, by a whopping 1.0 gram per mile according to the EPA emissions Modeling and Assessment Division (MAD) in the Office of Transportation and Air Quality (OTAQ). This has been known in air quality regulation circles for several decades and is scientific fact. Governor Mel Carnehan (deceased) Governor D-MO in 1993 could not believe it when I told him Missouri's 10% ethanol gasoline blend caused most of

the Missouri's air pollution problems. But the politics of Midwestern Corn Growers is immense. Science does not always trump politics in public health and property protection regulation and Congressional Corn and Soy Grower subsidies to produce Ethanol for transportation. Food prices of corn and soy have climbed exponentially since it was introduced as a fuel additive in the 1970's and even more so since methanol was banned in the late 1990's. Evaporative emissions of gasoline are larger than the tailpipe emissions thanks to Detroit's prowess at building superb clean air vehicles since 1990. The Federal Tier 1 and Tier 2 engine out tailpipe emissions standards for cars and trucks enacted by Congress on November 15, 1990 and signed George Hoover Bush remain the driving force of Clean Air transportation law. The Gingrich Republicans tried to repeal it but they could not because they auto industry and petroleum industry lost case after case in the Reagan-Bush Republican dominated

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judicial system of the 1990's. When bio-fuel is added to diesel, diesel breaks down and evaporates. Diesel is not volatile and does not evaporate until bio-fuel is mixed with it below the so called, "neat", 80% bio-fuel requirement. This is not personal politics or lobbyist sponsored politics. It is scientific fact. It is also scientific fact that bio-fuel use in transportation drives up the supermarket shelf price of corn and soy and the thousands of products they are used in. Bio-fuel is not cheaper than gasoline or diesel, is not cheaper to produce, transport and distribute and can never be produced in large enough numbers to offset a very small amount of gasoline usage. As a fuel additive Ethanol Tertiarybutylether (ETBE) is very useful in lowering engine out tailpipe emissions from cars and trucks in Reformulated Gasoline (RFG). In the rush to increase fuel economy with diesel mixture of bio-fuels, even the National Resources Defense Council (NRDC) and Sierra Club are a little fuzzy about bio-fuels when it comes to traditional asthma and cancer causing Criteria Pollutants from petroleum that cause ground level ozone in sunny 80o plus weather. Politics of Midwestern Corn Growers and Southern Soy Growers and Big Environmental Advocacy should not cloud air quality control and regulation just because some people think parochial interests and the Johnny come lately to the air quality table, sexy Climate Change Control are more important than asthma or cancer caused by bio-fuel mixed with petroleum.

<http://www.examiner.com/environmental-policy-in-national/blending-less-than-80-percent-bio-fuel-makes-petroleum-dirtier-1>

USA, CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD, SEPTEMBER 21 2010. GAS STATIONS FUMING ABOUT ORDER TO REMOVE NOZZLE LATCHES

susanne rust



A new kind of gas nozzle has been implicated in the dousing of more than a dozen customers, one of whom was hospitalized.

California gas station owners are fuming about new emission-trapping pump nozzles required by the state's pollution regulator, the Air Resources Board, after more than a dozen customers were sprayed with gasoline. The state fire marshal is so concerned about the malfunctioning devices that it has [ordered the removal](#) of all the latches on the nozzles – despite a state law requiring them. And that order, which was issued in August, has left service stations in an awkward, possibly dangerous and financially unpalatable situation. No one wants to take responsibility for fixing 35,000 nozzles at thousands of stations across California. Replacing all the nozzles would cost about \$10.5 million. The problem, which impacts roughly one-third of the state's gas stations that have converted to the newer nozzles, centers around a

malfunctioning latch made by Vapor Systems Technologies in Springboro, Ohio. The latch in question is a metal clip used to prop open the nozzle's lever, which allows gas to flow into the tank without the customer manually having to hold the lever. The malfunction occurs after a customer has used the latch while filling their tank with a fixed amount of gas, for instance \$10 or \$20 worth. The clip should release, but it doesn't. The next customer is then doused before inserting the nozzle into the gas tank. More than a dozen incidents were reported. One person was hospitalized after getting sprayed. Service station owners have until October 15 to remove the latches, but they are wary and angry about the removal order. They say nozzles without the latches are [potentially more dangerous](#) than ones without them, because customers will use other devices – including bubble gum, wallets or cigarette lighters – to keep the nozzles open. The fire marshal "has solved one problem and created a bunch of others," said Tom Robinson, president of the Robinson Oil Co., which owns and operates more than 30 Rotten Robbie service stations in the Bay Area. But because there are no alternative nozzles on the market to replace the malfunctioning ones, service station owners are left with two choices: They can allow Vapor Systems Technologies technicians to remove the latches and deal with potentially dangerous customer behavior. Or they can disobey the fire marshal and face the consequences, including having their pumps shut down by the local fire department or dealing with liability issues if someone gets sprayed by a malfunctioning nozzle. All California service stations were required by the Air Resources Board to have next-generation nozzles installed on gasoline pumps by April 2009. These new devices are designed to capture emissions escaping from the fuel tank before they enter the atmosphere, where the vapors create ozone and pollution. To date, about one-third of the state's gas stations have made the switch. The nozzle program is the result of the [Enhanced Vapor Recovery](#) regulations that were announced in 2000. At the time, several thousand service stations had no options – there simply wasn't a nozzle on the market equipped with a "balance system" for vapor recovery. In December 2008, four months before the deadline, Vapor Systems Technologies released a vapor-trapping nozzle certified by the Air Resources Board and the state fire marshal. At about \$300 each, the nozzles were installed at 3,000 service stations in use across the state – a total of about 35,000 nozzles. Yet, it wasn't long before trouble started happening. In the spring of 2010, service

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stations began reporting incidents of customers getting doused with gasoline by Vapor Systems Technologies nozzles. "In every single one of these cases, it all had to do with the functioning and mechanics with the hold-open latch," said Daniel Berlant, spokesman for the state fire marshal. Officials from [Vapor Systems Technologies](#) said there is nothing inherently wrong with the nozzle. Todd Sorrell, spokesman for the company, said the majority of malfunctioning nozzles had surpassed their one-year warranty when the incidents occurred. Indeed, "all gasoline nozzles, or any mechanical device for that matter, will eventually fail for some reason," wrote [Glenn K. Walker](#), Vapor Systems president, in a letter dated June 21, 2010, to California service stations. The company says the nozzles were damaged by wear and tear. According to the company, every month there are 2,000 drive-offs or breakaways involving its nozzles at California gas stations. A drive-off is when a customer forgets the nozzle in the gas tank and begins to drive away from the pump. Vapor Systems is working on a new replacement nozzle they hope will be on the market soon. It's unclear who will ultimately foot the multimillion dollar bill for the new nozzles. "Unfortunately, this is all likely headed toward the courts," said Jay McKeeman, spokesman for the California Independent Oil Marketers Association, a trade association. To read more about the trade association's concerns, go [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#). The Air Resources Board provided California Watch with a [surveillance video from a gas station in Oxnard](#), showing a spill: <http://californiawatch.org/watchblog/gas-stations-fuming-about-order-remove-nozzle-latches-4781>

USA, NV, LAS VEGAS, SEPTEMBER 21 2010. EXPLOSION ROCKS GAS STATION, HURTS BUSINESSES >> STATION SUFFERS \$100,000 IN DAMAGE

An explosion at a gas station over the weekend not only means the station is a total loss, it's hurting nearby businesses, too. The explosion created a huge fireball at a gas station near Craig Road and Interstate 15 late Saturday night or early Sunday morning. No one was hurt in the explosion, but it did tear the roof off the building and send the front door flying about 100 feet in the air, fire officials said. The JCW Petroleum Mini Mart had recently closed to business. Esau Varajas, owner of a Mexican restaurant next door to the gas station, said he saw the owners moving things out last week. But Varajas' restaurant, Viva Zapatas, is now hurting because of the explosion. "I worry every night when I go home. We close our doors and you never know what could happen," Varajas said. Viva Zapatas was closed for the night when the gas station exploded, but two employees were working inside, Varajas said. "They actually felt the boom, and you know they heard a big boom. They went out to the front of the restaurant and they were looking out the windows, and that's when they saw a lot of fireballs shooting out of the building next door," Varajas said. While no one was injured, the gas line was closed Sunday due to safety concerns. That means the restaurant couldn't cook any food. Varajas said he lost out on at least \$10,000 Sunday alone. "It's a big hit for the weekend, you know," Varajas said. "Weekends are a little better right now than anything." The North Las Vegas Fire Department said the cause of the explosion was still under investigation. The fire started in the building and the gas pumps weren't involved, firefighters said. The gas station was a total loss, suffering \$100,000 worth of damage. A nearby Meineke Car Shop also suffered damage. Viva Zapatas does not have any damage on the outside, but Varajas said the empty chairs inside showed how much they're hurting as well. Firefighters said the restaurant had to wait at least 48 hours to use to gas line. The North Las Vegas, Clark County and Las Vegas fire departments all worked on the fire, putting it out in about 35 minutes.

<http://www.fox5vegas.com/news/25081189/detail.html>

USA, WYO, CHEYENNE, SEPTEMBER 21 2010. TESTS UNDER WAY ON 1989 CHEMICAL SPILL IN CHEYENNE

Tests are under way in a Cheyenne area for lingering effects of a 1989 spill at the Union Pacific railroad yards. The Wyoming Tribune Eagle Department reports that the state Department of Environmental Quality says about 8,000 gallons of a dry-cleaning chemical leaked from a tanker car in 1989. The railroad says state officials approved its plan for a cleanup after the spill. The company says it later learned that underground contamination moved off its property. State officials say they got involved in 2005 when Union Pacific reported the contamination was beyond its property. Bunnie Fountain, who has lived near the yard since 1981, says the first she heard of the spill was last week when she received a notice of the study.

http://billingsgazette.com/news/state-and-regional/wyoming/article_fd2b8d5a-c4c6-11df-83f5-001cc4c002e0.html

NIGERIA, LAGOS, SEPTEMBER 21 2010. TANKER DRIVERS CAUGHT AT NIGHT TO BE FINED N100, 000

The Nigerian Association of Road Transport Owners (NARTO) has imposed N100, 000 fine on any driver found driving tankers at night. The Executive Secretary of NARTO, Emmanuel Gowon, told the News Agency of Nigeria, in Lagos, on Saturday, that the fine would be paid by the guilty driver to the Petroleum Tanker Drivers (PTD). "Driving at night attracts N100, 000 as fine," he said. Mr Gowon said that a written code was brought up by PTD members to NARTO, that no tanker should be seen driven after 6.00 pm. According to him, the policy came up about a month ago nationwide as it was observed that most accidents

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involving tankers usually happened at night and on roads with potholes. "A driver may not identify all the numerous potholes on the roads at night," he said. "No owner likes accidents to happen. We advise drivers to stop driving at night. A tanker owner loses N30 million as the cost of a tanker with all its accessories and components, and over N2 million as cost of 33,000 litres of petroleum products. No owner would want to lose close to N33 million in just a few minutes due to avoidable circumstances."

<http://234next.com/csp/cms/sites/Next/Home/5620879-146/story.csp>

USA, MO, ST. CHARLES, SEPTEMBER 21 2010. HIGHWAY N CLOSED DUE TO TANKER CRASH IN ST. CHARLES COUNTY

 **Watch the Video** <http://www.ksdk.com/news/local/story.aspx?storyid=217509&catid=3>

 **Photo Gallery:** <http://www.fox2now.com/news/ktvi-fue-tanker-flips-spills-wentzville-092010,0,5438594.story>

 **Photo Gallery:**

<http://www.ksdk.com/life/community/gallerypublic.aspx?plckGalleryID=05443024-bb0c-47fb-9edb-78842c1a548d>



A fuel tanker crashed in St. Charles County and forced the shutdown of Highway N. The tanker crashed just before noon at Route N at Schaper Road. The Missouri State Highway Patrol said Hazmat crews were on the scene working to get the remaining fuel out of the tanker safely. Highway N is closed at Schaper throughout the evening. The Highway Patrol said the tanker is leaking slowly at this point. Two homes have been evacuated as a safety precaution and authorities said two more may also be evacuated. The [Department of Natural Resources](#) is also on the scene. The fuel that leaked got into a ditch and it's not clear if it made it into any major waterways. The leak has been contained and a Hazmat crew is on the scene to

safely pump the fuel from the tanker. Authorities expect Highway N to be closed throughout most of the evening.

<http://www.ksdk.com/news/local/story.aspx?storyid=217509&catid=3>

USA, KY, WEBSTER & UNION CO., SEPTEMBER 21 2010. TANKER SPEWS OIL FOR 6 MILES ON KY 56

adam thiele

Transportation crews have closed a 6-mile section of KY 56 in Webster and Union Counties due to the oil slick Monday. A truck spilled a large amount of oil on the road. KY 56 was closed for almost three hours from KY 141 Eastward to Tilden. An environmental cleanup company was been called to assist highway crews.

<http://www.14wfm.com/Global/story.asp?S=13183990>

USA, AZ, PHOENIX, SEPTEMBER 21 2010. SURPRISE BOY, 14, DIES FROM GASOLINE BURNS

 **Watch the Video** <http://www.myfoxphoenix.com/dpp/news/local/victim-of-freak-burning-accident-dies-9-20-2010>

The family of a Surprise teenager who died from major injuries sustained from a grilling accident are remembering a quiet boy who loved video games and didn't have a care in the world. Oscar Fuentes, 14, died at about 10 a.m. Sunday at Maricopa County Medical Center after about a week of treatment in the facility's burn center, said Michael Murphy, a hospital spokesman. Oscar, who never recovered from the devastating burns that covered 85 percent of his body, would have turned 15 next month. "We're coping and we're praying. We're remembering the wonderful 14 years that he gave us," said Luis De La Torre, Oscar's uncle. "My sister has been very, very strong, and we're getting through this with our faith." Oscar was described by family as smart, mellow and quick witted. "He was just Oscar," De La Torre said. "He was a very loving kid. No one ever said anything bad about Oscar." The fatal grilling accident was another painful blow for the Fuentes family, who are also suffering through some economic hardship, De La Torre said. "It's an extra stress that's very real right now," he said. "The family is coming together." On Sept. 13, Oscar was grilling at his home near 178th Avenue and Deer Valley Road with family and friends, when he doused the grill with gasoline in an attempt to light the barbecue. The teen was apparently trying to speed up the grilling process and inadvertently poured too much lighter fluid on the grill, Murphy said. Gasoline vapors around the boy ignited almost immediately, with the fire quickly engulfing him. Murphy said medics rushed the teen to Maricopa Medical Center by helicopter after the accident, where he was sedated and breathing through a tube because of burns inside his mouth. De La Torre thanked the community for their outpouring of support for Oscar. "It made us realize all the little things we worry about on an everyday basis aren't important," he said. For every parent out there, love, hug and kiss your children every day." Oscar's funeral was scheduled to take place Monday.

http://www.yourwestvalley.com/surprise/article_91ab1ae4-c51d-11df-b342-001cc4c002e0.html

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AUSTRALIA, NEW SOUTH WALES, MERRIWA, SEPTEMBER 21 2010. PETROL TANKER GOES UP IN HOT AND DANGEROUS FIRE

wendy fitzgibbon

A Petrol tanker has gone up in flames in a "hot and dangerous fire" in the Upper Hunter Valley. The NSW Rural Fire Service received a triple 0 call at 5.30am this morning reporting the petrol tanker had caught fire on the Golden Highway, 45 kilometres west of Merriwa. The tanker was carrying 45,000 litres of fuel - a mixture of petrol and diesel. Four units from the NSW Rural Fire Service and two from the NSW Fire Brigade, including 25 firefighters, battled the blaze and were able to contain it to the rear compartment of the B-double. The truck was in a rest area so the highway was not blocked by the blaze. The truck driver was able to escape without injury. Firefighters remain at the scene. The cause of the fire at this stage is undetermined.

<http://www.dailytelegraph.com.au/news/petrol-tanker-goes-up-in-hot-and-dangerous-fire/story-e6freuy9-1225926652739>

NEW ZEALAND, WHAKAMARAMA, SEPTEMBER 21 2010. TANK INTEGRITY FORCES CALTEX CLOSURE

sheryl brown



Caltex Whakamarama closed due to a problem with its tanks.

Whakamarama is without a petrol station after an emergency closure notice from Caltex. Concerns about possible leakage from the tanks caused the immediate no-notice closure on September 10. Sharon Buckland, spokesperson for Chevron, which trades for Caltex, says the tanks showed signs of concerns. "There were no visible signs of leakage, but the tanks showed integrity issues." Sharon says results of daily tests that measure the discrepancy between petrol going in and out of the tanks caused the immediate shutdown. "We did that as a caution. If you do

have a problem you don't want that sitting there." Sharon says the state of the tanks was assessed and the decision was made to keep the closure permanent. "There wasn't enough demand from the local community to warrant re-tanking." The owner of the Whakamarama general store says losing the service station will have a significant impact on some of the locals. "It's another service that another rural village has lost," says Gary Henwood. Gary says the nearest service station is a few kilometres down the road at Omokoroa, however, the nearest place to fill LPG gas bottles is in Tauranga. "People who used to walk up to get their lawnmower petrol won't be able to do that anymore. "Even we used to pop up there to fill our gas bottles for the heater. Now we will have to go into town." The tanks were emptied in case there was any leakage occurring and Sharon says they will be lifted and the site will be checked by independent environmental contractors to ensure the site is returned to the proper standard. "I apologise for the lack of notice. It was not a normal closure. We have sent out notifications afterwards. "I'm sorry if that caused any difficulties." The nearest Caltex site for Star Members is in Tauranga says Sharon.

<http://www.sunlive.co.nz/news/8302-tank-integrity-forces-closure.html>

USA, VA, CHESAPEAKE, SEPTEMBER 21 2010. CHEMICAL COMPANY, CHESAPEAKE SPAR OVER NEW ACID TANK

elisabeth huletter & matthew bowers

 **Watch the Video** [Liquid fertilizer spills from collapsed tank in 2008.](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...)

 **Photo's** <http://hamptonroads.com/2010/09/chemical-company-chesapeake-spar-over-new-acid-tank#rfq>



An aerial view of Allied Terminals taken Nov. 25, 2008. Defective welding likely played a major role in the Nov. 12 collapse of Allied Terminals tank 201.

A company wants to store sulfuric acid in tanks at its South Norfolk facility, where a tank collapsed in 2008 and flooded a nearby neighborhood with liquid fertilizer. Allied Terminals Inc. contends it does not need special permission from the city. The city disagrees, and Monday it began notifying people who live in the South Hill neighborhood about Allied's plan. Because sulfuric acid, a highly corrosive acid, is so dangerous, the company should apply for a permit that would require City Council approval, city spokesman Mark Cox said. Allied countered in a letter to city officials that it has checked with the International Liquid Terminal Association, the Census Bureau that categorizes businesses, and a lawyer and

determined it should not need a separate permit for storing sulfuric acid. It has already signed a five-year contract with Sulfuric Acid Trading Company in Florida to move as much as 40,000 liquid net tons of the acid next year and increase that to 125,000 tons within four years. The contract begins Jan 1. In a letter to the city, the company said having to apply for a permit would delay construction and invalidate the contract. Allied President Michael Law said the issue with the city is "a matter of

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interpretation" about what kind of facility the Chesapeake Marine Terminal is. This is the first time he's heard of a city requiring a separate permit for a chemical like this, he said. Sulfuric acid is one of the most common industrial chemicals, used, for example, in making fertilizers and removing rust and impurities from metals. "It's an unfortunate situation," Law said. "We've stored lots of chemicals, lots of hazardous materials in four different states, and we've never run across a problem." Law said such a ruling could hurt terminal business in Chesapeake because customers - especially foreign ones - could choose to do business with many water-side terminals on the East Coast and avoid the delay and uncertainty. "I would think it would have to have some kind of a chilling effect, but that's just me talking," he said. In the 2008 tank collapse, about 2 million gallons of liquid fertilizer washed through South Hill. Fire officials said the ammonium nitrate solution wasn't toxic or flammable, but residents remained worried. City officials said they promised to keep South Hill residents informed, which is why firefighters distributed the information there Monday, Cox said. A public meeting is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Thursday at the South Norfolk Community Center. "Sulfuric acid is a much more volatile chemical," Cox said. "Two years ago, one of these tanks flooded. That was a mess, but if (liquid fertilizer) touches you, it's not the same level of dangerous chemical as something like sulfuric acid would be." Law said he was surprised that letters between him and the city about the issue were included in the information packets. "I'm thoroughly amazed that one sends a letter to the city and next thing you know it's handed out on the streets," Law said. A firefighter handed one of those packets at 3 p.m. to Walter Skyles as he worked on a house he owns on Middle Street. Skyles, vice president of the South Hill Civic League, said he had heard something about it earlier in the day. "We're going to kick against it," he said. "Fertilizer is one thing. Sulfuric acid is a highly corrosive acid.... The way we're looking at it, we're going from one dangerous chemical to another." Residents, many of whom have lived there for decades, can't afford to move away from the tanks, Skyles said. The civic league didn't object to new tanks holding fertilizer, which already was on the site. Now, he suggested that Allied buy out the neighborhood and "do what they want with it." "Every time you look, they ask for an inch, then they take a damn foot," he said.

<http://hamptonroads.com/2010/09/chemical-company-chesapeake-spar-over-new-acid-tank>

USA, WI, MERRILL, SEPTEMBER 21 2010. MERRILL EXPLOSION INJURES 4

karina gonzalez

 **Watch the Video** <http://www.wsaw.com/news/headlines/103296454.html?ref=454>



Firefighters quickly put out a fire Monday morning caused by an explosion at a manufacturing plant at 1000 Mathews St. in Merrill. Four employees were injured in the blast.

A Monday-morning explosion at a Merrill manufacturing plant sent two people to the hospital and left two others suffering from burn injuries. Merrill Fire Department Capt. Scott Krause said the blast at Wire Products took place Monday morning when two employees tried to ignite a large, gas-fired dryer in the building while two other employees were in the room. The two employees who were trying to light the

dryer were taken to Ministry Good Samaritan Health Center in Merrill with first- and second-degree burns to the face and hands. The other two employees were treated by firefighters at the scene. Krause said a call came in to the fire department at 11:02 a.m. for an explosion in a plant at 1000 Mathews St. that manufactures custom wire products, metal stampings, bolts, screws and rivets, according to the company profile. When firetrucks and ambulances arrived, the building had been evacuated, and the building's west-side walls had been blown out, Krause said. Firefighters put out the blaze within five minutes of arrival. "They had a sprinkler system that was going that helped contain the fire to the area," Krause said. Efforts to reach representatives with Wire Products were unsuccessful Monday. It is unknown whether the Merrill Police Department or any other agency will investigate the cause of the explosion. Calls to the police department were not returned Monday. Carl Schmuck, assistant area director for the Eau Claire office of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, said his office had not yet heard of the manufacturing explosion as of Monday evening. But OSHA's Appleton office would handle an investigation into the Lincoln County manufacturing plant if one is called for, he said. Schmuck said investigators generally go to an accident site within 24 hours of an event. Investigators look at company programs and training, evaluate how well equipment works and determine whether any OSHA standards have been violated, he said. "We are not the experts that say what caused the accident. But we would be looking if any of our standards were violated," Schmuck said. "We want to know what happened so that we can prevent it from happening in the future." Earlier this year, an explosion in a Schofield industrial building claimed the life of Eric Simpson, an employee who also served in the National Guard. Simpson was working at Quality Surface Processing when he was burned by scalding liquid from a chemical salt bath. In 2008, an explosion at a paper mill in

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the town of Bradley near Tomahawk killed three workers and injured a fourth. The company was cited for OSHA violations and fined \$22,500.

<http://www.wausaudailyherald.com/article/20100921/WDH0101/9210461/Merrill-explosion-injures-4>

UK, ESSEX, SEPTEMBER 21 2010. OIL SLICK ON SOUTHEND BEACH IN UK

lynn curwin.



The oil can be seen in the water off Southend also.

An oil slick is washing up on a popular UK beach. Large globules of oil can be seen attached to seaweed at Southend beach. The [Southend Standard](#) reported that the oil is believed to have come from a boat. It is affecting the Essex shore between the Sealife Centre in Southend and Uncle Tom's Cabin in Shoebury and people have been advised to avoid the area. Castle Point Council is in contact with the Environment Agency to determine the best way to handle the situation. On Sunday, a beach and two seafront paddling pools on Canvey Island were closed because the oil spill had washed up there. An investigation has been launched by the Port of London Authority to discover which vessel the spill came from and why

it occurred.

<http://www.digitaljournal.com/article/297854>

CANADA, MANITOBA, LAC DU BONNET, SEPTEMBER 21 2010. EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS TESTED



EMO coordinator Al Caron gives directions during last weekend's mock emergency.

Emergency management officials from over 40 rural municipalities and communities throughout the Interlake region participated in an emergency-preparedness exercise called Shooting Star on Sept. 18. The all-day exercise was based on an incident involving transportation of dangerous goods that will cause evacuations and the opening of municipal emergency-operation and reception centres in each region. The exercise will involve five areas. The Manitoba Emergency Measures Organization (EMO) requires each municipality to exercise its emergency plan every year. Exercise Shooting Star tested and trained staff that would work in emergency operations-centres and reception centres for evacuees. This exercise is the first of its kind run in Canada with over 40 communities participating in the same exercise at the same time on the same day. The five

emergency operation centres were in Selkirk, Riverton, Stonewall, Alexander and Ashern. All the communities involved have committed financial and human resources to the exercise. A Joint Emergency Preparedness Program grant from Public Safety Canada is also supporting the exercise. Creative Communications students from Red River College also took part in this exercise as reporters and photographers. As well, resources will be called upon from the RCMP, provincial social services, Red Cross, Salvation Army, Manitoba Amateur Radio Emergency Service, Manitoba Conservation and the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority. Manitoba EMO has played a major role in exercise organization and design, and acted as a facilitator at the exercise.

<http://www.lacdubonnetleader.com/ArticleDisplay.aspx?e=2764969>

VENEZUELA, PUNTO FIJO, SEPTEMBER 21 2010. WORKERS HALT OIL SPILL FROM PIPELINE IN VENEZUELA >> SPILL NEAR WESTERN TOWN OF DABAJURO >> LATEST ACCIDENT TO HIT STATE-RUN PDVSA

sailu urribarri

Workers have stopped an oil leak from a pipeline leading to Venezuela's biggest refinery in the latest accident to hit the country's state-run company PDVSA, officials said on Monday. PDVSA has suffered three fires at its facilities in the past two weeks, followed by a small explosion at its 146,000 bpd El Palito refinery on Saturday and then the oil leak from the pipeline in western Falcon state. A government spokesman and clean-up workers said the leak near the town of Dabajuro had been plugged. "We managed to seal the pipe. For now, there's just residue left and the spilled oil, but the effort continues," one worker told Reuters. It was not clear how much oil was spilled. The pipeline led from Zulia state, Venezuela's oldest oil production area, to the 645,000 barrel per day Amuay refinery, which is part of the Paraguana Refining Center -- one of the

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world's biggest refinery complexes with a capacity of 955,000 bpd. Dabajuro residents said three homes had been damaged by the spill and that heavy rains had slowed the clean-up. "We can't even cook at the moment to avoid danger from the gas," said one local woman, Yolanda Rojas. "Yesterday, they told us they could clean up the area within one week." The Paraguana Refining Center is also home to PDVSA's 310,000 bpd Cardon refinery, where loading resumed last Wednesday after a dock fire had temporarily halted shipping. That blaze followed two other fires at oil terminals on the Caribbean islands of Bonaire and Curacao that could curb PDVSA's efforts to increase exports to China. Residents near the El Palito refinery, in central Carabobo state, reported hearing an explosion at the facility early on Saturday, but workers there told Reuters operations had not been affected. PDVSA has made no official comment. The incidents are just the latest in a series of accidents and maintenance outages across PDVSA's refining and distribution network that have cut output in recent months and forced South America's top crude producer to import products.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSN2027084820100920>



UK, HEALTH & SAFETY EXECUTIVE - ELECTROSTATIC RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH PLASTIC CONTAINERS

This report, sponsored by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) contains an assessment of the electrostatic risks associated with a selection of commonly available plastic containers ranging in size from 50 ml bottles to 1000 l Intermediate Bulk Containers, and manufactured from a variety of materials. The containers are assessed by measuring the amount of charge transferred from their surfaces in an electrostatic discharge, after being charged by rubbing with the most suitable materials for optimum charging. The charge transfer values obtained can then be compared to maximum permitted values for different gas groups contained in EN13463-1:2001. Incendivity tests were also conducted on the discharges from the containers, which give an indication of typical amounts of charge transfer actually required for ignition in a practical situation, as a guide for incident ignition assessments. A description of the types and purposes of most of the various designs of IBC currently available is included, in particular those designed for zone 1 and zone 2 usages.

Contact Details:

D Bennett

Health and Safety Laboratory, Harpur Hill, Buxton, Derbyshire, SK17 9JN

Related Resources:

The full report is available for free downloading from the HSE web site: <http://www.hse.gov.uk/research/rrpdf/rr804.pdf>

<http://www.sro.hse.gov.uk/PublicPages/ShowArticle.aspx?id=169>



UK, HEALTH & SAFETY EXECUTIVE – CARCINOGENICITY OF TRICHLOROETHYLENE (TCE) - A REVIEW

The Institut de Recherche Robert Sauvé en Santé et en Sécurité du Travail (IRSST) has just published a review of selected literature on the carcinogenicity of trichloroethylene (TCE). Specifically, the remit was to review the last 15 years of the literature, a period that covers the time since the expert evaluation of TCE's cancer potential by a Working Group of the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC, 1995). The present review focused on informative epidemiology studies published since the IARC review. In addition, searches were carried out to determine whether any post-IARC TCE cancer studies have been carried out in laboratory animals. A brief overview of the knowledge database of TCE's cancer potential (both in humans and laboratory animals) at the time of the IARC review was also included.

Contact Details:

Communication Division, IRSST. mautom@irsst.qc.ca <http://www.irsst.qc.ca/en/home.html>

Related Resources:

The full report is available for free downloading from the IRSST web site in French and English:

http://www.irsst.qc.ca/en/_publicationirsst_100538.html

<http://www.sro.hse.gov.uk/PublicPages/ShowArticle.aspx?id=170>

USA, N.C, CHARLOTTE, SEPTEMBER 21 2010. NC MAN SENTENCED FOR SPILLING FUEL OIL INTO RIVER

A North Carolina man must report to prison in November after he pleaded guilty to spilling thousands of gallons of oil into the Catawba River. The Charlotte Observer reported that 24-year-old Daniel Still Jr. of Lincolnton was sentenced to eight months behind bars and must pay a \$250,000 fine. Still pleaded guilty late last year. He will pay fines and restitution to the U.S. Coast Guard. Authorities say the spill occurred when Still was destroying buildings at the Belmont Dyers textile dyeing plant in 2007.

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They say he hit the fuel line of a 5,000-gallon tank as he drove demolition equipment, spilling the oil into the Catawba River. The cleanup cost more than \$430,000.

<http://www.lakewyliepilot.com/2010/09/18/858454/nc-man-sentenced-for-spilling.html>

ARGENTINA, BUENOS AIRES, SEPTEMBER 21 2010. EXXON MOBIL TO DIVEST ESSO

The U.S. oil giant Exxon Mobil Corp is planning to divest its Argentine subsidiary ESSO, according to a report in the local financial daily El Cronista. The amount of the negotiation was not disclosed and the Argentine unit denied commenting on the transaction. ESSO operates more than 450 service stations and a refinery in the town of Campana and has the capacity to process 85,000 barrels of crude oil a day. Back in 2008, Exxon had opted to sell off these assets but finally refused due to the lack of lucrative offers. The companies interested in the recent bid are Brazil's Petróleo Brasileiro S.A, Pan American Energy, in which BP plc owns a 60% stake, and Argentina's Bidas Corp. Exxon's downstream asset sale decision is mainly reflective of the difficult operating environment prevailing in Argentina. The Argentine government seeks to regulate fuel prices profoundly to control inflation. As a case in point, the government cut back fuel prices last month to the July 31 level to constrain inflation, which was more than 20%.

<http://www.zacks.com/stock/news/40362/Exxon+Mobil+to+Divest+ESSO>

USA, VA, ALEXANDRIA, SEPTEMBER 21 2010. FUMES, OIL LINGER NEARLY A MONTH AFTER SPILL

derrick perkins

Not long after an address mix-up left a Colonial Avenue home swimming in oil last month, neighbor Rebecca Eichler began smelling diesel fumes in the storm sewers. Around the same time another neighbor began drawing up buckets of oil in his sump pump, she said. Now she wants to know the extent of the damage and ensure similar mistakes are avoided. "I'm concerned about the effects of this oil," Eichler said. "I smell it in the storm drain and I live half a block down." A Griffith Energy Services deliveryman mistakenly pumped about 325 gallons of home heating oil into the Colonial Avenue home on August 24. Charged with restoring damage from the spill, the company has since hired an environmental contractor to handle the project. Officials initially said the hazardous liquid went down a drain and into the city's sanitary sewer system, causing only damage to the immediate basement. But further investigation revealed the oil spread farther than originally thought. While it appears no oil reached nearby storm drains — the environmental services department found no traces of petroleum in the pipes — oil did seep into a neighboring basement and the ground below the brick home, said Robert Rodriguez, spokesman for the city's fire department. "It traveled out of the drain that went to the sanitary sewer," he said. "We don't know how it migrated out of the pipe; that's being investigated." Officials believe vapors from the original spill may have drifted and collected in the storm drains, said city spokesman Tony Castrilli. A couple of weeks of low rainfall meant the odor lingered longer, he said. "We hope the next rainfall and time will take care of this issue," Castrilli said. City and state officials can't put a price tag on the spill's damage, but are tracking cleanup efforts. Alexandria's environmental services unit and Virginia's Department of Environmental Quality are overseeing the cleanup. John Geise, petroleum programs remediation manager with DEQ, said the standard of cleanup after an oil spill varies from case to case. Multiple variables are taken into account, he said. "It's all based on measuring the extent of the contamination," Geise said. "From that we look at what are the receptors [of contamination]: someone's basement, service water, the contamination could flow into a stream or someone's well. We look at what the risk is to those receptors posed by the contamination and based upon that assessment we would direct the responsible party to clean up to some specified level." The case manager for the Colonial Avenue spill, James Greene, could not be reached for comment. Eichler just wants to make sure Griffith learned their lesson the first time. No other neighborhood should suffer a similar situation, she said. "It seems that there should be checks in place on something like this. Double, double, double check the house you're delivering it too," Eichler said. "I guess it's dissipated somewhat, but this is an environmental concern in the neighborhood. We smell fumes." In the meantime, officials urge anyone else who smells diesel vapors or finds a problem with the cleanup to contact the authorities at 703-746-4200

<http://www.alextimes.com/news/2010/sep/20/fumes-oil-linger-nearly-a-month-after-s/>

UK, HEXHAM, SEPTEMBER 22 2010. RAF TANKER OVERTURNS SPILLING FUEL NEAR HEXHAM

An RAF fuel tanker carrying 5,000 litres of aviation fuel overturned last night spilling large amounts of the liquid on to the road. The driver of the truck had to be cut free from the wreckage as the petroleum-based substance continued to leak on the busy A68, near to Swinburne Quarry, in Hexham, Northumberland. It took the fire service and paramedics over an hour to reach the 29-year-old driver who they couldn't see within the mangled vehicle as he was said to be "encased in metal". When he was eventually retrieved from the tanker he was flown by air ambulance to Newcastle General Hospital suffering chest and head

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injuries. Micky Hulme, the team leader of the North East Ambulance Service's Hazardous Response Team, assisted the fire service during the operation and was on the scene for around two and half hours. He said: "It was a difficult entrapment because we couldn't see the driver, he was completely encased in metal so that was quite a lengthy process and it was a difficult and dangerous environment to be working in because the fuel was still leaking. We had to be very careful." The road was closed in both directions on the A68 between Colwell crossroads to Barrasford Quarry while the emergency services worked alongside the Environment Agency to clear up the spillage. A spokesman for Northumbria Police said: "Police are appealing for information following a one vehicle collision in the Hexham area. Shortly before 6pm police were informed of the collision on the A68, near to the entrance of Swinburne Quarry about one mile north of Colwell. "For reasons yet to be established a military vehicle containing aviation fuel overturned. The driver removed from the vehicle has been airlifted to hospital. Nobody else was inside the vehicle and no other vehicles were involved. "A small amount of fuel leaked on to the road, the fire service are in attendance and the Environment Agency have been informed." Anyone who witnessed the accident or thinks they may have any information is asked to contact Northumbria Police on 03456 043

<http://www.sundaysun.co.uk/news/breaking-news/2010/09/21/raf-tanker-overturns-spilling-fuel-near-hexham-72703-27309794/>

AUSTRALIA, A.C.T, CANBERRA, SEPTEMBER 23 2010. INFO SYSTEM ON HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES TO BE UPDATED

Safe Work Australia has announced it is in the process of updating the Hazardous Substances Information System online database. The update comprises of a total of 456 entries, which will also reflect the changes in Europe's 31st Adaptation to Technical Progress to Directive 67/548/EEC. The database for [hazardous substances](#) is expected to contain 360 new entries, while 92 entries will be amended and another four deleted. The updated database containing the final list of all anticipated changes will be released by the end of November 2010.

http://www.safetyculture.com.au/news/index.php/09/info-system-on-hazardous-substances-to-be-updated/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+safetyculture+%28Safety+Culture+OHS+News%29

USA, ARK, LITTLE ROCK, SEPTEMBER 23 2010. FEDS CITE SMACKOVER REFINERY FOR SAFETY VIOLATIONS

A South Arkansas oil refinery faces federal citations alleging numerous violations of federal health and safety regulations, the U.S. Labor Department's Occupational Safety and Health Administration announced today. Kilgore, Texas-based Martin Operating Partnership PP was cited for one alleged willful and 21 alleged serious violations at its refinery in Smackover, with fines totaling \$165,600. The company has 15 business days from receipt of the citations to comply, request an informal conference with OSHA or contest the citations and penalties before the independent Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission. "This company failed to follow OSHA's standards and procedures as they relate to process safety management," Carlos Reynolds, OSHA's area director in Little Rock, said in a news release. A company executive in Texas did not immediately return a call seeking comment today. The Smackover facility produces naphthenic crude oil and employs about 65 workers. OSHA said the inspection began in March. The willful violation was for failing to maintain process safety information for the design of various pressure vessels, the agency said. A willful violation is committed with the intentional, knowing or voluntary disregard for the law's requirements, or with plain indifference to employee safety and health, officials said. Serious violations included, among other things, failing to ensure that workers entering confined spaces were provided with a prompt means of rescue in the event of an emergency and failing to provide required respiratory protection and personal protective equipment. A serious violation is one in which there is substantial probability that death or serious physical harm could result from a hazard about which the employer knew or should have known.

<http://arkansasnews.com/2010/09/21/feds-cite-smackover-refinery-for-safety-violations/>

USA, TX, TEXAS CITY, SEPTEMBER 23 2010. TWO WORKERS BURNED AT BP TEXAS CITY REFINERY >> WORKER SUFFERED 30 PCT BURNS -PAPER

Two workers on Tuesday suffered burns while working at BP's 475,000 barrel per day (bpd) Texas City, Texas, refinery, a company spokesman said. Refinery operations were unaffected by the incident, according to sources familiar with refinery operations. The men were working on one of the refinery's crude units, which continued operating after the incident. The workers were burned by steam, the sources said. The BP spokesman did not have information immediately available about the workers' injuries. He also declined to disclose what unit or units the men were working on. The workers were taken to area hospitals. The Galveston County Daily Sun reported on its website that one worker was flown to a Galveston, Texas, burn unit, with burns of over 30 percent. The other worker was driven by ambulance to another hospital, the Galveston paper said.

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Representatives of the two hospitals were not immediately available to discuss the condition of the workers. BP's Texas City refinery was the site of the worst U.S. refinery accident in the past five years when 15 workers were killed and 180 others injured in an explosion. Earlier this year, BP paid a \$50.6 million fine to the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration to settle worker safety violations stemming from the March 23, 2005 blast. BP faces a federal class action lawsuit for a 40-day release of benzene during a unit malfunction at the refinery this year. BP's Texas City refinery is the third-largest in the United States.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSN2119230120100921>

USA, PA, PITTSBURGH, SEPTEMBER 23 2010. HAZMAT CREWS RESPOND TO RAIL CAR LEAK IN GREEN TREE

A rail car carrying a petroleum byproduct of Marcellus Shale drilling sprung a leak in a Green Tree rail yard Tuesday evening, spurring concerns of an explosion. Chief Daniel Walsh of the Green Tree Volunteer Fire Company said someone called 911 around 8 p.m. and said that a tank car appeared to be releasing gas at the rail yard owned by Wheeling and Lake Erie Railroad on Mansfield Avenue. Firefighters discovered that the tank's release valve had been tripped and that is releasing gas in vapor form. Hazmat teams were called in and Mansfield Avenue was closed between Noblestown Road and Holiday Drive. Bob Full, chief of county emergency services, said the tanker was carrying a mixture of propane and butane, a highly flammable liquid. He said the leak had slowed by 11 p.m. and crews planned to remove some of the tank's contents to stop the leak. Dave Montz, the manager of emergency services for Green Tree, said that they did not know who was responsible for loading the tank car. He said the borough planned to investigate along with the state Department of Environmental Protection.

<http://www.post-gazette.com/pg/10265/1089371-55.stm>

USA, WASHINGTON, SEPTEMBER 23 2010. HAZMAT HARMONIZATION PROPOSAL

The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) is proposing a package of amendments to harmonize its hazardous materials regulations (HMRs) with international shipping standards. Since 1990, PHMSA has issued nine rules to maintain HMR alignment with updates to the United Nations Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, the International Maritime Dangerous Goods Code, and the International Civil Aviation Organization's Technical Instruction for the Safe Transport of Dangerous Goods by Air. Included in the current set of proposed amendments are the following:

- New proper shipping name and new marking for petroleum sour crude oil, indicating flammability and toxicity of hydrogen sulfide, which may be formed from the petroleum shipment
- Additional required tests to determine the suitability of packaging for Division 1.4 explosive articles
- Adoption of a revised definition of repair to indicate that replacement of a rigid plastic receptacle of a composite intermediate bulk container (IBC) is not subject to design qualification testing as a new or different design
- Adoption of limited quantity provisions for certain consumer quantities
- Adoption of standards for construction, qualification, marking, and requalification of hydrogen in metal hydride storage systems
- Adoption of in vitro testing methods to determine corrosivity of certain substances, thereby precluding the use of in vivo testing on laboratory animals

PHMSA notes that its goal is to maintain "consistency" between the HMRs and international requirements. "We are not striving to make the HMRs identical to the international regulations," states PHMSA, "but rather to remove or avoid potential barriers to international transportation." With that goal in mind, PHMSA did not propose to adopt all significant amendments to the international regulations. Amendments not adopted include those addressing radioactive materials, lithium batteries, and air packaging.

 **Related Link** www.phmsa.dot.gov

<http://enviro.blr.com/environmental-news/hazmat-and-chemicals/hazardous-materials-transportation/Hazmat-Harmonization-Proposal/>

UK, NORWICH, SEPTEMBER 23 2010. PRESTON DIESEL SPILL CLEANUP TO TAKE MONTHS

Cleanup from an August diesel spill behind the Southeast Area Transit district facility on Route 12 will continue for "months," a state Department of Environmental Protection spokesman said Tuesday. DEP spokesman Dwayne Gardner said crews dug an interception trench between the faulty pipeline and a brook to capture thousands of gallons of fuel before it could enter ground water sources. More than 5,000 gallons of oil seeped from the pipeline, but Gardner said inspectors are confident the spill won't have any longterm environmental impact. He said it's too early to know the cost of the cleanup.

<http://www.norwichbulletin.com/news/x1244668745/Preston-diesel-spill-cleanup-to-take-months>

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