



## Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network Release 2011 – 698 Newsy Stuff

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

**April 3 2011**



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### USA, OK, OKLAHOMA CITY, MARCH 26 2011. VEHICLE FIRES IN NORTHWEST OKLAHOMA CITY CAUSE FUEL FIRE

robert medley

 **Watch the Video** <http://www.koco.com/mostpopular/27319620/detail.html>

 **Watch the Video** <http://www.newsok.com/nw-okc-wreck-causes-fire-closes-roads/multimedia/video/854877504001>

 **Watch the Video** <http://www.kfor.com/news/local/kfor-news-tanker-trunk-wreck-explosion-story,0,6746228.story>

 **Photo's** <http://www.koco.com/mostpopular/27319620/detail.html>



A tractor-trailer and a car burned on Northwest Expressway just west of Sara Road, and a fuel fire spread around the wreck site, according to fire and police radio reports. A tractor-trailer and a car burned on Northwest Expressway just west of Sara Road, and a fuel fire spread around the wreck site. Neither of the drivers was seriously injured. The wreck occurred about 7:05 a.m. and a tractor-trailer and car were fully engulfed when firefighters arrived. Requests were made by firefighters at the scene for brush pumper trucks because fire had gotten into grass. [Fire Battalion Chief Brian Stanaland](#) said there were 6500 gallons of diesel fuel and another 1500 gallons of regular unleaded gasoline on the tanker truck. Firefighters had to request a foam truck that was at another part of the city in

[northeast Oklahoma City](#). Stanaland said 80 gallons of foam was sprayed on the fire that was finally out at 8:33 a.m. "Our fire trucks carry some foam but not that much for this size of a fire," said Stanaland. Oklahoma City police [Lt. Sky Kays](#), current police FOP president, said his daughter, 17, a senior at [Piedmont High School](#), was northbound on Sara Road on her way to school when she failed to yield and was struck by the fuel tanker. "I'm very blessed that she was not killed or burned," Kays said. Hazardous materials crews controlled the blaze at 8:33 a.m. Fuel burned as it spilled toward a creek, fire radio reported. Both directions of Northwest Expressway remain closed at Sara Rd. Crews estimate the highway will remain closed until early afternoon for clean-up. Once the highway is re-opened, the right lane of the westbound expressway will have to remain closed until surface repairs can be conducted sometime next week.

[http://www.newsok.com/vehicle-fires-in-northwest-oklahoma-city-cause-grass-fire/article/3551720?custom\\_click=masthead\\_topen](http://www.newsok.com/vehicle-fires-in-northwest-oklahoma-city-cause-grass-fire/article/3551720?custom_click=masthead_topen)

### USA, MS, WEST SPRINGFIELD, MARCH 26 2011. PROBE DETAILS FATAL EXPLOSION >> USED DISPOSABLE LIGHTER TO LOOK INSIDE A 55-GALLON DRUM OF TIRE CLEANING SOLVENT WHILST ON CELL PHONE WITH HIS CHEMICAL SUPPLIER

george graham

 **Watch the Video** <http://www.wvlp.com/dpp/news/local/hampden/Deadly-blast-caused-by-vapors-igniting>

 **Watch the Video** <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kBveOoqelTM>

 **Photo Gallery** [http://photos.masslive.com/4502/gallery/explosion\\_at\\_balise\\_honda\\_in\\_west\\_springfield/index.html](http://photos.masslive.com/4502/gallery/explosion_at_balise_honda_in_west_springfield/index.html)



*Balise Honda fire scene with West Springfield Firefighters coming out to change air tanks from the smokey fire. Mike Balise, vice president and owner of Balise Motor Sales said that an employee for Real Clean Automotive Detailing, a subcontractor that performs reconditioning work at the dealership, died in the explosion and another was injured.*

Investigators have determined that the explosion that took the life of 33-year-old Daniel Martinez at Balise Honda Wednesday morning occurred when he used a disposable lighter to peer inside a 55-gallon drum of flammable cleaning solvent. The state fire marshal's office released its finding Thursday afternoon. Martinez, who lived in a house close to the rear of the facility, was employed by Real Clean Automotive Detailing, a subcontractor that performs reconditioning work at the

dealership. The Riverdale Street dealership opened for business Thursday morning and grief counselors were present to talk with grieving co-workers. "I really don't know what to say," Mike Balise, co-owner and vice president of Balise Motor Sales, said of the investigators finding. "It's a darn tragedy. It doesn't make me feel any better, I am in sort of disbelief that it happened that way." Balise said that Martinez was on a cell phone with his chemical supplier when he apparently used the lighter to determine the level of product inside the barrel. Fire Chief William Flaherty said investigators made their

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determination, in part, after reviewing surveillance video from a camera inside the building. Another man, a Balise employee, was taken to a hospital for treatment of smoke inhalation, Balise said. He was treated and released. The presence of solvents in the building hampered firefighters' efforts to extinguish the blaze. Flaherty said it took firefighters about an hour to put out the flames. Officials believe that, given the duration of the fire, a certain amount of cleaning product was in the barrel when it exploded, Flaherty said. Flaherty said the force of the explosion propelled the barrel some 25 to 30 feet into the air where it hit the roof and caused it to bow out. Balise said his company will review its supplies and procedures. "We will absolutely address these procedures and review all the processes that we have," he said. The investigation was conducted by the West Springfield fire and police departments and state police assigned to Fire Marshal Stephen D. Coan's office and to the Hampden district attorney's office, said Jennifer Mieth, Coan's spokeswoman. The Federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration is conducting a separate investigation. Officials with Real Clean Automotive Detailing could not be reached for comment. According to its website, Real Clean is based in Weymouth and services 130 dealerships in seven states.

<http://www.masslive.com/hampfrank/republican/index.ssf?/base/news-31/1301037354102940.xml&coll=1>

### **KENYA, BUSIA, MARCH 26 2011. THOUSANDS OF LITRES OF FUEL LOST AS TANKER SLIPS AT BUSIA**

*rose kamau*

There was a scare at the Busia customs office Friday morning as an oil tanker slipped and hit another, breaking its sealing and spilling oil at the busy customs yard. Business ground to a halt as police cordoned off the area to prevent the public from scooping the highly volatile super petrol fuel. Western PPO Benson Githinji said the early morning incident could have been due to carelessness on the part of the driver who he said might have been trying to drive off when the tanker disengaged from the truck. The tanker that had collected the fuel from the port in Mombasa was destined for Kampala, Uganda. About 7,000 litres of petrol spilt from the tanker that was holding 13,000 litres. Police called fire fighters from Tororo in Uganda and Mumias Sugar Company to help deal with any eventuality. No casualties were reported and Mr. Githinji said a truck had been dispatched from Kampala by Access Transline Company, the owner of the cargo, to collect the remaining 6,000 litres of fuel. Police had a hard time keeping off the residents who were eager to scoop up the oil despite the danger involved.

<http://www.kbc.co.ke/news.asp?nid=69510>

### **USA, TX DEWITT CO, MARCH 26 2011. OVERTURNED FUEL TANKER CLOSES DEWITT COUNTY HIGHWAY**

*kayla bell*

A gasoline tanker overturned on State Highway 119 between Yorktown and Smiley about 12:05 a.m. Thursday, sending one man to the hospital and closing the highway for several hours. The driver struck a hog and lost control, rolling over the tanker that was carrying about 5,000 gallons of diesel fuel and 2,500 gallons of gasoline, said Dewitt County Sheriff Jode Zavesky. Communications Operator at the Texas Department of Public Safety Sue Schepis identified the driver as David Uriegas, 58, of San Antonio. Uriegas, who was wearing a seatbelt, was taken to Cuero Community Hospital, with unknown injuries, Schepis said. Zavesky said it's unclear how much of the fuel spilled, but that the highway was closed down until about 7:15 a.m. The fuel was exposed to the environment and was transferred to another unit for transport, Schepis said. Mission Petroleum Carriers Inc., of Houston, owns the vehicle and the materials it contained, Schepis said. Trooper Kenneth Parma investigated the wreck, Schepis said.

[http://www.victoriaadvocate.com/news/2011/mar/24/kb\\_hazmat\\_032511\\_133843/?news&dewitt-county](http://www.victoriaadvocate.com/news/2011/mar/24/kb_hazmat_032511_133843/?news&dewitt-county)

### **USA, NORTH CAROLINA, MARCH 26 2011. WOMAN FINDS ALGAE GROWING IN HER FUEL TANK**

*anthony garcia*

• **Watch the Video** <http://www.ktsm.com/news/woman-finds-algae-growing-in-her-fuel-tank>

• **Watch the Video:**

<http://www.wcsh6.com/news/watercooler/article/153069/108/Woman-discovers-algae-growing-throughout-her-car?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|p>

It's become a popular choice in this climate of rising fuel prices. Cheri Neustadt got in the diesel game a year and a half ago when she bought her Jetta. Cheri Neustadt says "because of the gas mileage, I also wanted to be a little bit more environmentally correct." Cheri said everything seemed fine until about a month ago when the check engine light kept coming on. So she took the car to the VW dealership again and again and again. Mechanics ran diagnostics and lo-and-behold, they discovered algae growing in her fuel tank. Even worse, it had spread throughout her car. Cheri says "What? How could this be? I had never heard of such a thing." After digesting that, she was presented with this. Cheri says "VW has told me it will be

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in excess of \$10,500." What exactly does the bacteria in your fuel tank do to the car? Think of it like this: What does plaque in your veins do to your heart? Steve Murphy has been working on these kinds of engines for 30 years. He said vehicles that sit unused for awhile are most prone. Steve says "I would say the boaters have the most problems, construction equipment." But cars are not immune. Steve says your best defense is using an additive each time you fuel up. Stanadayne is cheap, readily available, and it breaks down the water. No water, no algae. Steve says "it can be costly, but typically if you catch it early enough, you start running an additive, regular filter changes, you'll take care of the problem." For Cheri, the \$10,000 question has been, who is liable? We contacted VW corporate, and provided them with the service center's number and Cheri's too. Their reply: We can't comment specifically on Cheri Neustadt's vehicle without knowing all the details of her case, however we always advise owners to follow the recommended maintenance schedule that comes with their Volkswagen and to service their vehicles at authorized Volkswagen dealerships or service centers. And while our expert says just use a fuel additive, Cheri was told by a service tech at her VW dealership not to use one. So what's a driver to do? Cheri says "all I did was what I thought was right, going to the gas station and filling up and trusting that my gas station was responsible to give me clean fuel."

<http://www.ktsm.com/news/woman-finds-algae-growing-in-her-fuel-tank>

### **USA, CA, LOS ANGELES, MARCH 26 2011. BREYA CANYON OIL SPILLS CRUDE OIL, SALTWATER, NRC FILING SHOWS**

Breya Canyon Oil was yesterday spilling crude mixed with seawater from a Los Angeles pipeline at the rate of 200-300 gallons per minute, according to a [filing](#) with the National Response Center. The mixture was escaping into a storm drain that leads to Machado Lake, according to the filing. The spill was possibly the result of mechanical failure and the fire department is attempting to secure the leak, it said. U.S. refineries and producers must notify the response center if they release hazardous substances in excess of reportable quantities, according to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act, commonly known as Superfund. Bloomberg News couldn't immediately verify that the information in the NRC filing was accurate.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-03-25/breya-canyon-oil-spills-crude-oil-saltwater-nrc-filing-shows.html>

### **CANADA, VANCOUVER, MARCH 27 2011. MAN SEVERELY INJURED AFTER DOUSING FIRE WITH GASOLINE**

An Abbotsford man was severely injured Thursday after pouring gasoline on a smouldering fire. Fire crews and paramedics were first on the scene and treated the man, who had serious burns to his face. He was later transported to Abbotsford Regional Hospital. The incident highlights the dangers of using flammable liquids such as gasoline in and around homes, Deputy Fire Chief Mike Helmer said in a press release. "Each year, many deaths and injuries requiring hospitalization are attributed to the misuse and improper storage of gasoline," said Helmer. The greatest risk factor from gasoline is not from the liquid itself, but from the vapours it produces, he noted. Gas vapour is heavier than air and spreads easily, allowing it to come in contact with common ignition sources such as cigarettes, pilot lights, and sparks from appliance motors or power switches, Helmer warned.

<http://www.vancouversun.com/news/severely+injured+after+dousing+fire+with+gasoline/4509151/story.html>

### **USA, MS, JACKSON, MARCH 27 2011. CREWS WORK ON TRYING TO STOP OIL LEAK IN THE GULF OF MEXICO**

Crews were using a robot submarine Sunday to try to stop an oil leak nearly a mile below the surface of the Gulf of Mexico, but officials said it would take at least another day before they knew whether the job was completed. The Coast Guard said the oil spill was expected to stay 30 miles off the coast for the next three days, but officials are still keeping a watchful eye because the slick has the potential to threaten shores from Louisiana to Florida. Officials said they were trying to stop the flow by using robot submarines to activate valves at the well head, but that would take 24 to 36 hours to complete. If that doesn't work, crews are also planning to drill a relief well to cut off the flow — which could take several months. What appeared to be a manageable spill a couple of days ago after an oil rig exploded and sank off the Louisiana coast Tuesday, has now turned into a more serious environmental problem. The new leak was discovered Saturday, and as much as 1,000 barrels — or 42,000 gallons — of oil is leaking each day, Coast Guard Rear Adm. Mary Landry said. The new leak is troubling for the fragile ecosystem of shrimp, fish, birds and coral. Officials said it's still too soon to say whether the sensitive habitat will be affected. "What crude oil tends to do is float to surface and then under wave action it turns into what looks like chocolate mousse and sinks. It's way too early to tell" the impact, said James Cowan, an oceanography and coastal sciences professor at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge. The initial spill occurred during the explosion on the Deepwater Horizon about 50 miles off the Louisiana coast. More than 100 workers safely escaped the platform, which is about the size of two football fields, but 11

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workers have not been found and are presumed dead. The explosion created a rainbow sheen of oil on the surface of the water for a couple of days. On Thursday, the rig sank, adding another twist to the accident. Still, officials maintained that no more oil appeared to be leaking. Severe weather rolled into the region Saturday, and crews had to suspend cleanup efforts. Then, officials offered up the grim news: the new leak had been found. The sheen on the surface has grown, extending 20 miles by 20 miles Saturday — about 25 times larger than it appeared to be a day earlier, Landry said. "This is a very serious spill, absolutely," Landry said. The leak is releasing about 42,000 gallons a day. By comparison, Exxon Valdez spilled 11 million gallons in Alaska's Prince William Sound in 1989 — the worst oil spill in U.S. history. "It has the potential to be pretty serious, but at 1,000 barrels a day, if it comes to the surface they'll probably be able to contain it and vacuum it up," Cowan said. BP PLC, which leased the rig, has taken the lead in the cleanup, and crews have used robot submarines to try to stop the leak by closing valves on the well deep underwater. If that doesn't work, the company could drill what's called an intervention well to control the oil flow. But intervention drilling could take months. "Over the next several days, we should determine which method is the best one to follow," said Doug Suttles, chief operating officer for BP Exploration and Production. BP said it has activated an extensive oil spill response, including the robot submarines, 700 workers, four planes and 32 vessels to mop up the spill and spray chemicals that will disperse the oil. The Marine Spill Response Corp., an energy industry cleanup consortium, also brought in equipment. So far, crews have retrieved about 1,052 barrels of oily water. Complicating efforts to stop the leak is the well head's depth at 5,000 feet underwater, said Lars Herbst, the regional director for the Minerals Management Service. Leaks have been fixed at similar depths before, but the process is difficult, he said. The sunken rig may have as much as 700,000 gallons of diesel on board, and an undetermined amount of oil has spilled from the rig itself. Suttles said the rig was "intact and secure" on the seabed about 1,300 feet from the well site. The explosion appeared to be a blowout, in which natural gas or oil forces its way up a well pipe and smashes the equipment. But precisely what went wrong was under investigation. The cause of Tuesday's blast hasn't been determined.

<http://www.clarionledger.com/article/20100425/NEWS/100425012/1177/COL/Crews-work-Gulf-oil-rig-leak?odyssey=nav|head>

### USA, OH, NOBLE CO, BELLE VALLEY, MARCH 27 2011. PLANT EXPLOSION SHOOTS STORAGE TANKS HIGH IN SKY >> A FIRE AT A GAS DISPOSAL PLANT CAUSES AN EXPLOSION.

 **Photo's**

<http://www.whiznews.com/content/news/local/2011/03/26/gas-plant-explosion-in-noble-county>

 **Watch the Video**

<http://www.whiznews.com/content/video/369410>



An explosion rocked the small community of Belle Valley Saturday morning, bringing in fire crews from around the area. It happened at a gas disposal plant along Route 821. Authorities said a pump station caught fire around 9:30 a.m., spreading the fire and causing two storage tanks, holding a brine mix, to shoot some 300 feet in the air. A nearby neighbor said one storage tank crashed through his father's garage, which sits next store to the plant, while the other tank landed in the parking lot. There were several fire crews nearby when it happened. "It was pretty close to a lot of guys," Belle Valley Volunteer Fire Department Lieutenant Dana Bond said. "The longer it burned the line inside the building, it burned off or was broken and was feeding some kind of gas or drip gas inside the building. The water was making the fire spread a lot," Bond said. Bond said it took about two

hours to put the flames out. Traffic on Route 821 was closed while crews hauled in water. Bond said brine is disposed of at this plant after it is brought in from oil wells in the surrounding area. An investigation is underway.

<http://www.statejournal.com/story.cfm?func=viewstory&storyid=96648>

### USA, OH, COLUMBUS, MARCH 27 2011. CONTAMINATION LAWSUIT SETTLED

Residents living near a Cold War-era nuclear-weapons facility in southern Ohio settled a two-decade-old federal lawsuit over alleged hazardous chemical contamination in their neighborhoods, a lawyer for the plant's operators said Saturday. The undisclosed settlement was "substantially less" than the \$300 million lawsuit and didn't include all the plaintiffs, said attorney Gail Ford, who represented Divested Atomic Corp. and other operators of the former Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant in Piketon, about 65 miles south of Columbus.

<http://www.vindy.com/news/2011/mar/27/contamination-lawsuit-settled/>

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### **NIGERIA, LAGOS, MARCH 27 2011. 860 SACKED EXXON MOBIL WORKERS GO TO S' COURT ...AS OUT-OF-COURT SETTLEMENT PLAN FAILS**

*ikechukwu nnochiri*

Eight hundred and sixty sacked guards of the Exxon Mobil Oil have gone back to the Supreme Court, seeking an enforcement of an Appeal Court judgment that voided their dismissal from work on the grounds that it was arbitrary, illegal and in breach of their statutory rights. The appellate court, in its judgment, noted that the multinational company acted unjustly by summarily laying the 860 guards off their duty, without benefits, after they had worked for it for over 13 years. Three justices of the Court of Appeal, Justice Ngolika Orji-Abadua, Justice Kuma Akaah and Justice Jean Omokri, had unanimously held that the sacked guards could not be regarded as officers of the police since the circumstances, nature, procedure and methods of their employment were not in harmony with Sections 18, 19, 20 and 21 of the Nigeria Police Act. Consequently, the panel ordered that they should be compensated by Exxon Mobil, stressing that considering the contract of employment the workers entered into with the company, "the plaintiffs are not members of staff of the Nigeria Police, and the plaintiffs are, therefore not entitled to be called supernumerary policemen nor to wear or use police uniform or any police kit or insignia calculated to show or portray the plaintiffs as policemen." While defending its action, the company had insisted that the sacked officers were merely appointed as spy police and should, therefore, depend on the Nigeria Police for their entitlements. When the matter first got to the Supreme Court on December 14, 2010, a five-man panel of justices of the apex court led by Justice Dahiru Musdapher, ordered the company to comply with the earlier judgment and settle the matter accordingly, a directive the oil firm promised to heed. It, however, pleaded for time to enable it perfect an out-of-court settlement plan, a request that was accordingly granted. On January 17, when the matter came up again, the sacked officers decreed that nothing was done on their matter, a situation that led the apex court to summon the company to appear before it on March 22.

<http://www.vanguardngr.com/2011/03/860-sacked-exxon-mobil-workers-go-to-s%E2%80%99-court/>

### **PAPUA NEW GUINEA, RABAU, MARCH 27 2011. TURNS OUT EXXON'S PLAN MESHED NICELY WITH A MYTH IN PRIMITIVE NEW GUINEA**



Papua, New Guinea, has a founding myth – Gigira Laitebo – that an underground fire is kept alive by inhabitants poking sticks into the earth. It also foretells that Exxon will come to the land, and "will light up the world" by extracting and exporting fire from under its ground – at least according to the current national government's finance minister. He puts a positive spin on the prophecy. "By development of the project and delivering to international markets, it's one way of fulfilling the myth." And that is exactly what Exxon plans to do, to extract this fire under New Guinea – natural gas – and ship it through a 450-mile pipeline, then by boat to Japan, China and other markets in East Asia. But other natives dispute the interpretation. A group of people at a Roman Catholic church gave [the New York Times](http://www.nytimes.com) a completely different reading of

the meaning last year. "If foreigners come to our land, you give them food and water, but don't give them the fire," John Hamule, 38, told the Times, as the others nodded. "If you do, it will destroy this place." When these locals were interviewed, it appeared as if the "fire up the world" contingent was losing the battle. After all, Exxon had to contend with more than 60,000 individual land owners to make the deal. This week [Exxon concluded](http://www.bbc.com) the purchase agreement. Myths are handy things.

<http://cleantechnica.com/2011/03/26/turns-out-exxons-plan-meshed-nicely-with-a-myth-in-primitive-new-guinea/>

### **USA, IA, SIOUX CITY, MARCH 28 2011. CLEAN-UP OF SIOUX CITY WELL FIELD IN THE EPA'S COURT**

Earlier this year, a judge ordered General Motors to pay millions for clean-up of contamination the auto maker left behind in Sioux City in the early 90's. This week, six-point-four million dollars will be transferred to the Environmental Protection Agency to start the work. However, the city can hardly put the problem behind them. While Sioux City's no longer left with this multi-million dollar predicament, they also have no control over when it gets fixed. The bankruptcy judge gave the money to the EPA because there was no guarantee the Iowa DNR would put the funds to use at this site. Although the original contamination happened at the A-C Rochester fuel injector plant, off Zenith Drive, the contaminated ground water has since traveled to the city's well field in Chris Larsen park. "So, we have a two-fold condition. You have the water flowing toward the river and you have the wells pulling the contamination toward them" One well was put out of use, another now acts as a barrier, catching the contamination and preventing it from reaching the city's largest well. However, the city is hoping the EPA takes more aggressive action than GM did. "It's going to include clean-up permanently. It's not just a stop-gap measure. This is clean-up of the site permanently. But, it's not something that we've found a solution (for) that will happen overnight." "It's going to include

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clean-up permanently. It's not just a stop-gap measure. This is clean-up of the site permanently. But, it's not something that we've found a solution (for) that will happen overnight." The EPA has already hired a Kansas City contractor to do the initial takeover from GM. They've been on-site recently assessing the situation. City officials hope the EPA will let them take an active role in the clean-up and pay them instead. The EPA says the ultimate goal is to put those funds back into the community.

<http://www.ktiv.com/Global/story.asp?S=14331291>

### **USA, ALA, COOSA, MARCH 28 2011. POLICE: WOMAN LIGHTS FIRE TO BARREL OUTSIDE GAS STATION**

*lydia senn*

An Airport Road woman was arrested early Sunday morning, March 27, and charged with arson after police said she started a fire in a barrel outside of the Evans Store on Alabama Highway in Coosa, reports state. According to Floyd County Jail records: Teresa Lynn Lefevers, 48, of 102 Airport Road, broke into a charity donation box located on the stores parking lot and began throwing items around. Police said Lefevers then poured diesel and gasoline into a barrel and lit it on fire. The barrel was "in close proximity to the gas pumps," the report states. The report also stated that the fire "placed Evans in reasonable jeopardy." Lefevers is charged with misdemeanor theft by taking, criminal trespassing, reckless conduct and loitering. She is also charged with arson in the second degree.

[http://romenews-tribune.com/view/full\\_story/12519435/article-Police--Woman-lights-fire-to-barrel-outside-gas-station?instance=home\\_news\\_lead\\_story](http://romenews-tribune.com/view/full_story/12519435/article-Police--Woman-lights-fire-to-barrel-outside-gas-station?instance=home_news_lead_story)

### **CANADA, ONT, COBOURG, MARCH 28 2011. TRAIN CARRYING FUEL DERAILS NEAR COBOURG, ONT.**

**Watch the Video** <http://www.ctv.ca/CTVNews/Canada/20110327/train-derailment-110327/>

**Watch the Video** <http://www.digtriad.com/news/national/article/168588/175/Freight-Train-Derails-In-Ontario>



A freight train carrying fuel is seen after it derailed near Cobourg, Ont., on Sunday March 27, 2011.

More than a dozen homes were evacuated on Sunday after a freight train carrying fuel derailed near Cobourg, Ont. Up to 25 cars came off the tracks just after noon in Hamilton Township, which separates Cobourg and Port Hope, officials said. Some of those cars were carrying fuel and propane, said Jim Feeny, a spokesman for CN Rail. It's unclear at this time whether there have been any spills, he said. Mayor Mark Lovshin said the derailment caused a small grass fire, which was controlled by firefighters. No injuries have been reported and there was minimal risk to the

public, Lovshin said. Residents forced to leave their homes have gone off on their own, since it's not clear whether they'll need shelter overnight, he said. The province's emergency management agency said residents should prepare to be out of their homes for several days. Emergency Management Ontario is urging people to leave the area between Ward Street, Hamilton Road, Theatre Road South and Lake Ontario. The area is mostly farmland, with a few homes and some industrial buildings. Via Rail service has temporarily shut down on the Toronto-Ottawa and Toronto-Montreal lines. Passengers will be travelling by bus until the track has been cleared. Police, firefighters and CN staff are investigating the incident.

<http://www.ctv.ca/CTVNews/Canada/20110327/train-derailment-110327/>

### **CHINA, ZHEJIANG PROVINCE, TAIZHOU, SHANGTAO, MARCH 28 2011. CHINA BATTERY PLANT MANAGER HELD IN LEAD POISONING CASE**

*ken wills & ben blanchard*

The general manager of a battery plant in eastern China faces environmental pollution charges after lead emissions from the plant poisoned nearly 170 villagers, including 53 children, state news agency Xinhua reported on Sunday. Ying Jianguo, manager at the Taizhou Suqi Storage Battery Co. Ltd in Zhejiang province, was detained on Friday, said Pan Fangdi, a local official. He added that three government officials, including the deputy chief of the district's environmental protection office, were suspended for failing to supervise the region properly. In the latest of a string of heavy metal pollution cases in China, 168 villagers in the Shangtao village near Taizhou city were found to have elevated lead levels in their blood, Xinhua reported, citing local officials and a provincial health department statement. Three of the adults had more than three times the safe limit for humans, the report added, although nobody was found to be suffering from severe lead poisoning. "An inspection of the battery plant showed that lead readings in gas and water discharged from the plant exceeded the legal limit, which also

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resulted in excessive lead in the earth nearby," it quoted local environment official Jiang Xincan as saying. Villagers are being advised to avoid eating food grown in the area as the lead had probably contaminated groundwater, Xinhua said. The battery plant is located just meters away from the village and opened in 2005, it added. Production has now been halted and will not be resumed until the pollution problem is fixed, Xinhua said. In January state media reported that more than 200 children in another eastern province had been poisoned by lead from battery plants located too close to houses. Lead poisoning often builds up slowly as a result of repeated exposure to small amounts of lead. It can damage various parts of the body, including the nervous and reproductive systems and the kidneys, and it can also cause high blood pressure and anemia. Lead is especially harmful for young children as it can lead to learning difficulties and behavioral problems. China's environment ministry has called for urgent measures to tackle heavy metal poisoning as cases of mass poisoning have aroused widespread public anger. In 2009, protesters broke into a smelting works they blamed for the lead poisoning of more than 600 children, smashing trucks and tearing down fences.

<http://planetark.org/wen/61591>

### USA, TX, TEXAS CITY, MARCH 28 2011. TEXAS CITY SHELTER-IN-PLACE LIFTED AFTER HYDROFLUORIC ACID LEAK

 **Watch the Video** <http://abclocal.go.com/ktrk/story?section=news/local&id=8037453>

*christine dobbyn*

A shelter-in-place order was in effect for parts of Texas City for more than an hour Sunday after an acid leak at one of the plants. The shelter-in-place was lifted at 6pm and residents were given the all-clear, but the situation had some residents concerned. The shelter-in-place was given as a precaution to those living in Texas City after a leak was discovered at the Marathon refinery on 10th St. It was described by emergency officials as a pinhole leak and a small amount of hydrofluoric acid may have been escaping. Those living east of 21st St. had to spend a couple hours indoors. By early evening, they were able to go back outside. "They call you from Texas City and tell you to stay in the house and shut the doors. That's all you do. It happens pretty regular," resident Matt Azzano said. "I work at BP and it seems like this happens all the time, so I don't get concerned." Resident Joseph Toney had a similar attitude. "At least times a month there will be a chemical spill it seems like, here recently," Toney said. "It's real alarming to all our kids and it's kind of a hassle. I mean, just like spring break. All of our kids, they play in these areas." The cause of the leak was not known late Sunday. We contacted Marathon about the leak and the company gave us the following statement: "The source of the release has been located, and crews are working on isolating it. There has been no off-site impact."

<http://abclocal.go.com/ktrk/story?section=news/local&id=8037453>

### ROMANIA, PITESTI, MARCH 28 2011. OMV PETROM PERMANENTLY CLOSES ARPECHIM REFINERY IN ROMANIA, ALLOTS EUR 10 MLN TO SEVERANCE PAYMENTS



Oil and gas company OMV Petrom will permanently close down the Arpechim refinery in Romania due to economic reasons and will allot EUR 10 million to severance payments for its laid off employees, the company announced on Friday morning. The refinery, located south of Romania, near the city of Pitesti, employs 700 people and operated for only three months in 2010, on an "as needed basis". This is OMV Petrom's second refinery in Romania, apart from the Petrobrazi one. "The sale option, which the company investigated in the past year, is not feasible as no credible buyer was identified that would have the experience and financial resources necessary to safely and sustainably operate the refinery," the company

wrote in a statement. The decision was taken by Petrom's supervisory board in its March 24 meeting. The Arpechim employees who will be affected by the shutdown will receive severance payments with amounts varying according to seniority, as well as re-qualification courses, according to Petrom. In total, Petrom will allot EUR 10 million to severance payments. The Arpechim site will be partially converted into a crude and fuel storage. "In Europe, a series of other refineries that are more technologically advanced and better positioned than Arpechim face the same situation and are already closed or not operating, according to Petrom. Arpechim was functional for only three months in 2010. "The Arpechim refinery is a challenging investment case considering that it is a landlocked refinery needing to import crude oil and mainly exporting finished products," Petrom wrote in its statement. Moreover, in 2010, the aggregated use rate of refining capacities in Romania was of around 40 percent, given the fact that only four refineries were on stream out of the existing 10 refineries operating in

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previous years, according to Petrom. The Arpechim refinery was opened in 1964 and in 1971, it was integrated into the petrochemical complex. Petrom posted a turnover of EUR 4.4 billion in 2010 while its profit before taxes stood at EUR 709 million. The company is owned by Austrian OMV, with 51 percent of the shares. Romania's Economy Ministry holds a 20.64 percent share package, Fondul Proprietatea owns 20.11 percent, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, some 2 percent, and 6.21 are free floating on the Bucharest Stock Exchange.

<http://www.romania-insider.com/omv-petrom-permanently-closes-arpechim-refinery-in-romania-allots-eur-10-mln-to-severance-payments/21076/>

#### USA, WYO, RAWLINGS, MARCH 28 2011. REFINERY WORKERS EVACUATED AFTER FRIDAY FIRE >> NO INJURIES REPORTED; CAUSE OF BLAZE UNDER INVESTIGATION

Nonessential personnel were evacuated from Sinclair Wyoming Refining Company on Friday morning after a vent pipe on an asphalt tank caught fire, a refinery official said. The fire started at about 9:30 a.m., said John Pfeffer, refinery environmental health and safety manager. The vent, located on top of the 40-foot-tall tank, is designed to divert vapors out of the tank. The fire occurred when those vapors ignited. The cause of the blaze is still under investigation. "We did evacuate the refinery, which is normal protocol as a precaution," Pfeffer said. No injuries were reported in the incident, which was "relatively minor," he added. However, the blaze on the tank was difficult to access, "so it took a little bit of time" to put out, he said. Members of the refinery's fire brigade responded to the fire, which was extinguished before noon. Personnel returned to work at around noon, Pfeffer said. The fire caused "no disruption of refinery operations of any kind" and did not damage the tank or ignite the asphalt in it, he added.

<http://www.rawlinstimes.com/articles/2011/03/26/news/doc4d8d594497966773697042.txt>

#### CANADA, TORONTO, MARCH 28 2011. HOMES EVACUATED, VIA RAIL SHUT DOWN AFTER DERAILMENT NEAR PORT HOPE

lesley ciarula taylor



*A derailment of about 20 cars of a 116-car train happened Sunday afternoon near Port Hope. One empty car in the derailed chain caught fire and burned for about an hour.*

A "significant" derailment of a CN Rail freight train en route to Toronto forced families in 20 houses to flee and shut down a major passenger rail corridor. The Montreal-Ottawa-Toronto Via Rail lines will remain closed through the end of Monday, with buses in their place, communications director Catherine Kaloutsky said Sunday evening. The derailment of about 20 cars of the 116-car train happened at 12:20 p.m. on Sunday, three kilometres east of Port Hope, CN Rail

communications director Jim Feeny said. "These are rare," he said of the accident. "This is a main track derailment, something significant." Some of the derailed cars "do contain dangerous goods, fuel and propane," he said. There were no crew members or people nearby injured, he said. According to Feeny, spilled fuel was contained by late Sunday afternoon, and the company will install containment booms as a precaution. Families around County Road 2 in the "very rural area" had been moved away from potential "blast areas," said Port Hope Police Sgt. Peter Thivierge. One empty car in the derailed chain caught fire and burned for about an hour, Ontario Provincial Police Const. Chris Dewsbury said. "The fire was contained to just the car itself. It didn't pose any hazardous concerns." People moved out of the area won't be allowed back for at least 24 hours, he said. Hamilton Township, where the derailment occurred, issued a [red alert through Emergency Management Ontario](#) to tell people to "immediately leave" in a 1.6 kilometre square area south of Highway 401 bounded by Ward St., Lake Ontario, Hamilton Rd. and Theatre Rd. S. "Quickly select basic clothing, medication, toiletry supplies and other essentials for several days absence," the alert advised. "Take your pets with you. Do not pick up family from school, daycares and hospitals or nursing homes." CN Rail sent a hazardous material unit from Toronto to the scene. A red alert means there is "a major risk to health, safety and security," said EMO spokesman Stuart McGetrick. "We don't have an end time." "There is a protocol based on the contents" to evacuate, said Thivierge. "It's a minor evacuation because it's not a very populated area." Through Sunday and Monday, rail travellers with reservations will be taken by bus and no new bookings are being accepted. Via reserved passengers who wanted to rebook for another day could do so without penalty, Kaloutsky said. The cause of the derailment, on a sunny crisp Sunday afternoon, remained "a good question," said Thivierge. "CN Rail is investigating" and the Canadian Transportation Safety Board was involved. "Over the last several years, we have worked hard to reduce the frequency and severity" of main track derailments, Feeny said. "We have made good progress." Sunday's was the fifth major track derailment this year in CN's

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eastern region, which stretches from Halifax to Winnipeg, Feeny said. In 2010, there were 15 major track derailments in the region. The derailed cars were "about a third of the way back" on the train, which was carrying mixed cargo from Montreal to Toronto. "There were a lot of empty cars." A CP Rail derailment in January near Orillia forced the evacuation of an 80-metre area when 21 cars, some containing propane, jumped the track. Last October, 18 cars of a CN Rail freight train, six of them hauling hazardous chemicals such as ammonium nitrate, sulphuric acid and sodium cyanide, derailed near Cornwall. Nine kilograms of sodium cyanide briquettes spilled out of the wrecked cars. In 1979, a CP Rail freight train caught fire, derailed and exploded in Mississauga. More than 200,000 people fled after several tank cars filled with propane burst into flames. Ruptures in other tankers spilled styrene, toluene, propane, caustic soda and chlorine onto the tracks and into the air.

<http://www.thestar.com/news/article/962450--homes-evacuated-via-rail-shut-down-after-derailment-near-port-hope?bn=1>

### NEW ZEALAND, WELLINGTON, MARCH 28 2011. OIL PROSPECTOR TO FOLLOW DOC GUIDELINES

The Government says Petrobras is following Department of Conservation (DOC) guidelines to minimise the disturbance to marine mammals while it looks for oil off the East Cape. Opponents of deep sea oil drilling say seismic testing by the Brazilian oil giant will interfere with marine mammals' migratory patterns. A flotilla of ships protesting the operation will join local iwi Te Whanau a Apanui and others to protest against the planned deep sea oil exploration and drilling in the Raukumara Basin, east of their tribal lands. The protest was expected to coincide with the beginning of seismic surveying by Petrobras, which was last year awarded a five-year petroleum exploration permit in the basin. Daniel Mares, from the Nuclear Free flotilla, said this would involve blasting sound to the sea floor from air-powered cannons, which would interfere with the communication and sensory systems of marine mammals. "There's definitely a correlation between marine mammal behaviour and the operation of seismic survey vessels. "Although there's no potential for an oil spill from that, there's potential that it could disrupt the migratory patterns of the migratory species," Mr Mares said. A spokeswoman for Acting Energy and Resources Minister Hekia Parata said Petrobras was following DOC guidelines to minimise acoustic disturbance to marine mammals. These included requirements for operators to use the lowest practical power levels, have an independent, trained marine mammal observer to record sightings of the mammals before and during operations, and to have regard to the 1.5km radius for species of concern and 200m for all other species. Operations must stop if there are mammals within the radius. The flotilla arrived in Whitianga today to rally support before it heads to meet Te Whanau a Apanui on Saturday, when they will decide how to conduct the protest. "I think that the Government's seriously misjudged the attitude of the New Zealand people to our treasures -- to our coastline, to our marine mammals, to our land, air and water," Mr Mares said. New Zealand would be ill-equipped to deal with a an oil spill such as the recent slick in the Gulf of Mexico, he said. The spokeswoman for Ms Parata said a dedicated unit of Maritime New Zealand (MNZ) based in the Auckland suburb of Te Atatu was responsible for ensuring New Zealand was prepared for, and able to respond to, marine oil spills. The Marine Pollution Response Service consisted of internationally respected experts who managed and trained about 400 local government and MNZ responders. The National Contingency plan was responsive and regularly evaluated to ensure it met oil spill risk profiles, she said. Ms Parata said more money could potentially be earned from our oil and gas resources than what is currently earned from tax and from royalties from the oil and gas industry. "In 2009, Taranaki's oil and gas industry employed the equivalent of 5090 full time people and contributed \$2 billion in GDP. While the sector employs fewer than half as many people as the dairy industry in Taranaki, it contributes almost 2.5 times more to regional GDP. "There has been a great deal of concern raised over the impact of the petroleum industry on the environment in the future. I want to remind people that we have a long history in petroleum dating back to the 19th century -- 59 wells have been drilled in New Zealand waters in the last five years alone."

<http://www.stuff.co.nz/national/4818946/Oil-pro prospector-to-follow-DOC-guidelines>

### USA, MI, TRAVERSE CITY, MARCH 28 2011. BENZENE - FURTHER STUDY WARRANTED

neill varner

In response to public concerns regarding exposures related to Enbridge oil spill, history affords a backward look at sites where such concern has led to books, films, and regulatory actions - Woburn, Mass., and Camp LeJeune, N.C., are two noteworthy examples. Studies done by the United Kingdom and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in the 1998-1999 timeline summarize the available information on health effects from benzene exposures, one of the major contaminants present in Calhoun County. The effects on children are less clear but demand investigation since childhood leukemias (except for lymphocytic leukemia) may relate to such exposures. The Michigan Department of Community Health and Department of Environmental Quality have stopped monitoring for benzene levels since they appear to be satisfied that levels remain below the very protective 6 pptv which is the limit set by the EPA. Nonetheless, long-term low-level exposures have not been adequately studied to allow strong reassurances. Evidence exists that children exposed to parents' clothing with benzene

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contamination can demonstrate adverse health effects from that remote exposure, supporting the request for further prospective evaluations. A national children's health study under way in five Michigan counties, sponsored by the National Institutes of Health, might include a look at these exposures as a satellite study. All very interesting, albeit a disconcerting situation.


<http://www.battlecreekenquirer.com/article/20110328/OPINION03/103280307>

### USA, TX, FORT WORTH, MARCH 29 2011. FIERY I-30 CRASH KILLS TANKER DRIVER

*chance welch & gordon dickson*

 **Watch the Video** [http://www.myfoxorlando.com/dpp/hot\\_video/032811-video-tanker-truck-fire](http://www.myfoxorlando.com/dpp/hot_video/032811-video-tanker-truck-fire)

 **Watch the Video** <http://www.firehouse.com/news/top-headlines/driver-dead-after-gas-tanker-explodes-texas>

 **Watch the Video** <http://www.wfaa.com/news/Deadly-wrong-way-tanker-truck-accident-118768599.html>

 **Photo Gallery** <http://www.star-telegram.com/2011/03/28/2953765/truck-fire-closes-i-30-in-both.html>



A tanker truck is ablaze after a fatality crash on Interstate 30 near Beach Street. Westbound Interstate 30 just east of downtown Fort Worth could be closed for most of today after a fiery early-morning accident involving a fuel tanker caused massive damage to the roadway and bridge beams. "We're working on a plan to hopefully get two lanes open by late this afternoon, but it's going to take some time to fix," said Texas Department of Transportation spokeswoman Jodi Hodges, adding that the repairs could take weeks. "Those beams are going to have to be replaced." Louis Nieves, 23, the driver of a 1996 red Ford pickup that slammed into the fully loaded fuel tanker while headed the wrong way on I-30, is under arrest on suspicion of driving while intoxicated and intoxication manslaughter, Fort Worth police said. He has taken a blood test but results were not yet available, said Sgt.

Cynthia Blake of the Traffic Investigation Unit. The officer who spoke with Nieves after the crash reported that his speech was slurred, that he had a strong odor of alcohol on his breath and that he said he had been drinking, according to the police report. Police did not yet know where the pickup entered the westbound lanes of I-30, but the first calls from witnesses around 2:30 a.m. Monday described it as headed eastbound near Henderson and Cherry streets in downtown Fort Worth, Blake said. A few minutes later, just east of Interstate 35W near Riverside Drive, the pickup slammed head-first into the tanker truck, which had just filled up with fuel, Blake said. The truck overturned and exploded, sending flames high into the night. The tanker driver was trapped inside the cab after the crash. He died at the scene. The red pickup was cast aside, with its front end smashed. Nieves was taken to John Peter Smith Hospital for his injuries and was released into police custody Monday morning, police said. Most of the fuel from the tanker truck was allowed to burn off before firefighters extinguished the blaze, Fort Worth Fire Department spokesman Tim Hardeman said. A cleanup crew and an official with the city's environmental department were at the scene, Hardeman said. The Fire Department's hazardous materials team set up devices in the levee and riverbank underneath the bridge to catch any fuel that seeped into the water but test readings showed low levels of contamination, Hardeman said. Police blocked all entrances to the freeway near Beach Street and Riverside Drive until 5 a.m., when traffic began moving in the eastbound lanes. The tanker truck was owned and operated by Petro-Chemical Transport, a fuel tanker company based in Addison, a company spokeswoman said. The accident was the second in less than a week that caused damage to Tarrant County roadways. On Thursday, a collision between a car and an empty water truck damaged a flyover at I-20 and I-35W in south Fort Worth. The overpass was repaired over the weekend at a cost of \$15,000, according to TxDOT.

<http://www.star-telegram.com/2011/03/28/2953765/truck-fire-closes-i-30-in-both.html>

### USA, N.Y, HOOSICK, MARCH 29 2011. RENSSELAER COUNTY ORDERS EVACUATION AS PROPANE TRUCK BURNS IN HOOSICK

*Kenneth C. Crowe li & Bryan Fitzgerald*

 **Watch the Video** <http://wnyt.com/article/stories/S2038569.shtml?cat=300>

About 100 homes and businesses were evacuated within a mile of where a tractor-trailer hauling 10,000 gallons of propane rolled over and caught fire Monday afternoon on Route 7, Rensselaer County officials said. The evacuation was carried out as a precaution in the event the propane tanker truck explodes, sending a fireball and metal fragments shooting out. The tanker truck went off the road and continues to burn, said [Chris Meyer](#), a spokesman for [County Executive Kathleen Jimino](#). The truck

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was headed east on Route 7 when it ran off the road and crashed, knocking out electric power to some of the surrounding area, the Rensselaer County Sheriff's Office said. The tanker truck is owned and operated by Venezia Hauling whose corporate headquarters is in Royersford, Pa. The accident occurred just before 12:30 p.m. near the Man of Kent Tavern at 4552 Route 7, just west of the intersection with Route 22. The driver of the truck was airlifted by helicopter to [Albany Medical Center Hospital](#), deputies said. The extent of the driver's injuries and his identity are not yet available. No one else has been reported injured. Ten fire departments, with the [Hoosick Fire Department](#) heading the operation, are at the scene. Water is being used to cool the propane tank as the leaking fuel burns off. Officials are worried that a "BLEVE" (pronounced "blevee") or boiling liquid expanding vapor explosion may occur, said Troy Fire Chief [Thomas Garrett](#) after returning from the scene. The [Troy Fire Department](#) houses and staffs the [Rensselaer County HAZMAT Team](#), which was called to the accident scene. If a BLEVE were to occur, the explosion could send the tank shooting off like a rocket and cause a fireball in the surrounding area, Garrett explained. The [Federal Aviation Administration](#) has placed flight restrictions around the fire scene at the request of local law enforcement, said [Jim Peters](#), an FAA spokesman in New York City. Aircraft are not allowed to fly in the airspace below 3,000 feet within 5 miles of the accident scene. County emergency officials are calling each home and business in the evacuation zone to get people out of harm's way. Shelters are set up at the Pittstown Ambulance Squad on [Parker School Road](#) in Johnsonville and the [Hoosick Baptist Church](#) at 648 South St. in Hoosick Falls. The [American Red Cross](#) of Northeastern New York is assisting in the evacuation. "There's been a lot of fire trucks going by," said [Nicole Matte](#), a waitress at [Falls Diner Restaurant on Route 22](#). The news media are being kept more than a mile from the scene. Route 7 is closed between Route 278 in Brunswick and Route 22 in Hoosick, and traffic is being detoured. The state [Department of Transportation](#) said those traveling east on Route 7 should take Route 278 to Route 2 then head east to Route 22, north to Route 356 then east to Route 95 and then north to reach Route 7 again. Westbound traffic should take Route 95 south to Route 346 west to Route 22 south to Route 2 and head west on Route 2 to Route 278. Head north on Route 278 to Route 7.

<http://www.timesunion.com/local/article/Rensselaer-County-orders-evacuation-as-propane-1310984.php>

### USA, TX, ANDERSON CO, MARCH 29 2011. GAS WELL CATCHES FIRE, BURNS TWO ACRES

*amanda roberson*

 **Watch the Video** <http://www.cbs19.tv/Global/story.asp?S=14333635>



It was a fiery scene Monday morning in Anderson County. A gas well caught fire in the 6000 block of County Road 448 in Anderson county in the community of Elmwood around 8:30am. When firefighters arrived flames were shooting more than six feet in the air, near these gas tank batteries. Investigators told CBS 19 if it wasn't for the quick action of the Elmwood and Montalba volunteer fire departments a devastating explosion could have happened. A fire and emergency response team with the state also came in to help contain the fire. They're currently in the area because of the recent wildfires. "It's a tremendous help anytime a jurisdiction can have outside resources come in for whatever emergency situations," explained Schelby Wells with Anderson County Emergency Management. "Occurring in Texas, we're having drought issues, dry dry conditions." About two acres of land was scorched during the fire. No one was injured.

<http://www.cbs19.tv/Global/story.asp?S=14333635>

### SINGAPORE, MARCH 29 2011. ONE WORKER KILLED IN INCIDENT AT EXXONMOBIL REFINERY

*ronnie lim*

All maintenance work at ExxonMobil's 309,000 barrels per day Jurong refinery - which was undergoing a 9-week scheduled shutdown - has been stopped following an incident on Monday night which claimed the life of a contracted worker and has left a second in critical condition. 'Both are contractors and had been carrying out maintenance works in an enclosed space filled with nitrogen, when they were discovered to be unconscious,' the company said. 'We are cooperating with the authorities to investigate the cause of the incident. Meanwhile... all work relating to the turnaround at the Jurong refinery has been suspended.' An ExxonMobil spokesperson told BT that it was too early to tell when it expects to resume maintenance work there. The turnaround at the refinery started in early-March and was expected to be completed around end-April. But as it was a scheduled turnaround, it has not affected any deliveries to customers. ExxonMobil, the largest refiner here with a total

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capacity of 605,000 bpd, also operates a second 296,000 bpd refinery on Pulau Ayer Chawan, and that is running as per normal.

<http://www.businesstimes.com.sg/sub/latest/story/0,4574,432448,00.html>

### USA, OH, YOUNGSTOWN, MARCH 29 2011. FREIGHT TRAIN DERAILS IN OHIO, PROMPTS EVACUATION

daniel lowering

**Watch the Video** [http://www.newsnet5.com/dpp/news/local\\_news/train-derails-in-trumbull-county-unknown-chemical-leaking](http://www.newsnet5.com/dpp/news/local_news/train-derails-in-trumbull-county-unknown-chemical-leaking)



A freight train derailed near Youngstown, [Ohio](#), on Monday and authorities, suspecting a possible ammonia gas leak, evacuated nearby residents, police said. Gary Sease, a spokesman for CSX Transportation, said 14 of the train's 111 cars had derailed in Newton Falls, Ohio, at 7 a.m. No one was injured. Police initially reported that 96 cars had derailed and suspicion of an ammonia gas leak prompted authorities to evacuate residents from houses located within 500 feet of the accident. Sease said none of the derailed cars contained chemicals or had leaked any kind of substance. Two empty cars, which did not derail, had previously contained an ammonia solution, he said. The train was heading to [Cumberland, Maryland](#), from Willard, Ohio, when the accident occurred. CSX was investigating the incident along with local authorities, Sease said. The cause of the accident has not been determined. By mid-afternoon, investigators found that no chemicals had spilled, but about 45 homes remained evacuated, said Jim Zimomra, spokesman for

the Newton Falls Police Department. Newton Falls is about 20 miles west of Youngstown, Ohio, and 70 miles northwest of Pittsburgh.

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/nationworld/sns-rt-usreport-us-derailmtre72r55o-20110328,0,7688330.story>

### AUSTRALIA, VICTORIA, MELBOURNE, MARCH 29 2011. PUBLIC COMMENT OPENS FOR DANGEROUS GOODS REGULATIONS

WorkSafe's replacement regulations for the Dangerous Goods (Explosives) Regulations 2000 and regulatory impact statement (RIS) are now open for public comment until April 15. The draft replacement regulations are mostly a translation of the current regulations, however some changes are proposed to increase security and safety outcomes. You can get a copy of the draft regulations and associated RIS from [worksafe.vic.gov.au](http://worksafe.vic.gov.au), by calling WorkSafe Advisory Service on 1800 136 089 or via email [publications@worksafe.vic.gov.au](mailto:publications@worksafe.vic.gov.au). Submissions should be emailed to [explosivesregs\\_review@worksafe.vic.gov.au](mailto:explosivesregs_review@worksafe.vic.gov.au) or mailed to Manager, Legislative and Regulatory Services Branch, WorkSafe Victoria, 222 Exhibition St, Melbourne, VIC 3000 by Friday, April 15.

[worksafe.vic.gov.au](http://worksafe.vic.gov.au)

### USA, CO, FRISCO, MARCH 29 2011. LOOKS VS. POLLUTION WEIGHED IN SILVERTHORNE SAV-O-MAT GAS STATION DILEMMA >> SILVERTHORNE TOWN COUNCIL CONSIDERS WAYS TO ALLOW REMEDIATION WHILE NOT GOING LAX ON TOWN CODE REQUIREMENTS

janice kurbjun



*Known for its cheap gas, the Sav-O-Mat on Blue River Parkway in Silverthorne has leaking tanks that could threaten local waterways. But the owner and the town are in a standoff over how to proceed with the cleanup.*

Silverthorne town officials are at odds with the owner of the Sav-o-Mat gas station over how to clean up leaking chemicals while adhering to town law that requires bringing a property up to code when above-ground structures are added. Council members feel the owner, Buzz Calkins, is dragging his feet while Calkins maintains the town's onerous rules are to blame for the delay. Meanwhile, toxic benzene is escaping from fuel tanks underground. The substance has yet to reach nearby wells or the Blue River, but officials are concerned it may be just a matter of time.

Contamination well above approved state levels was discovered on the site in 2009, at which point Calkins wrote a corrective

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plan with state officials and brought it before the town council, he said. Implementing the plan has been hindered because it includes installing an above-ground storage shed. The town asks the entire site to be brought to code when new structures are added. Calkins said he approached the town separately about site improvements in 2007, but found the cost-to-benefit ratio prohibitive. He moved the "facelift" project down his list. He owns more than 50 gas stations from New Mexico to Wyoming and has other ongoing projects. "We'll be the first ones to admit it looks awful," he said of the station, a fixture in the town since the 1970s. "It's an eyesore of all eyesores." In the absence of a satisfactory site plan outlining necessary updates, town staff and council members feel they're at a stand-still with the clean-up process. Community development director Mark Leidal said his office has been waiting for 18 months for the plan to be processed. An incomplete plan was submitted a year ago, but did not move forward, he said. Council members are considering taking action against the owner, and will consider their options at a 6 p.m. meeting Thursday. The meeting starts with an executive session to consult with their attorney and will likely end with a publicly announced decision. Calkins said he's trying to play by the town's rules, even if he finds them prohibitive. Never before has a remediation operation been tied with a site plan to leverage site improvements, he said. "There are typically not a lot of hoops to go through," he said, adding that he intends to submit a revised site plan early this week. Calkins' plan still asks for some variances from town code, such as permitting the sign to remain larger than dimensions outlined in town code so the station can be competitive with name-brand stations closer to Interstate 70. "(The town council is) trying to adhere to a code that's unlike anything else in the state, or the country, for that matter," he said. Remediation is being funded by the state Department of Labor and Employment Division of Oil and Public Safety at an estimated \$1.3 million. Work has proceeded on adjacent town property as of December, but there's not been a go-ahead to do clean-up on site.

### **Mutual Frustration**

Council members expressed frustration at what they see as Calkins' apparent unwillingness to cooperate. There's been no direct communication between Silverthorne staff and Calkins since he appeared at a town council work session in January, Leidal said. But at the same time council members want to enforce code, they said they're aware Silverthorne citizens are calling for them to address the clean-up instead of holding out on beautification. "I want to urge you to do whatever you can, as quickly as you can, to stop the spread of this," resident Jim Edwards said during last week's regular meeting. "If benzene gets into our water supply ... this town will never be the same." Mayor Dave Koop said he's concerned about the site beyond its beauty or lack thereof — he's wondering if there are more problems that must be addressed than meet the eye. "We've been more than accommodating," he said. "We agreed we wouldn't hinder remediation ... as long as the source of the problem was addressed. Several options are available to council members, such as:

- Continuing the wait for a site plan;
- Waiving the site plan requirement to allow remediation work to proceed (they denied issuing a waiver when the option came before them in November);
- Block access to the site via town property;
- Revoke the business license for not complying with state remediation requirements; and"
- Disallow business on the premise that it's unlawful for anyone to directly or indirectly pollute or contaminate waters, streams, properties or equipment that could cause the town's water to become impure.
- Council member Ann-Marie Sandquist said Calkins may be waiting to see if the council will play hardball and revoke his business license. She said he has expressed doubts they will. Calkins said there's been mutual frustration between the parties since conversations began for the two projects, but he doesn't want to add animosity on either side — it's not productive, he said.

### **Preparing to Act**

Council members have discussed the possibility of acquiring the Sav-o-Mat property using urban renewal terms, but town attorney Jerry Dahl advised against acquiring such a liability. "You get both things. You get the (state) fund and the liability," he said. "But you have to be sure the fund covers (the problem)." Among discussions about which options to pursue, council member Bruce Butler said he wanted to hold off on making a decision until he had more information. "Before I start throwing dynamite in the pond ... I want to understand how this yarn ball is going to unravel," he said. Dahl is investigating the implications and feasibility of each action prior to this week's meeting. "I know we all feel we've been black-balled into a corner and he's controlling us like puppets, but what is most important here?" council member Dave Anderson said, asserting the opinion shared by several other council members that getting remediation underway may be higher priority than beautifying the site.

<http://www.summitdaily.com/article/20110329/NEWS/110329794/1078&ParentProfile=1055>

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### USA, TN, MEMPHIS, MARCH 29 2011. DANGEROUS GOODS INSTRUCTOR'S SYMPOSIUM SET FOR SEPTEMBER

Labelmaster's sixth annual Dangerous Goods Instructor's Symposium, set for September 28-30, 2011, is a must for trainers responsible for the instruction of dangerous goods shipping. The symposium will be held at the Peabody Hotel, located at 149 Union Avenue in Memphis TN. The 2011 Dangerous Goods Instructors' Symposium will include in-depth training workshops, industry speakers, and current regulatory information for dangerous goods instructors from all industries. This free symposium presents an opportunity to network with industry experts and peers. More information, including a speaker and program agenda, will be available soon at:

[www.myregs.com/airregs/conferences](http://www.myregs.com/airregs/conferences).

### USA, N.J, SOMERS POINT, MARCH 30 2011. OFFICIALS CONTINUE SEARCH FOR SOURCE OF SOMERS POINT OIL SPILL

*matt lerario*

A local restored riverboat does not seem to be the source of an oil spill that was found in local waterways last week. That's the latest from officials with the Department of Environmental Protection who tell us lab tests show the oil is a diesel fuel typically used for home heating. They're still unclear exactly how much of it was able to leak into the water, but estimate it was between 50 to 200 gallons. Fortunately, the winds and current kept much of it contained to a small lagoon area, and there was very little environmental impact. For now, investigators are still trying to pin down the actual source, but officials do not believe the nearby riverboat is responsible.

<http://www.nbc40.net/news/16979/>

### AUSTRALIA, WESTERN AUSTRALIA, ESPERANCE, MARCH 30 2011. EVACUATION AVERTS POTENTIAL DAMAGE DUE TO PETROL STATION FIRE

*olivia conroy*



A scene of panic was seen in the area of the Esplanade last night. As per the reports, Eagle Petrol Station had caught fire at around 12.20am, when a local resident reported fire to the police. Following the call, most of the Esperance residents and connected building were immediately evacuated by the team of police and FESA in order to avert any human life loss. Confirming the incident, Police Operations Manager, Greg Webb said, "There were some nearby large containers of gas, it's a service station, you've got flammable liquids everywhere, so we erred on the side of caution and got those people out of there". Thought the fire was doused, a team of Arson Squad officers from Perth are expected to probe the incident to decipher the loss of \$100,000 at the Eagle Petroleum shop. Moreover, Det. Sgt Doug Backhouse claimed that the team had feared that a part of a complex of six businesses and connected residential buildings would get fire, but thanks to

the immediate action taken by the police and FESA that a potential accident was averted. However, all the evacuated people have returned home and an investigation is underway with the owners of the service station.

<http://topnews.us/content/237622-evacuation-averts-potential-damage-due-petrol-station-fire>

### USA, N.J, NEWARK, MARCH 30 2011. NEWARK REFINERY EXPLOSION, FIRE INJURES ONE

*chris de benedetti*



An explosion and fire occurred at the Evergreen Oil refinery in Newark on Tuesday, March 29.

The situation at the Evergreen Oil refinery, where an explosion Tuesday morning caused a two-alarm fire and injured one employee, has stabilized, and Cal-Osha officials are at the scene to investigate, authorities said. About 45 Alameda County firefighters responded to a 5:36 a.m. call reporting a blast and fire at the refinery, at Cherry Street and Smith Avenue, and they had the blaze under control within 15 minutes, fire spokeswoman Aisha Knowles said. The injured employee broke his arm and was taken to an East Bay hospital, authorities said. The explosion occurred when plant operators were doing a routine task and a heat exchanger malfunctioned, which released hydrocarbon

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and caught on fire, Knowles said. The heat from the fire caused a fiberglass hydrochloric acid tank to rupture, Knowles said. Hazardous material teams from Alameda County and Evergreen Oil worked together to stop any spread of the hydrochloric acid, and they captured it in a large container. By 9 a.m., all fire units were released from the scene, including the county's hazardous materials team. Evergreen's hazardous materials team remained at the plant, as did county fire and Cal-Osha investigators, Knowles said. Preliminary concerns about resident evacuations proved false, as there were no shelter-in-place orders to residents and no schools were closed, City Manager John Becker said. "There was no release of any toxins or anything that would cause us to evacuate," Becker said. "Investigators are on scene right now seeing if there's any release into the storm channel." It was the refinery's second major incident in the past 10 months. A fire started at the Evergreen Oil plant in May, and there have been multiple complaints of odors being emitted there in recent months, which prompted city officials recently to issue the plant 10 citations and fines totaling \$4,300, Becker said. At this point, it would be pure speculation to say that Tuesday's fire was connected to those incidents, Becker said. Neighbors living in a housing development directly across the street from the plant were awakened Tuesday morning by sirens. Therese Walter, who has lived in her home since 1965, said that her daughter called her at 6 a.m. and that she could see smoke billowing from the refinery as soon as she looked outside. Walter said neighbors have complained for years about odors emanating from the refinery. "That plant over there is bad," she said. "Many times we get a bad smell from over there, and sometimes it's so bad, it gives you a headache."

[http://www.mercurynews.com/breaking-news/ci\\_17724343?nclink\\_check=1](http://www.mercurynews.com/breaking-news/ci_17724343?nclink_check=1)

### **USA, TN, CLARKSVILLE, MARCH 30 2011. MAN INJURED IN DRUM EXPLOSION AT CLARKSVILLE HARDWARE STORE**



*Clarksville Fire Rescue responds to an explosion at Orgain's Hardware on Riverside Drive Monday afternoon after a worker cut into an oil drum, foreground, with a blow torch.*

Clarksville Fire Rescue responded Monday afternoon to an explosion at Orgain's Hardware on Riverside Drive. At about 2:50 p.m., an oil drum that was believed to be empty exploded when a worker tried to cut into it using a blowtorch, said Deputy Fire Chief John Stanley at the scene. The situation was under control within minutes, according to emergency scanner traffic, and no further fires were reported. The worker was taken ambulance for treatment for head injuries. The wounds were not thought to be life-threatening.

<http://www.theleafchronicle.com/article/20110329/NEWS01/103290357/Man-injured-explosion-Clarksville-hardware-store?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE>

### **USA, CA, SAN DIEGO, MARCH 30 2011. BIGGEST US NAVY FUEL STORAGE SITE OPENS**

The new fuel storage facility at the Defense Fuel Support Point in Point Loma, San Diego, US, is now open and is has become the largest fuel handling facility in the navy inventory. The Military Construction Project 401, the name given to the project, cost \$139 million (€98 million) to build and replaced the old storage facility that was originally constructed between 1930 and 1950. During the construction of the new facility, 125,000 barrels of above ground fuel storage tanks were built, replacing the existing 750,000 barrels of jet and diesel storage. When finished, the project will allow for the closure of three quarters of existing aging above ground and underground storage tanks, providing environmental mitigation and remediation of contaminated soil. Last year alone the site handled more than 7.5 million barrels of fuel in more than 1,200 fuelling evolutions.

[http://www.tankstoragemag.com/industry\\_news.php?item\\_id=3412](http://www.tankstoragemag.com/industry_news.php?item_id=3412)

### **KENYA, NAIROBI, MARCH 30 2011. PETROL TANKER EXPLODES IN BUSIA TOWN**

*gilbert ochieng*

A petrol tanker burst into flames near an AP camp in Busia causing panic and fear among residents. The tanker driver Yusuf Mutahi said the explosion occurred when one of the diesel generator that was being used to drain petrol burst into flames. The driver said the truck, belonging to Hass Transporters, was emptying the fuel after collided with a lorry at Bumala the Kisumu-Busia highway. However, nobody was injured during the incidence. A fire-fighting engine from Tororo, Uganda was brought to put off the fire since Busia Municipality Council has no fire brigade services.

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201103290292.html>

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