



Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network

Release 2012 – 858 Newsy Stuff

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

July 13 2012



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USA, ILL, OAK PARK, GAS SPILL CLOSES DOWN MAPLE AVENUE FOR 2 HOURS IN BROOKFIELD >> PUMP LEAKS BETWEEN 80 AND 100 GALLONS ONTO THE GROUND

bob uphues

Maple Avenue in Brookfield between Monroe Avenue and the memorial Circle was closed to traffic Friday morning for about two hours after 80 to 100 gallons of gasoline spilled from a pump at the Citgo station, 3419 Maple Ave., onto the pavement. According to Fire Chief Patrick Lenzi, an attendant at the gas station notified the fire department that fuel was spilling from one of the pumps at about 5:20 a.m., about 10 minutes after turning on the pumps for the morning. Brookfield firefighters poured an emulsifier into the sewer to neutralize the gasoline's volatility and then monitored four sewers from the circle to Monroe Avenue, checking the meters for oxygen content. Officials from both the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District and the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency were called to the scene, said Lenzi. Eventually, the MWRD gave the OK to flush the sewer system with 4,000 gallons of water. The Landmark was not able to reach anyone at the gas station immediately.

<http://www.rblandmark.com/main.asp?SectionID=1&SubSectionID=1&ArticleID=9150>

INDIA, ANDHRA PRADESH, SRIKAKULAM, JUNE 30 2012. 17 INJURED IN MAJOR BLAZE AT SRIKAKULAM FACTORY UNIT IN ANDHRA

 **Watch the Video**

- [Fire at Agrichemical Plant in Andhra Pradesh, 17 Injured](#)
- [10 Injured in Andhra Agrochemical Plant Fire](#)



Workers watch as smoke billows out of Nagarjuna Agrichem factory on Saturday. At least 17 workers were on Saturday injured, five of them seriously, in a major fire that broke out reportedly following a blast at the Nagarjuna Agrichem plant in Andhra Pradesh's Srikakulam district, police said. "As per the initial reports there was a cylinder blast which triggered the blaze", Srikakulam Dy SP Arjun said without elaborating. According to sources, around 200 workers were present at the time of the accident. All the injured have been admitted to Srikakulam-based Rajiv Institute of Medical Sciences, officials said. Five fire engines were rushed to the spot to douse the fire which is still raging. However, senior district officials refused to comment saying they are investigating into what could have triggered the fire at the plant situated at Arinam Akkivalasa village this morning. Nagarjuna Agrichem is a unit of Nagarjuna Fertilisers and Chemicals.

Meanwhile, as a precautionary measure, the district authorities have started evacuating people from at least five villages, including Arinam Akkivalasa, Kesavarayuni Peta, Rayapadu, Boddapadu, situated in the vicinity of the site. Top district officials, including district collector G Venkatram Reddy, joint collector P Bhasker and SP KVV Gopala, are monitoring the operations.

http://www.dnaindia.com/india/report_17-injured-in-major-blaze-at-srikakulam-factory-unit-in-andhra_1708644

CANADA, B.C, VANCOUVER, JUNE 30 2012. BURIED OIL TANK COSTS NORTH VANCOUVER HOMEOWNER \$85,000

 **Watch the Video** [Buried Oil Tank Costs Homeowner \\$85,000](#)

A North Vancouver homeowner is facing a hefty bill for the removal of an old oil tank found buried on her property, and she says municipalities should help cover costs. Susanne Carrillo owned her North Vancouver home for 20 years before deciding to sell. When she did, she found out an oil tank was buried under her property. The tank, a remnant of the city's switch from oil to gas heating, contaminated the whole front yard. Carrillo was forced to pay \$85,000 to have it removed and to have the land decontaminated. Under North Vancouver's municipal guidelines, if you are selling your home and a tank is found on the property, it must be disclosed to the buyer and removed. The seller must pay the full cost. Carrillo says she had no idea the tank was there and is appalled there is no help from the municipality for homeowners in her situation. "It was left in the ground



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and there was still a whole bunch of oil left in it," she said. "Why is it left to the moment when somebody sells their house then you point the finger at that person and you say: 'Okay, you! You're responsible,'" she asked.

Detective Work

Kevin Shellard, owner of All-Pro Oil Tank Removal, said that oil tanks are also known as Residential Underground Storage Tanks, or RUST, and are usually found in homes built before 1970. Usually, a close inspection of a property and its fixtures can reveal whether a tank is still around, he said. "There's a few clues that you could look for. There's a filler cap in the yard, or a vent pipe up the side of the house, or near the furnace, you have copper feed lines that come through," he said. Shellard said that about one in five tanks his company removes has oil seepage issues. A seller caught paying the bill for cleanup can go through the courts to try to recoup costs from a home's previous owner, but it's a drawn-out process. Carrillo is meeting with her MLA and two district councillors to discuss the issue. The District of North Vancouver says the only time it would get involved is if the tank leaked onto city property.

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/story/2012/06/29/bc-oil-tank-removal.html>

USA, DEL, MILFORD, JUNE 30 2012. MILITARY EXPLOSIVE FOUND AT CLAM-PROCESSING PLANT >> ORDNANCE DISPOSAL TEAMS STILL WORKING AT SEA WATCH

Ordnance disposal experts are still working to remove a suspected military munition found on the conveyor belt at a Milford clam-processing plant this morning. Technicians from the Dover Air Force Base's Explosive Ordnance Disposal Team were first called to Sea Watch International, located off Road 14 in Milford, at about 9 a.m. after plant employees responsible for separating clams discovered what appeared to be a leaking ordnance, according to DAFB spokesman Senior Airman Jacob Morgan. Sea Watch was evacuated as a precaution and as many as six employees were sent to Milford Memorial Hospital for evaluation and later released. Various responding agencies and the hospital have given conflicting reports about the number of employees who were examined. Morgan said the base's explosive ordnance team was able to confirm that the ordnance is leaking an as-yet-unidentified chemical. "When they approached [the ordnance] to test it, they discovered that some kind of chemical agent was present," he said. "We're not sure what type of chemical it is yet. The entire area has been cordoned off and no injuries have been reported." Morgan said an Army team from the 20th Support Command at Aberdeen Proving Ground in Maryland has arrived at Sea Watch and will help determine the nature of the chemical agent. However Ryan Knowles, a spokesman for Carlisle Fire Company of Milford, said some emergency responders on the scene believe the chemical to be mustard gas, a chemical warfare agent that can cause extreme itching, skin irritation and chemical burns. The ordnance is believed to have been brought into Sea Watch with a batch of clams collected from the floor of the Atlantic Ocean. The Army is known to have dumped surplus explosive in the ocean in the past. "It looks like it might be an ordnance from the World War I or World War II era," Knowles said. As of 7 p.m., ordnance disposal technicians were still working to identify and dispose of the munition. Morgan said they are expected to remain on the scene for several more hours.

<http://www.milfordbeacon.com/news/x1915463825/Military-explosive-discovered-at-Milfords-Sea-Watch-plant>

ENGLAND, CORYTON, JUNE 30 2012. WORKERS TO BE MADE REDUNDANT AS FUEL REFINERY'S CLOSURE IS CONFIRMED

charles thomson



Closure: Coryton fuel refinery.

Hundreds of workers at Coryton will be made redundant by the end of July after the oil refinery's closure was officially confirmed. The news that workers feared came on Tuesday when administrators PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) said the site's sale had been agreed. The refinery will become an import terminal, jointly run by Royal Vopak, Greenergy and Shell UK Ltd. Administrators said the change of use was due to 'insufficient interest from the oil industry and financial investors in acquiring the business as an operational refinery'. Refining at the plant stopped earlier this month. PwC spokeswoman Elizabeth Faulkner said the site would be running on a 'skeleton staff' from August. She said staff who escaped redundancy would be involved in a 'make safe programme'. Administrators are currently removing all crude oil and refined products from the

site. PricewaterhouseCoopers was unable to confirm whether workers might receive full pensions. The union Unite said



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concerns over pensions was 'deeply worrying' Spokesman Alex Flynn said: "We would fight any attempt or move which would see workers lose out on their pensions." "We will resist any attempt to rob people of their pension." One hundred and eighty staff were due to go yesterday with those remaining gone by September. Co-administrator Steven Pearson said: "Ultimately, the Administrators have a legal responsibility to achieve the best price possible for the assets and we have been able to obtain the highest price by selling the site for an alternative use. "We recognise that the closure results in the redundancy of the majority of the employees at Coryton and we intend to work with the local agencies and authorities to provide assistance during this difficult time." A job fair was held at Coryton yesterday morning (Tuesday) to help workers look for new employment. The sale would be completed after the safe and successful closure of the refinery. The process is set to take several months. Beyond the summer, a 'small number' of employees and contractors will remain on-site to provide security. The majority of workers will be gone by August.

Related Links [Joint venture will create UK's first deepwater fuel import terminal](http://www.yellowad.co.uk/news.cfm?id=23057&headline=Workers%20to%20be%20made%20redundant%20as%20fuel%20refinery%E2%80%99s%20closure%20is%20confirmed)

<http://www.yellowad.co.uk/news.cfm?id=23057&headline=Workers%20to%20be%20made%20redundant%20as%20fuel%20refinery%E2%80%99s%20closure%20is%20confirmed>

USA, MI, WYANDOTTE, JUNE 30 2012. BASF AND EPA AGREE ON \$1 MILLION POLLUTION FINE; CHEMICAL COMPANY SAYS NO HARM DONE TO ENVIRONMENT

jim kasuba

BASF Corp. will pay more than \$1 million as part of an agreement with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regarding alleged violations of the Clean Air Act at its chemical manufacturing facility. Under a consent agreement and final order announced Wednesday, BASF has agreed to pay a \$788,048 penalty and to spend at least \$250,000 on a supplemental environmental project to retrofit or replace diesel engines in Wayne County with certified clean diesel technologies. The fines stem from a March 2008 inspection through the EPA's National Enforcement Initiative at the company's Wyandotte site. "As a result of EPA enforcement of the Clean Air Act, people living in Wayne County will breathe cleaner and healthier air," EPA Regional Administrator Susan Hedman said. BASF also will improve leak detection and repair practices, and will reduce volatile organic compounds and hazardous air pollutants at the facility. According to the EPA, the agreement with BASF is part of its national initiative to target and reduce toxic and excess emissions, which can have a significant impact on air quality and health in residential areas. Certain toxic emissions are either known to cause or suspected of causing cancer or birth defects. Marika Diamond, a BASF spokeswoman, said people living near the site should not fear that the alleged violations jeopardized their health. "First and foremost, I want to make it clear that there has been no harm to the people in our community or the environment with regard to these findings," she said. "BASF regards the protection of health, safety and the environment as a core value and our most important responsibility. Many of the noncompliance findings involved missed inspections and failure to correctly file reports due to misinterpretations of regulations and procedures." Diamond said the inspection focused on compliance with the National Emissions Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants. During the inspection, it was determined that BASF was not in compliance with specific parts of the regulations, which the company said has since been corrected. ERA Environmental Consulting has published a fact sheet titled "Getting to Grips with MACTs & NESHAPS; An Overview of What They Are and How to Comply With Them." It explains that Maximum Achievable Control Technology and the National Emissions Standards for Hazardous Pollutants are closely related. "They're both tools used by the EPA as a means of combating air emissions through the Clean Air Act to reduce toxic air pollutants that are generated by industrial sources of pollution," the fact sheet says. "Toxic air pollutants, also referred to as hazardous air pollutants, are airborne contaminants that increase the chance of fatalities or else serious, irreversible or incapacitating illness. This includes damage to the immune system, and neurological, reproductive, developmental (or) respiratory problems." ERA Environmental Consulting said many of these pollutants are generated by industrial sources like benzene (found in gasoline), perchlorethylene (emitted from dry cleaning facilities) and methylene chloride (a solvent and paint stripper used by numerous industries). The Clean Air Act amendments of 1990 mean that the EPA has to regulate emissions of these hazardous air pollutants. In doing so, the agency first had to identify which contaminants were problematic. That led to 187 pollutants being identified as causing excessive negative effects to health and the environment. While eliminating emissions of pollutants outright is the ultimate goal, experts say it isn't technically possible. No matter how good the control technology is, it's considered impossible to remove 100 percent of pollutants. With that in mind, the EPA developed Maximum Achievable Control Technology standards to tackle the issue. According to ERA Environmental Consulting, the standards set out by the MACT require affected sources, both new



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and old, to meet specific emission limits that are based on the emissions levels already achieved by the best-performing similar facilities. "This straightforward, performance-based approach produces standards that are both reasonable to achieve and effective in reducing toxic commissions," the fact sheet says. "This approach also provides a level economic playing field by ensuring that facilities with good controls are not disadvantaged relative to competitors with poorer controls." According to Diamond, BASF has been working cooperatively with the EPA since the 2008 inspection to review and resolve the issues uncovered in the inspection. She said in many cases where BASF was found in noncompliance, it made immediate corrections. She added that BASF took a proactive role to ensure that at least part of the settlement money goes back to local communities, and for that reason agreed to the supplemental environmental project that will increase the number of less-polluting vehicles in local municipal fleets. Phillippa Cannon, a spokeswoman in the EPA's Chicago office, said the supplemental environmental project can include fleets that belong to individual municipal governments in Wayne County, although no specific cities or townships were mentioned. She said the project must be completed within one year.

[PDF Document BASF CAFO Signed Final 06-19-12](#)

<http://www.thenewsherald.com/articles/2012/06/29/news/doc4fedefa624852637783102.txt>

USA, MN, DULUTH, JUNE 30 2012. 20 YEARS LATER, BENZENE SPILL STILL STINGS IN DULUTH MEMORIES >> FORMER DULUTH POLICE CHIEF SCOTT LYONS WAS SIX MONTHS INTO HIS JOB WHEN THE "HIGH POINT" OF HIS CAREER PLAYED OUT IN A MATTER OF 15 HOURS ON JUNE 30, 1992.

mike creger



Aerial view of the derailment that caused the 1992 benzene spill. At bottom is the Nemadji River with a tanker car in it.

Former Duluth Police Chief Scott Lyons was six months into his job when the "high point" of his career played out in a matter of 15 hours on June 30, 1992. Somehow, officials in Superior and Duluth scrambled to evacuate more than 30,000 people after an early morning train derailment left the area under a vapor cloud 20 miles long and 5 miles wide. It was the Twin Ports' infamous benzene scare that took place 20 years ago today. "It was a big day, a huge day," Lyons said Friday, immediately remembering even the smallest details from what he called a shining moment in emergency management for the region. "There was this ugly, yellowish, orange-ish cloud," he said. Police got ill on Park Point as they alerted residents there at sunrise. No one knew what was causing the haze, Lyons said. It had moved over Lake Superior and up the shore about five miles. But weather forecasters were predicting that whatever was in the cloud would move back over the Twin Ports as the wind shifted. "Our problem was," Lyons said, "what was in that cloud?" At 2:50 a.m., Burlington Northern freight train No. 01-142-30 passed over a curve in the rail line just before the Nemadji River, about eight miles south of Superior. Curve 12A, as the National Transportation Safety Board would

call it in later reports, had been inspected a month before. Burlington Northern experts found cracking in the rails, but deemed it safe under Federal Railroad Administration standards. To make sure, they performed an ultrasound of the rails. Nothing was found. As the train neared the bridge, its four-man crew felt a tug and then realized part of the train had derailed. The NTSB later determined that the rails were damaged out of sight, inside the steel. The surface cracking had masked the ultrasound view. Of the 14 cars that fell 71 feet into the river and on its banks, three contained hazardous materials. "I'll never forget what it said on the side of one of the cars," Lyons said. "Aromatic chemicals." It was a flammable liquid mixture that was 45 percent benzene, which, splashing into the river, created the cloud. Another car had liquefied petroleum gas, which made cleanup extremely difficult and dangerous. Another contained crude butadiene, a compound used to make synthetic rubber and also dangerous to handle. But in Superior and Duluth, no one knew any of this. At command headquarters at Duluth City Hall, Lyons' staff was having a difficult time getting answers. "Communication was the hardest thing," he said. "You had an incident in another state." Finally, frustrated, a team went to the site. A call was made to Canada and the manufacturer of the benzene. More than 21,800 gallons of it had spilled through a foot-wide gash in the tank. Officials wanted to know what it was and what health dangers it possessed. "They were evasive," Lyons said of the manufacturer. "Either they didn't want to tell or they didn't know." The command center certainly knew it was an irritant, given the reaction of the officers on Park Point as the cloud passed over. Lightheadedness, flushed faces. Finally, chief deputy Bob Larson made it plain, Lyons said. He asked the company representative what he'd do if his family was in Duluth with the cloud looming. "He said he'd get them the heck out of



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there," Lyons said. Now, an extensive evacuation was on. "It was a movement of 30,000 people with one sentence," Lyons said, still praising Larson, who died last year. Residents in Superior and those below the hill in Duluth up to 12th Street were asked to leave. Booms were put on the Nemadji to hold the chemical, but the damage had been done. Thousands of fish died and rose to the surface, only to be eaten by birds and other animals. Richard Pukema was a captain in the Superior Police Department at the time and on the local emergency planning committee. He also had been helping plan the area's hazardous material response team. The stories about how Duluth and Superior officials got information that day run parallel because there wasn't a unified command across the state line, Pukema said. "We didn't have a joint effort." So while Pukema had a team at the derailment site within an hour, news about the spill wouldn't get out until daybreak. He said the danger at the time was seen in a zone a mile from the Nemadji River. While Duluth evacuated Park Point and other low areas, the Wisconsin evacuation never went beyond the zone set up that morning, Pukema said. Later, the NTSB said benzene posed no immediate threat and no long-term risk. Pukema was in Washington when the accident was sliced and diced among agencies there. He realized through the bureaucracy that no one agreed on what happened with the chemicals that day. "They called it a meteorological phenomenon," Pukema said. They insisted that benzene couldn't have created the cloud, he said. "I told them that they didn't have any idea what happened that day," he said. He felt the rawness in his throat and still wonders what the exact chemical mixture was that filled the air. Lyons said there was some heat put on from those who wondered why there was an evacuation if the benzene wasn't a risk. The majority understood the need, he said. By 6 p.m., the threat was over. The cloud went to the south, over western Duluth and Oliver, Wis., and dissipated over Carlton County. "I still marvel at that day," Lyons said. He remembered the tight strum of the 15 hours and, unwinding, how odd it felt to take an interview from a Twin Cities-area television news reporter under a helicopter at Central High School, one of the evacuation centers. "I thought, 'What the hell just happened here?'" he said with a laugh. The NTSB demanded in its accident report that the types of cracks found on rails where the derailment happened be immediately replaced because it probably is a sign of hidden interior damage. Lyons said that despite the troubles with communicating to all emergency groups, the incident led to a more in-tune regional response to hazardous material spills and cooperation among agencies. "This was before Sept. 11, remember," he said. "We pulled together," he said. "Just like during the floods today."

<http://www.duluthnews Tribune.com/event/article/id/235715/>

USA, MN, MINNEAPOLIS, JUNE 30 2012. MINNEAPOLIS FIREFIGHTERS DOUSE BLAZE AFTER EXPLOSION AT ASPHALT PLANT

andy grader

 [Watch the Video Explosion Brings Fire Crews, Hazmat Teams to South Mpls Business](#)



One rig was spraying a spot in the work yard at a south Minneapolis asphalt plant fire late on Friday, June 29, 2012. Paramedics were assisting and police had cordoned off the block.

A series of seven explosions at a South Minneapolis asphalt plant Friday night caused a three-alarm fire that took about 40 firefighters an hour to control and injured one, a Fire Department official said. The call to Bituminous Roadways Inc., at 2825 Cedar Ave. S., just west of Hiawatha Avenue, came in at about 9:30 p.m. The injured firefighter was taken to a hospital, with injuries not believed to be serious, said Fire Marshal Perry Ebner. The explosions were caused by seven 20-pound propane cylinders, Ebner said. There were workers on site at the time of the explosion, but no injuries were immediately reported, Ebner said. The cause of the fire is under investigation, including when the plant was last inspected, Ebner said. Around 10:30 p.m., one rig was spraying a spot in the work yard and a group of overheated firefighters was trying to cool off on the curb. Paramedics were assisting and police had cordoned off the block, which is bounded on the south by the Midtown Greenway bicycle and pedestrian trail.

http://www.twincities.com/localnews/ci_20977399/minneapolis-firefighters-battle-blaze-after-explosion-at-foundry



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USA, MI, BERRIEN CO', NILES TWP, JULY 1 2012. SEMI HAULING ETHANOL COLLIDES WITH TRUCK, SHUTTING DOWN U.S. 12 OVERNIGHT

mickey ciokajlo

A tractor-semitrailer hauling 8,400 gallons of ethanol collided with a truck on U.S. 12 in Niles Township at 3 a.m. Saturday. Both vehicles were damaged but the 2012 Peterbilt semi "held its cargo," according to a news release from the [Berrien County Sheriff's Office](#). Delane Overton, 45, of Bangor, was the driver of the Dodge Ram truck that collided with the semi. Overton was taken to Memorial Hospital in South Bend with minor injuries, police said. The crash occurred when the semi was turning on to U.S. 12 from Third Street. The Dodge Ram was traveling east on U.S. 12 when the vehicles collided, police said. The Peterbilt, owned by Pac Trucking of Kankakee, Ill., was driven by Nicholas Stevenson, 42, of Granger, Ind. Police did not say whether Stevenson was injured. U.S. 12 was re-opened around 6:45 a.m. The crash remains under investigation.

http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2012/06/semi_hauling_ethanol_collides.html

BAHRAIN, ASRY, JULY 1 2012. BLAZE TANKER REPAIR CHALLENGE

sandeep singh grewal



A stricken chemical tanker that has been drifting at sea for nearly three months has been safely towed to Bahrain's territorial waters for repairs without any environmental pollution. The Liberian-registered Stolt Valor has been emptied off its cargo and its repair work will now be undertaken by Asry. The tanker that at one point threatened Bahrain's coastline arrived at the Asry yard in convoy with the help of three large tugs Caribbean Fos, Pacific Typhoon and Lamnalco Mesite. A fire on board the Stolt Valor on March 15 had resulted in an explosion which crippled the vessel that was on its way from Jubail in Saudi Arabia to Bahrain. It was carrying 12,700 metric tonnes of a volatile flammable liquid chemical (methyl tertiary butyl ether), petrol additive and several tonnes of lube oil and other additives. The fire was extinguished on March 22, while the removal of all pollutants - both chemical cargo and fuel - was completed by April

29, with no spillage during the transfer. The cause of the original explosion is still unknown. "We are committed to protecting the safety, security and environment of Arabian waters, to which the Stolt Valor posed a risk," said Asry chief executive Chris Potter. He said Bahrain and Saudi Arabia were the only two countries in the Arabian Gulf to offer the ship a port of refuge. "As the most experienced shipyard in the region, we see it as our duty to bring our 35 years of experience to bear on this challenging repair, where other yards were not willing." The initial repair works will include a safety inspection prior to any further investigation to ensure the vessel has no outstanding safety concerns. The damaged Stolt Valor will then be transferred alongside for a detailed investigation to be carried out in conjunction with the owners to determine the best course of action going forward. "Safety and security of Asry personnel remains the yard's highest priority, and Asry's renowned high standards will be met while undertaking all exploratory investigations," added Mr Potter. As a regulator and supervisor of maritime safety and environmental matters in Bahrain, General Organisation of Sea Ports (GOP) director-general Hassan Ali Al Majed visited the ship to get a first-hand view of the situation. "I myself visited the ship as it docked in Asry and am confident that the salvaging process will be carried out under the highest standards," said Mr Majed. "We are satisfied with the overall operation which entailed the involvement and co-operation of numerous government agencies in ensuring the smooth and successful passage of the vessel into Bahrain's waters and Asry," added the GOP official. Bahrain was on red alert for more than a week after the incident, following fears of pollution due to an oil spill from the tanker could reach its coastline and affect its marine resources as well as damage its three main desalination plants. Twenty-four seamen on board the vessel, all from the Philippines, were rescued by US Navy personnel while one, who is still missing, is believed to have died in the blast.

<http://www.gulf-daily-news.com/NewsDetails.aspx?storyid=333124>

INDIA, ALLAHABAD, JULY 1 2012. INDIAN OIL TEAM INSPECTS FUEL TANK

After receiving reports of underweighing of diesel and adulteration in oil tankers supplying fuel at UPSRTC bus depot in Rajapur, a team of Indian Oil Corporation on Saturday inspected the fuel tank at the bus depot and measured the fuel brought in by tankers. The team also took samples of diesel from the workshop and checked it with the help of instruments to verify the report of adulteration in diesel. They also heard the complaints of workshop employees. The team will submit its report to the



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higher officials of the corporation. On Friday evening, roadways employees had caught a tanker driver and cleaner while they were trying to steal diesel from the tanker which they had brought for refilling the fuel tank at the depot. But duo managed to flee from the spot. It was found that more than 45 litres diesel was missing from all the four chambers of the oil tanker. The employees brought the matter to the notice of senior officials of the roadways department including the assistant regional manager, Rajesh Pathak who in turn apprised the Indian Oil officials about the incident and sought their intervention. Talking to TOI, Pathak said that on Saturday when the team inspected the said tanker which was seized by roadways employees it was found that the total quantity of diesel was short by around 65 litres which means that it was causing a loss of Rs 3,250 to the department at a single depot and given the fact that total number of depots in the city is around 8 the loss is enormous. He added that a report has been prepared jointly the roadways department and Indian Oil which would be forwarded to the state government for further action. On the other hand, a roadways driver Shakeel Khan was suspended from service on Saturday after he was found stealing 17 litres of diesel from his bus, said Pathak.

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/allahabad/Indian-Oil-team-inspects-fuel-tank/articleshow/14533395.cms>

USA, KY, LOUISVILLE, JULY 1 2012. MAJOR GAS SPILL SHUTS DOWN POPLAR LEVEL RD. FOR SEVERAL HOURS

 **Watch the Video** [Gas Spill Shuts Down Thornton Gas Station](#)



Crews cleaned up the gas with sand.

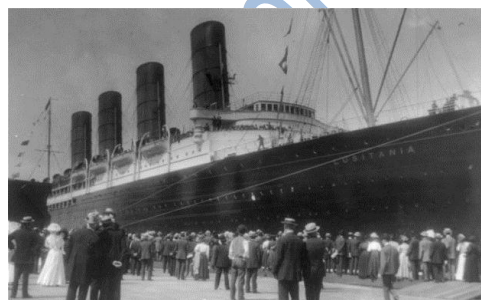
More than 250 gallons of gasoline spilled from a Thornton's gas station after a car backed into a pump in Louisville around 8 a.m. Saturday. "Two-hundred-fifty gallons," said Deputy Chief Steve Adkins. "That's a pretty large quantity. Especially on a day like today, it's pretty hazardous." Gas vapors are fire fighters biggest concern, as temperatures exceeding 100 degrees increases the chance of an explosion. "Once [the gasoline] hits the ground it starts vaporizing putting off more vapor," said Adkins. "Once that happens your flammability rises. In other words, your potential for fire is greater." The level-one hazmat situation shut down more than a block of the southbound lane of Poplar Level

Road just south of the Watterson Expressway for several hours. Emergency crews worked to clean up the fuel, as police searched for the unknown driver. The state fire marshal says the emergency shut off valve had to be manually turned off. By then, the fuel already made its way into the ground. Health officials say the risks to humans are minimal. They say most of the gas went into the storm drain rather than the sewage drain, which would have contaminated human drinking water. Officials describe the driver as an African American man, who was driving a four-door sedan. The state fire marshal says they will be investigating to determine if Thornton's handled the situation appropriately.

<http://www.whas11.com/news/local/Car-backs-into-pump-causing-250-gallon-gasoline-spill-160959825.html>

ENGLAND, LONDON, JULY 1 2012. BRITISH 'NOT TO BLAME' FOR RAPID SINKING AND LOSS OF LIFE ON LINER RMS LUSITANIA, FIND UNDERWATER RESEARCHERS >> RESEARCHERS HAVE CLEARED THE BRITISH OF ACCUSATIONS THAT A SECRET CARGO OF HIGH EXPLOSIVES WAS HIDDEN ON THE RMS LUSITANIA AND LED TO THE SHIP'S RAPID SINKING AND LOSS OF MORE THAN 1,000 LIVES.

jasper copping



The Lusitania at port.

For almost a century, the sinking of the passenger liner RMS Lusitania has remained shrouded in secrecy, with claims that the British bore some of the responsibility for the disaster by hiding a secret cargo of high explosives on board. But new research has established the facts behind vessel's loss and cleared the British government of the charges against it. The Cunard liner was torpedoed on 7 May 1915 by a German submarine, U-20, while on route from New York to London. It sank in just 18 minutes, eight miles off the coast of Ireland, with the loss of 1,198 civilian lives. Most of the dead were British although 114 Americans were also killed. The sinking led to outrage on both sides of the Atlantic and helped to bring the US into the war against Germany,



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two years later. For decades, however, some experts have claimed part of the responsibility for the high loss of life lies with the British authorities, who were said to have allowed a cargo of dangerous high explosives – destined for the Western Front – to be stowed away on board concealed as cheese or casks of beef on the ship's cargo manifest. These explosives were said to have caused a second, larger explosion after the impact of the torpedo, causing the 790ft-long vessel to sink rapidly before help could arrive. But new scientific research – which has included a search of the shipwreck as well as laboratory tests and a computer reconstruction of the sinking – has debunked these theories. It found no evidence to support the claims and concluded the second explosion reported by survivors was one of the ship's boilers exploding. The team behind the new research conducted a series of dives onto the wreck using a miniature submarine and a "newt suit" – an atmospheric diving suit which allows a diver to operate at extreme depths. They sent a camera 20ft into the wreck, which lies at a depth of 300ft, to inspect the cargo hold and blast damage. They then conducted tests at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, in California – a US government-funded research facility which specialises in explosives. In a series of controlled explosions and tests, they analysed the various theories: that the second explosion was the result of aluminium, which was used to make landmines, and gun cotton, an artillery propellant. They found the appearance of an aluminium explosion was very different to that reported by survivors of the sinking, while gun cotton would have exploded instantaneously, rather than after a 15-20 second delay. They also rejected the theory that the second explosion was caused by coal dust igniting, as this would not have caused enough structural damage to sink the ship. Instead, they concluded the second blast was a boiler explosion, which did not itself cause significant damage. The rapid sinking, they found, was simply due to damage caused by the initial torpedo strike. Following the tests, Dr Jon Maienschien, a scientist at the laboratory, said: "I am confident that the torpedo caused catastrophic damage that was fatal to the ship." The original investigations both in the UK and the United States into the precise causes of the ship's loss were obstructed by the needs for wartime secrecy and a propaganda campaign to ensure all blame fell upon Germany. Arguments of a secret cargo and cover-up have raged ever since. Before the Lusitania sailed, the German embassy had placed warnings in the US press that the ship could be targeted. The German authorities defended the sinking by claiming the ship – which had been built with the help of British government loan on condition it could be used by the Royal Navy during wartime – had "carried contraband of war" and that she had "large quantities of war material in her cargo". In Britain, the Defence of the Realm Act was amended, just before the opening of the hearing into the ship's loss, meaning that the possibility that any "war materials" were on board could not be discussed. The full report into the matter has never been published. In an American court case, dealing with compensation claims arising from the sinking, both sides agreed they would not raise any questions about such a cargo being on board. It is known that boxes of "small arms" .303 rifle cartridges were on the ship and were declared at the time. These were not classified as "ammunition" by the authorities and the ship was permitted to carry them under the regulations of the period. These could not have been responsible for the explosion. One of those who believes there was a secret cache of explosives on board is the wreck's owner, Gregg Bemis. He was involved in the latest expedition and subsequent laboratory research but disagreed with the scientists' findings. "It is still my opinion that the fact that it had high explosive on it is why the ship sank in 18 minutes," he added. Mr Bemis, a 84-year-old entrepreneur, from New Mexico, bought the wreck in 1968 with other owners, who he has since bought out. He owns anything on the liner that belonged to Cunard, while luggage and cargo belongs to the Irish authorities as receiver of the wreck. The latest expedition and experiments were filmed by National Geographic and will be broadcast on July 15. The wreck has been declared a protected site, placing an underwater heritage order on it to deter treasure hunters, so the team had to secure permission from the Irish authorities before diving could begin. Britain had been at war with Germany for almost a year when the Lusitania was attacked, but submarine warfare was a relatively new – and fast-developing – concept. In the early days of the conflict, it was customary for crews of merchant vessels to be given the opportunity to abandon ship before their vessels were sunk – although in early 1915, Germany started to move towards a system of so-called "unrestricted submarine warfare" in which vessels were attacked without warning. Only two days before she sank the Lusitania, however, U-20 had stopped a merchant vessel, Earl of Lathom, and let her crew escape before sinking her. The 790ft Lusitania was nicknamed the Greyhound of the Sea and held the speed record for crossing the Atlantic until 1909, when she lost it to her sister ship, the Mauretania. Among the passengers on her last voyage were a number of eminent and wealthy politicians, artists, academics and businessmen, as well as the art collector, Sir Hugh Lane, who is reported to have had with him on board, paintings by Titian, Monet and Rubens in sealed containers.

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/defence/9366985/British-not-to-blame-for-rapid-sinking-and-loss-of-life-on-liner-RMS-Lusitania-find-underwater-researchers.html>



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USA, LA, CONVENT, JULY 1 2012. MOTIVA REPORTS EQUIPMENT FAILURE AT CONVENT REFINERY - FILING

Motiva Enterprises LLC reported equipment failure Friday at its refinery in Convent, La., according to a government filing made public Saturday. An unspecified unit outage at the 235,000 barrel-a-day refinery caused emissions of sulfur dioxide, Motiva said in its filing with the National Response Center. Motiva is a joint venture of Royal Dutch Shell Plc and Saudi Arabian Oil Co., or Saudi Aramco.

<http://www.foxbusiness.com/news/2012/06/30/motiva-reports-equipment-failure-at-convent-refinery-filing/>

USA, TX, BEAUMONT, JULY 1 2012. OIL TANK FIRE IN PINWOOD OUT

pilar arias

 **Watch the Video** [Oil Tank Fire in Pinewood Out](#)



An oil tank fire that burned for several hours caused a massive plume of black smoke for hours in Southeast Texas today but is now out. Take a look at this amazing video caught earlier today of the oil tank fire. It started around 11-30 this morning off highway 105 near Pinewood. A thick cloud of black smoke could be seen from miles away. Several fire departments battled the blaze. The only person who would speak to 12 News HD reporter Pilar Arias on the scene earlier today is Ronald Allbright, a Sour Lake volunteer fire fighter. There's still a lot of unanswered questions since 10 different agencies responded to the blaze. Allbright says the Sour Lake Volunteer Fire Department received the call first around 11:30 this morning and initial reports were that a lightning strike hit a

pipeline but the fire was not near any homes. There were Samson Oil workers on the scene so it is their oil tank. They said their spokesman was coming in from Houston but we didn't get to see him. It had to be extinguished by Huntsman foam instead of water, which is why it burned so long and the 10 different agencies who responded were there to supervise to make sure the blaze didn't get out of hand.

<http://www.kiiitv.com/story/18924161/oil-tank>

NIGERIA, JULY 1 2012. OIL SPILLAGE: HOW AGIP'S PIPELINES THREATEN BAYELSA COMMUNITY

oluwole ige



Point of escape of crude oil on an exposed Agip pipeline.

Oil spill has been a recurring decimal in the oil producing communities of the Niger Delta region, while the people of the areas usually bear the brunt of such incidents amidst the poor attitude of multinational oil companies to checkmate the leakages, reports. From Delta, Bayelsa, Edo, Rivers and Akwa Ibom states, the story has always been the same as far as avoidable spills, resulting from corrosive pipelines and technical negligence are concerned. More worrisome is the destructive effect of oil spills on the environment in the region, a development that is fast generating concern among the inhabitants of oil producing areas and other stakeholders in the areas. Rather than being a blessing, oil exploration in the areas has been a burden. The recent spillage witnessed by the villagers of Kalaba community in Yenagoa Local Government Area of Bayelsa State, on the 10 th of June, 2012, has brought to the fore the pains and agonies of people, who have been battling with incessant spills that have terribly jeopardized their means of livelihood and source of water for a long time. To them, oil spill is not alien to their environment, but the devastating impacts of the latest one poses a great threat to their survival. Kalaba, which thrives on fishing and subsisting farming, just like other communities in Okordia clan of

Yenagoa Local Government Area, hosts many Agip pipelines. In 2011 alone, Kalaba community experienced over 10 oil spills. Sunday Tribune's investigation revealed that there are three pipelines along the Right Of Way [ROW] in Kalaba, though it is difficult to ascertain whether all the current spill points are from a single pipeline or more. One or two of the current spill sites occurred at sections of the pipeline where there had been previous oil spills, thus making the crude to spew into the



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environment. Consequently, plants in the community farmland are withering, while emission from the spewed crude and other putrid smells rent the air when our correspondent visited Kalaba last Wednesday, just as residents lamented their woes over the spills ravaging their community. Similarly, the impacts on trees, shrubs and other plants around the spill sites are grave as they displayed wilting leaves and different stages of dying off. Even birds on tree tops are not spared as the escaping crude oil in gaseous form comes with a peculiar sound and rises far above the trees and presents a kind of misty scenario that impedes visibility. Experts have, therefore, said that if this situation is not checked, it may lead to forceful migration of birds or death of young ones. They also said the gases could affect the respiratory tract of indigenes who inhale them, noting that all living creatures would run away from the community in no distant time, because the ecosystem in the community has suffered much assault from the crude oil escaping from Agip's pipeline. Some of the residents, who spoke with Sunday Tribune on the fresh spill, decried what they called, "greatest threat to the economic activities in Kalaba", saying that Nigeria Agip Oil Company [NAOC] should not hesitate to quickly visit the leakage sites and stop it, as a prelude to comprehensive cleaning of their environment. The immediate past chairman of Kalaba Community Development Committee, Mr. Roman Orukali and the paramount ruler of the community, Chief Idoniboye Nwalia, bemoaned the current and previous spills in the community, warning that fishing and farming activities that the villagers depended on to eke out a living were under a serious threat. In his submission, the former CDC chairman, Roman Orukali, stated that; "It is a shame to have had Agip facility [pipelines] in our community. We were thinking Agip would be a blessing to the community and with that mindset we embraced them very well, but this has turned out to be a disappointment to us. "I am saying so because when spills occur like this, Agip hardly responds promptly to clamp the ruptured points and follow up with immediate clean-up; talk less of providing compensation for damages." He continued, "That has been a very big challenge and I would like the government and every other organisation that can assist us to call Agip to order, so that our people will not continue to experience this environmental injustice we are faced with. Our community has experienced over thirty 30 oil spills since Agip laid its pipelines in this environment." "It is sad to note that of all these spills, Agip has only paid compensation only once. Even to come and clamp and clean-up spill sites, Agip only complies sometimes by responding to pressure from organizations, like Environment Rights Action (ERA), especially when the incident and negative attitude of Agip are reported by ERA in the media," Orukali remarked, pointing out that the "implication of setting spill sites ablaze is that the air is further polluted, crops and plants around are also affected. This has been our experience." Another resident, Peretimi Ebi, who shared his experience with our correspondent, said the spill points were up to five, making it easy for the crude to flow towards Taylor creeks, thus polluting other streams along the areas. According to him, "The socio-economic impacts of the spills are so terrible, especially in terms of fishing. It also affects swamp and ponds around. This swamp is called Anukudaba, and as a fishing community we know the importance of such swamps to us. What happens now is that the owners of the ponds cannot benefit from their pond again as the ponds are no longer conducive for fishes to stay." While contending that other fishing routes were equally affected, Ebi noted that "crude oil spilled in the air is also affecting the vegetation and our crops. Unless Agip takes urgent steps to stop the spill and prevent the oil slick from spreading, there is the likelihood of crude oil flowing to the Taylor Creek. If that happens, it will flow downstream and affect many communities along the creek." Commenting on the development, the paramount ruler of Kalaba community, Chief Idoniboye Nwalia, who said he got wind of the spill after returning from a trip outside the domain, stated that; "The spills must have lasted for about four days or more now. Right now we don't have details about the spills in terms of cause or when Agip will come to clamp the spill points, but I heard Agip was around yesterday for inspection of the spill sites and that some community youths went round with the Agip officials." Speaking further, Chief Nwalia posited that "Actually we are grateful to ERA. ERA is really trying for us. Since we have been experiencing oil spills in our environment I can say that the only compensation made by Agip was largely due to the effort of ERA. That particular spill occurred in 2009 and although Agip delayed in clamping the spill point, when ERA came and reported the incident and condemned the negative attitude of Agip, they had no option than rushing to the site immediately, though the spill lasted for almost two months before ERA's intervention." On the possible incident of sabotage, precipitating the fresh spill, he averred that, "This is a very condemnable act; we are the very ones suffering the impact. I wonder why some persons should ever engage in such acts that bring negative effect on our people." He stated further, "For what gains or purpose should a community person do that? Even though it is believed that some youths may be fronting for some unscrupulous clean-up contractors, it is the contractor that gets the gain at the end of the day, and at our collective expense. Those community persons, who perpetrated the act, might get just little or nothing from whatever Agip pays the contractor. This is very sad, and I believe that this latest spill is not as a result of any act of sabotage." On the benefits accruable to Kalaba community for playing host to Agip pipelines, Chief Nwalia responded thus, "Agip has not impacted the community in any positive way, apart from the negative impacts of oil spills and



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related oil exploitation conflicts in the area. You can never see any project executed by Agip in this Kalaba community; not even a single scholarship for our children. This is the simple truth, and it is very bitter too." Reacting to the spill, the project officer and coordinator of ERA in Yenagoa, Comrade Morris Alaoga, said with the gravity of the spill, Nigeria Agip Oil Company [NAOC] should mobilise without delay to site and clamp all the spill points and follow it up thorough clean-up, while victims should be duly compensated. Frantic efforts made to get the position of Agip on the spill were unsuccessful at the time of filing this report as several calls and messages put through to the cell phone of oil firm's spokesman, Mr. Tajudeen Adigun, were neither answered nor replied.

<http://www.tribune.com.ng/sun/more-features/7736-oil-spillage-how-agips-pipelines-threaten-bayelsa-community>

AUSTRALIA, NEW SOUTH WALES, SEVEN HILLS, JULY 2 2012. BOY LOSES HAND WHILE PLAYING WITH DETONATOR

kylie simmonds

[Watch the Video Boy Loses Hand While Playing With Detonator](#)

A 15-year-old is in hospital with serious injuries after blowing up a railway detonator at his Seven Hills home in Sydney's west.

http://www.abc.net.au/news/2012-07-01/teen-loses-hand-while-playing-with-explosives/4103516?WT.mc_id=newsml

ENGLAND, SHEFFIELD, JULY 2 2012. SHEFFIELD SCRAPYARD WORKER 'KILLED BY FLYING GAS CYLINDER'

A Sheffield scrapyard worker died of horrific head injuries after he was hit by part of a gas cylinder which shot out of a machine while being compressed by mistake, an inquest heard. Anthony Johnson, aged 55, died three hours after he was struck in the face by half of a carbon dioxide cylinder hidden inside a batch of metal being crushed at the Walter Heselwood scrapyard, Attercliffe. Jurors at Sheffield Coroner's Court heard there was a 'loud bang' when the black cylinder - used in pubs to provide fizz for soft drinks - exploded in the shear-baler machine and Mr Johnson was spotted lying on the floor fatally injured moments later. Mr Johnson, of Topham Road, Lowedges, was responsible for checking deliveries of metal at the yard for unsuitable items before they were placed in the Taurus shear-baler. The equipment compressed metal into cubes before chopping it into 2ft lengths. Plant operator Steve Shaw told the jury he was loading metal into the machine using a crane when the accident happened on June 19, 2009, at about 11am. Mr Shaw, 59, said: "As I was sat there working I heard a loud bang. "I looked down to my left and saw a large white puff of powder. "I found out later it was probably liquid turning into gas. "As I looked behind me I saw Mr Johnson laid on the floor in a spread-eagled position, face down. I could see he was seriously injured." Mr Shaw said he immediately radioed for an ambulance to be called, adding the cylinder must have been ejected 'with tremendous force'. "It went a further 100ft down the scrapyard" he said. "It struck a forklift truck and did quite a bit of damage, then glanced off to the left and went straight through a lorry bumper." Jurors heard the cylinder was hidden in an aluminium water tank filled with metal, which Mr Johnson asked him to load into the shear-baler. Mr Shaw added customers sometimes used objects such as gas cylinders to bulk out the weight of their scrap and earn more money. "People that bring these things in make it as hard as they can for you to examine the scrap. "They know these cylinders shouldn't be in there, but they probably don't think they may kill somebody. "When it gets really busy you're under pressure to get the scrap moved and the next customer in." Mr Shaw also described Mr Johnson as a 'good worker' and a 'grand bloke'. The inquest continues.

<http://www.thestar.co.uk/news/local/sheffield-scrapyard-worker-killed-by-flying-gas-cylinder-1-4641693>

USA, CA, SAN BERNADINO, JULY 2 2012. ILLEGAL FIREWORKS BLAMED FOR BLAZE THAT DESTROYS SAN BERNARDINO DUPLEX

[Watch the Video Illegal Fireworks Blamed for Blaze](#)

Authorities say illegal fireworks ignited and set off a blaze that gutted a duplex in San Bernardino early Sunday morning. The fire displaced two families including five children. Reporting for CBS2 and KCAL9, Kristine Lazar spoke to neighbors who witnessed the fire and at least one who told her she wasn't surprised there was a blaze. Neighbor Rhonda Beck said, "We knew something was going to happen." She said the people who lived in the now burned-out duplex had been setting off the illegal fireworks for the past three nights. "It would start around 6:30 at night. And it went all the way to midnight sometimes. For the past 72 hours, it's been doing that. We knew this just wasn't some kids saying 'Let's get some fireworks. We knew they had a cache.'" Fire officials said the illegal fireworks started the fire which spread quickly to a carport where even more illegal fireworks were being stored. Capt. Jason Serrano of the San Bernardino Fire Department said, "Flames were spreading



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significantly into the two-story duplex, had already reached inside the attic. And there was an electrical issue with arcing lines." Jonathan Saldana, another neighbor, is credited with helping save the lives of two children — including a baby. "We had to go knock, and then they came out. They started trying to water it. And that's when I grabbed the little girl and ran out. And then the mom came, like ten minutes later, and she fell twice and I had to get the little girl from her hands." Arson investigators told Lazar they didn't yet have enough information to make an arrest. The investigation into who owned the fireworks continues. Said Captain Serrano, "These fireworks are illegal for a reason. They're like bombs." Rhonda Beck said this should be a cautionary tale to anyone who wants to store or set off illegal fireworks. "Don't do it any more. This should be a lesson. You see kids running out of burning buildings, kids having to be rescued. This is not fun."

<http://losangeles.cbslocal.com/2012/07/01/illegal-fireworks-blamed-for-blaze-that-destroys-san-bernardino-duplex/>

USA, MINN, HOUSTON CO, JULY 2 2012. FOUR INJURED IN CAMPFIRE "EXPLOSION" AT HOUSTON CO. CAMPGROUND >> AN ADULT POURS FLAMMABLE LIQUID ON A SMOLDERING FIRE

 Watch the Video

- [Four Kids Injured In Campfire Accident](#)
- [Four Injured In Campfire Explosion](#)



Four people are injured in a campfire "explosion" Friday night at a Houston Co. campground. It happened just off of Rupprecht Lane. The Houston Co. Sheriff's Department received a 911 call around 9:20 p.m. Friday night from Money Creek Haven campground. The sheriff's office responded along with Houston Fire and Ambulance, Tri-State Ambulance, and the Medlink and Mayo One helicopters. A four year old girl was taken to Regions Hospital in St. Paul by Mayo One helicopter. One juvenile male was transported by MedLink helicopter to Gundersen in La Crosse, and two other juveniles were transported by Tri-State ambulance to Gundersen in La Crosse. One adult male refused transport. The extent of injuries are unknown. Sheriff's officials says the injuries were the result

of an accelerant being poured on a smoldering fire by an adult member of the camping group. The accelerant ignited catching the container on fire as well. The Houston County Sheriff said he hopes this incident serves as a warning for campers to stay safe, especially for the upcoming July 4 holiday. "It's sad. Our hearts go out to the families," said Doug Ely, Houston County sheriff. "We hope that all the children that were involved can heal and get back to a normal life. It is unfortunate, but children are attracted by fire so they're always around a campfire. Just make sure that your children stay away from fires when there is a fire lit and that there's always somebody around if you do have children."

<http://www.news8000.com/news/Four-injured-in-campfire-explosion-at-Houston-Co-campground/-/326/15360110/-/uvkgbbz/-/index.html>

USA, N.J, BLOOMINGDALE, JULY 2 2012. BENZENE FOUND IN DRINKING WATER ON UNION AVENUE IN BLOOMINGDALE

david pavlak

Traces of benzene have been found in the drinking water of residents on Union Avenue, Borough Administrator Ted Ehrenburg reported at the Borough Council's June 26 meeting. Health risks from drinking an elevated amount of benzene in water include anemia, a decrease in blood platelets, and an increased risk of getting cancer, according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The town will now have to install a test well, he said, and monitor seven additional wells near the location where the benzene was found: 188 Union Ave. The cost to fulfill the project will be between \$17,755 and \$18,415, said Ehrenburg. According to Ehrenburg, there was a test well placed on Department of Public Works property in 2000. Upon reviewing its records, he said, the state Department of Environmental Protection found no sign that the well has ever been closed. This led to testing of the well by Atlantic Environmental Solutions, a consulting firm on environmental issues, and the discovery of benzene in the groundwater, he said. Ehrenburg noted that there were no funds available and requested that a special emergency be declared to pay for the project. Declaring the project an emergency would not immediately fund it, but would give Ehrenburg the opportunity to begin exploring options for financing. According to the EPA, benzene is "a volatile organic chemical, a clear, colorless aromatic liquid. It is highly flammable. It is formed through natural processes, such as



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Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network

Release 2012 – 858 Newsy Stuff

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July 13 2012



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volcanoes and forest fires. It is also formed from industrial processes. Benzene is also a natural part of crude oil, gasoline, and cigarette smoke."

http://www.northjersey.com/news/161038835_Benzene_found_in_water_.html

NEW ZEALAND, DUNEDIN, JULY 2 2012. GAS-SNIFFING MEN CRITICAL AFTER BLAST



Two Dunedin men were engulfed in flames after a gas explosion.

Two young men critically injured in a house fire near Dunedin had been sniffing gas from an LPG bottle before an explosion which started the blaze, authorities say. A Fire southern communications spokesman told NZ Newswire that the men, aged 18 and 19, were inside the house in Mosgiel, west of Dunedin, inhaling gas from the bottle when it suddenly exploded about 2pm on Monday. The men, the only people inside the house at the time, were rushed to Dunedin Hospital with serious burns. On Monday evening the pair were in a critical condition in the hospital's intensive care unit, Senior Sergeant Tania Baron told NZ Newswire. The walls, ceiling and windows of the house were extensively damaged and tiles on the roof were blown off in the blast. This is the second explosion in New Zealand on Monday. Up to 50 firefighters rushed to the scene of a blast, also described as "significant", at the Taylor Preston meatworks in Ngauranga Gorge

in Wellington about 12.30pm. No-one was injured and it appeared the explosion had come from a dryer, a Fire central communications spokesman said earlier.

<http://news.msn.co.nz/nationalnews/8492835/two-teens-injured-in-mosgiel-blast>

USA, N.H, NASHUA, JULY 2 2012. OIL SPILL AT JIFFY LUBE STOPPED, CLEANED UP

dean shalhoup



Absorbent "booms" ring the pool of oil caused by a spill at Jiffy Lube on East Hollis Street Friday afternoon as firefighters and a clean-up crew work out of the Nashua Fire Rescue Hazmat vehicle. Officials said the spill occurred during an oil delivery.

City firefighters, public works officials and a haz-mat cleanup crew halted a small river of spilled oil Friday before it could seep into nearby storm drains, officials said. Nashua Fire Rescue Deputy Chief Mike O'Brien said crews were called to Jiffy Lube, 77 E. Hollis St., shortly after noontime Friday for the spill, which police continue to investigate. O'Brien said preliminary reports indicate that inattention to proper tank-filling procedures may have caused the spill. In all, an estimated 80-100 gallons of oil spilled into Jiffy Lube's parking lot and toward E. Hollis

Street, O'Brien said. The incident occurred while the operator of an oil delivery truck was filling Jiffy Lube's in-ground tank, he added. Crews contained the spill to a manageable area, O'Brien said, without contamination to any storm drains. Firefighters were assisted by Public Works crews, who provided needed materials and manpower, he said. O'Brien said oil is considered a hazardous material, and any oil spill in excess of 5 gallons must be reported to state officials. No injuries were reported. It wasn't known how long Jiffy Lube was closed after the incident.

<http://www.nashuatelegraph.com/news/966433-196/oil-spill-at-jiffy-lube-stopped-cleaned.html>

USA, MD, JESSUP, JULY 1 2012. GENERATOR NEARLY KILLS HOMEOWNER ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY FIRE TRANSPORTED A PERSON FROM THE HOLIDAY MOBILE ESTATES IN JESSUP WITH LIFE-THREATENING INJURIES DUE TO CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING FROM A GENERATOR SUNDAY.

By Anna Staver

Anne Arundel County fire official offered tips to residents to prevent carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning while using a generator after an incident involving a Jessup homeowner Sunday morning. Firefighters responded to a call for help at the Holiday Mobile Estates in Jessup at approximately 7:38 a.m. Sunday. "The community is without power and they were using a [portable] generator," Lt. Keith Hamilton said. "We responded and we had one adult suffering the effects of carbon monoxide



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poisoning." The person, who lives in the 7800 block of Clark Road, was transported to the hyperbaric chamber at the University of Maryland's Hospital in Baltimore with serious, life-threatening injuries. Hamilton explained a hyperbaric chamber is an "encapsulated tub almost like a little submarine that you can put an individual in. They were developed by the Navy to treat divers suffering from the bends. We use that now as therapy for helping individuals with too much CO in their system." A family of five in Upper Marlboro was also transported to the hospital Sunday morning for carbon monoxide poisoning, according to WTOP. The family's generator was reportedly outside, but it was placed near a fireplace vent. Another generator in Bowie started a fire Saturday night after being placed too close to the house. Hamilton warned that people without power who are using portable generators should be cautious about where it is placed on their property. "When a generator is in operation, it should be 10 to 15 feet from your house," Hamilton said. "You don't want to have any windows open on that side of that house because that generator is producing a high volume of chemicals." One of those chemicals is CO, which is odorless and can be deadly to humans. One major recommendation Hamilton made was to never store a running generator in your garage. He also advised homeowners to purchase carbon monoxide detectors, which can run for days on a battery backup system. Some of the symptoms of CO poisoning include massive headaches, nausea, increased pulse rate and irritability.

<http://odenton.patch.com/articles/generator-nearly-kills-jessup-homeowner>

ISRAEL, 'EIN YAHAV, JULY 3 2012. ISRAELI KILLED, FIVE INJURED IN PIPE EXPLOSION NEAR DEAD SEA >> PIPE CARRYING HYDROCHLORIC ACID EXPLODES AT PUMPING FACILITY



Mekorot facility in Ein Yahav.

One person was killed and five were injured on Monday when a pipeline carrying hydrochloric acid exploded near Kibbutz Ein Yahav in southern Israel. The injured were evacuated by helicopter to Soroka Hospital in Be'er Sheva. Four were in serious condition, while a soldier who was helping evacuate the injured was also lightly wounded. The explosion occurred when a drill operated by national water company Mekorot hit a pipeline carrying hydrochloric acid at a site adjacent to a quarry, some nine kilometers south of Kibbutz Ein Yahav. Five teams of firefighters are operating at the site, as well as IDF rescue teams. Police, accompanied by two helicopters, have closed all roads leading to the quarry, as well as Road 90. Haim Vingrin, a volunteer with the ZAKA emergency rescue

service, who was working at the scene, told Haaretz, "One of the pipes carrying acid exploded. Five people were wounded and one was killed, apparently from smoke and acid inhalation. [The wounded] were given first aid and their clothes were removed." Magen David Adom spokesman Zaki Heller said, "According to the initial reports that we received, there were ten people inside the facility at the time of the incident. Five of them managed to escape, while five others apparently inhaled the acid and are suffering from serious breathing difficulties. All of the injured are between the ages of 45-55." Israel's Ministry of Environmental Protection said there was no danger to residents of the area as a result of the incident, and that hazmat teams were on their way to the site. Ministry personnel at the site instructed rescue teams on how to protect themselves while evacuating the injured. Representatives of the ministry will conduct checks to detect any hazardous materials that may have spread beyond the site of the accident. Mekorot said the incident occurred during maintenance and rehabilitation work at the Ein Yahav 16 drilling site in the Arava region. Following the incident, MK Dov Khenin, who chairs the Knesset's Joint Environment and Health Committee, said, "Time after time we see that the status quo in the field of hazardous materials in Israel neglects the lives and health of citizens, workers and passersby. Accidents involving hazardous materials are not unavoidable, they can be prevented but this requires a real revolution in the field in Israel."

<http://www.haaretz.com/news/national/israeli-killed-five-injured-in-pipe-explosion-near-dead-sea-1.448281>

USA, TX, HOUSTON, JULY 3 2012. BOHAI BAY OIL SPILL LAWSUITS FILED IN US

wang qian

United States attorneys acting on behalf of about 30 fishermen in Shandong province filed a lawsuit against ConocoPhillips in the Southern District Court of Texas on Tuesday (Beijing time). The move is the latest by people affected by oil spills in Bohai Bay in June last year seeking to win compensation from the US company responsible for the disaster. Three firms, Bilek Law Firm LLP in Houston, Smith Stag LLC in New Orleans, and Jones, Swanson, Huddell & Garrison LLC also in New Orleans



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have been preparing the class action since last year, Jia Fangyi, a lawyer at Great Wall Law Firm, said on Monday in Beijing. All of the firms have previously won environmental cases involving oil and gas production, including claims related to the BP oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico in 2010. Attorney Stuart Smith from Smith Stag LLC of New Orleans confirmed the filing of the lawsuit to China Daily early on Tuesday morning. Donna Xue, a spokeswoman for ConocoPhillips China, said her office did not have any knowledge of the proposed lawsuit and declined to comment further before she could contact the company's headquarters in the US. Jia said the estimated direct economic losses caused by the oil leak for the 500 Shandong fishermen were about 870 million yuan (\$136 million). He added more fishermen near Bohai Bay are contacting him for legal help, which may push the number represented by the three US law firms to 2,000. Jia said he has filed lawsuits against companies he says are responsible for the oil leak in Bohai Bay to courts in Shandong, Hainan province, and Tianjin. All were rejected. US courts carry the principal of long-arm jurisdiction, which refers to the ability of local courts to exercise jurisdiction over out-of-state defendants. It means that in this case the US court could decide to hear the case, even though it didn't occur in the US, Jia explained. "It is a hard and long fight. We will fight to the end," Jia said. In April, ConocoPhillips China, the operator of the Penglai 19-3 oilfield where the leaks occurred, agreed with the government to the setting up of a 1.1 billion yuan fund based on estimated damages, in addition to an earlier 1 billion yuan compensation fund for the affected fishermen in Hebei and Liaoning province. China National Offshore Oil Corp, its Chinese partner, will also pay another 600 million yuan. No money was allocated to the other affected areas such as Shandong and Tianjin. In June 2011, Penglai 19-3 experienced two unrelated leaks, with initial estimates indicating that about 115 cubic meters of oil were released into the sea and 416 cu m of mineral oil mud were released on to the seabed, according to ConocoPhillips China. A State Oceanic Administration report in November said the leaks polluted an area of about 6,200 square kilometers (nearly nine times the size of Singapore), including 870 square kilometers that were severely polluted.

http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/china/2012-07/03/content_15545125.htm

BRAZIL, BRASILIA, JULY 3 2012. SHELL, BASF ORDERED TO PAY \$500 MLN IN BRAZIL POLLUTION CASE



A Brazilian judge has ordered oil giant Shell and chemical behemoth BASF to pay \$500 million in compensation for hundreds of ex-workers suing for damages in a suspected plant contamination case, a judicial source said Monday. Labor judge Ines Correa Cerqueira from the town of Paulinia in Sao Paulo state ruled that the two foreign companies must deposit \$500 million in a compensation fund pending the outcome of the class action lawsuit, according to the source who spoke on condition of anonymity. Prosecutors in May pressed for the money to be deposited in the fund to ensure that the ex-workers get medical treatment while awaiting a final ruling in the case. Anglo-Dutch Shell and Germany's BASF were accused five years ago of contaminating workers at a plant in Paulinia, located 102 kilometers (63 miles) from Sao Paulo, which was closed in 2002. The source said the labor judge also agreed to expand the number of plaintiffs in the case from

the initial 772 to 1,142. In a statement, Shell it would fight the decision, arguing that the list of beneficiaries of the fund included "people who did not prove that they had any link with the firms." The ex-workers blamed their health problems on prolonged handling of chemicals. The two companies were also accused of contaminating ground water near the plant. "Several tests determined that there was contamination of the water, air and ground (by toxic chemicals), and that as a result many people suffered from prostate cancer and thyroid gland problems. So far we have counted 61 dead," Clarissa Ribeiro, a prosecutor in the case, said in May. Lower courts had ordered the two firms to cover the costs of medical treatment. The case was appealed to the higher court in Brasilia, which is to issue a final ruling at an unspecified time. Shell owned the plant from 1974 to 1995, when it sold it to US conglomerate Cyanamid. BASF, world's leading chemical company, bought the plant in 2000.

Related Links

- [Brazil judge: Shell, BASF must put \\$382M in fund](#)
- [Shell, BASF Ordered to Pay \\$500 Million in Brazil Pollution Case](#)
- [Shell, BASF ordered to pay \\$500 mln in Brazil pollution case](#)

http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5hqT4gC0Hn6SokwAcym05O-QVq_BA?docId=CNG.b993298106a8bbaafb124651a0577fd2.191



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