



## Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network

### Release 2012 – 887 Newsy Stuff

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

**October 09 2012**



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#### FRANCE, TOULOUSE, SEPTEMBER 24 2012. TOULOUSE FACTORY BLAST: FRENCH DIRECTOR JAILED FOR MANSLAUGHTER

 **Watch the Video** [Toulouse Factory Blast: French Director Jailed For Manslaughter](#)

The former director of a French fertiliser factory where an explosion killed 31 people has been sentenced to a year in jail for manslaughter. More than 2,500 were injured in the blast which happened in the southern city of Toulouse in September 2001. The factory's ex-director Serge Biechlin was also fined 45,000 euros. Factory owners AZF, which is a subsidiary of oil giant Total, has been fined 225,000 euros.

<http://www.euronews.com/2012/09/24/toulouse-factory-blast-french-director-jailed-for-manslaughter>

#### AUSTRALIA, QUEENSLAND, BRISBANE, SEPTEMBER 25 2012. FACTORY BLAST AT BORAL'S NARANGBA PLANT CAUSES HUGE SMOKE CLOUD

brooke baskin



*A fire at the Boral plant in Narangba, north of Brisbane.*

A massive explosion has rocked Narangba, north of Brisbane, causing black smoke visible for kilometres to billow up into the air and sparking a plant fire. Emergency services were called to the Boral Asphalt factory on [Potassium St](#) at 12.22pm. It's not yet known what caused the explosion but a Department of Community Safety spokesman said all people within the factory had been accounted for. The explosion is thought to have ignited in an LPG bitumen tanker. Fire crews are working to isolate other potential dangers which could further fuel the blaze, including nearby LPG tanks. Narangba resident Ollie Mans, who lives at nearby Warren Crescent, said she had been asleep when the explosion "shook the whole house". "I was asleep and my whole house just shook even though we're about five minutes away from where it happened," she said. "There is thick, black smoke billowing out everywhere. "We thought, for sure, someone was hurt in that."

<http://www.dailytelegraph.com.au/news/national/factory-blast-at-borals-narangba-plant-causes-huge-smoke-cloud/story-fndo2iwh-1226481029646>

#### USA, N.Y, EAST GREENBUSH, SEPTEMBER 26 2012. STATE TRAINS LOCAL DEPARTMENTS ON ETHANOL FIRE RESPONSE

steve flamisch



*FOX23 Reporter Steve Flamisch (second from left) joins the Clinton Heights Fire Department at Tuesday's ethanol fire training exercise. .*

New York is preparing for the worst. The state Office of Fire Prevention and Control (OFPC) trained local fire departments Tuesday night on how to properly extinguish an ethanol fire. "With the increased use of ethanol in the United States, and the increased transportation of bulk liquids, there was a great need for this," said OFPC's Dan Baker, who devised the training program. Suppressing an ethanol fire requires a special alcohol-resistant foam, Baker said. OFPC used propane to simulate the ethanol fire at the exercise. "This is just a great class that the state was able to bring to us -- an excellent program -- and we're very fortunate to have this training," Clinton Heights Assistant Fire Chief Seth Tracy said. An estimated 3.2 million gallons of ethanol pass through the Port of Albany each day, in addition to the ethanol in the gasoline we pump and the tanker trucks we pass. The program is funded by a grant from the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA).

[http://www.fox23news.com/news/local/story/State-trains-local-departments-on-ethanol-fire/nMdabkYi20i5ZJhsaA\\_3lg.csp](http://www.fox23news.com/news/local/story/State-trains-local-departments-on-ethanol-fire/nMdabkYi20i5ZJhsaA_3lg.csp)



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#### RUSSIA, KARA SEA, SEPTEMBER 25 2012. EXXON-ROSNEFT SEEK ARCTIC OIL NEAR SOVIET TOXIC WASTE DUMP

eduard gismatullin



*The icebreaker Krassin succeeds in clearing a passage through the Arctic ice fields for a number of British and Scandinavian freighters in this photograph from January 1929.*

The Kara Sea, a body of Arctic waters so remote that the Soviet Union used it as an atomic- waste dump for more than 25 years, has become the focus of an environmental battle that oil companies are preparing to win. Exxon Mobil Corp and its Russian partner OAO Rosneft (ROSN) are taking steps to drill near the ocean-floor wasteland, eager to plumb an Arctic region estimated to hold enough crude to supply the world for five years. They've sidestepped environmental groups' calls for a clean-up prior to exploration of the area off Russia's northern coast where Soviet ships dumped worn-out reactors and 17,000 containers of radioactive waste. Scientists in Norway today, presenting the first survey of the

area's atomic pollution in 18 years, will say there isn't any increased radiation, according to an official at the Norwegian Radiation Protection Authority. Stable levels may mean major leaks haven't developed, robbing ecologists of a weapon to stop drilling that oil companies say can be done safely. "All ecological and nature protection norms are being followed at the same time," Rustam Kazharov, a spokesman at Rosneft, said by e-mail. The Moscow-based company is preparing for exploration based on Russian law and "the best world practices available." Exxon and Rosneft this month agreed to start designing a platform to drill in the Kara Sea's shallow waters. The first well can be started as soon as 2014.

#### Greenpeace Campaign

The Kara Sea's toxic history highlights the risks to the Arctic, one of the world's most remote regions and still a magnet for environmental activism. Politicians including a group of U.K. legislators and ecologists have urged a ban on oil and gas exploration to protect the region from the risk of spills. Greenpeace has campaigned against Arctic drilling by Royal Dutch Shell Plc (RDSA) in Alaska, Cairn Energy Plc (CNE) in Greenland and OAO Gazprom (OGZD) in Russia. The activist group will oppose drilling in the Kara Sea regardless of the findings published this week, said Dima Litvinov, a Greenpeace campaigner on Russian issues. "This waste must be retrieved and stored as safely as possible on land if we are to avoid a catastrophe," Litvinov said. "Russians, or anyone else, shouldn't be drilling for hydrocarbons in the Arctic."

The single most dangerous item at the bottom of the sea is the K-27 nuclear submarine, scuttled by the Soviet navy in 1981. While there's no sign of increased radiation from the ship, corrosion may damage the ship's reactor and potentially cause an environmental emergency, according to Norway's state-run NRPA.

#### 'Hypothetical Possibility'

"There might be a hypothetical possibility that the spent nuclear fuel in the reactor in extreme situations can cause an uncontrolled chain reaction, which can lead to heat and radioactivity releases," said Per Strand, a director at the agency, which backed the international scientific expedition. Authorities in Russia and Norway need to decide on the safe disposal of K-27, the top priority, Strand said in an interview. International scientists, who last measured pollution in the Kara Sea in 1993, haven't so far discovered increased levels of radiation, he said, citing the survey's preliminary results. The sea lies about 600 miles (965 kilometers) to the east of Norway. "Oil companies should make sure that the area is swiped clean of nuclear waste before they start any oil exploration activity," said Igor Kudrik, an ecologist from Norwegian campaign group Bellona. "In the worst-case scenario -- that is, an uncontrolled chain reaction in the reactor of K-27 -- radiation will spread in the Kara Sea and create major difficulties for any industrial activity."

#### Arctic Risks

Rosneft, Exxon's partner and Russia's state oil company, last month began surveying the East Prinovozemelsky 1 and 2 license blocks. Block 1 is adjacent to the Novaya Zemlya archipelago, where the Soviet regime dumped reactors and waste, according to research published in 1993 by Russian scientist Alexei Yablokov. "Prior to drilling any well we study the seabed in the surrounding area for potential hazards," Patrick McGinn, a spokesman at Irving, Texas-based Exxon, said by e-mail. "This is standard industry practice." Until 1992, the Soviet Union dumped solid and liquid waste in the neighboring Kara and Barents Seas, including atomic fuel from the icebreaker Lenin, the world's first nuclear-powered civilian vessel, according to an NRPA



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report. There's still a lack of comprehensive data about the dumping because of Soviet secrecy and poor accountability, said Bellona's Kudrik.

#### Removing Submarine

The three blocks where they've been granted permission may hold as much as 21 billion metric tons (154 billion barrels) of oil and natural gas, the Russian company says. That would be almost five years of global oil use, according to BP Plc (BP) data. Removing the K-27 submarine is a priority for the region, said Yablokov, who advised former President Boris Yeltsin on the environment. A reactor leak on the ship killed nine sailors in 1968. The navy tried to repair it before deciding to seal the nuclear units and sinking the ship 13 years later. "K-27 is a dangerous object and there are plans to lift it from the sea bottom for proper disposal," Yablokov said in a phone interview. "Technically it's possible." Sergei Novikov, a spokesman at state-run Rosatom Corp., which oversees Russia's nuclear industry, wasn't available to comment following calls to his office and mobile phones. Anatoly Zakharchev, the head of the submarine decommissioning unit at Rosatom, also wasn't available to comment. The catalog of atomic material dumped in the Kara Sea includes liquid, reactors, spent nuclear fuel, 19 ships carrying solid waste and 17,000 containers, according to the NRPA. The content of many is unknown, Yablokov said.

#### Dumped Waste

Some of the containers were shot with machine guns to sink them when they floated in the water, he said. "We know more or less precisely where the largest objects have been dumped," he said. Oil exploration is unlikely to be affected if it stays away from the shallow waters next to Novaya Zemlya, he said. Norway's Statoil ASA and Eni SpA of Italy have set up joint ventures with Rosneft to explore in the Russian area of the Barents Sea, a larger body of water next to the Kara Sea, where the Soviet Union also dumped liquid waste. The partners are targeting about 15 billion and 26 billion barrels of oil and gas resources respectively. "Companies are turning to frontier areas for new resources as conventional production regions like the North Sea have matured," Stuart Joyner, an Investec Securities Ltd. analyst in London said. "International oil companies are being offered concessions in the Arctic because Russian companies like Rosneft don't yet possess the technological capability to explore alone." Statoil will invest about \$2.5 billion in initial exploration with Rosneft, including additional areas in the Sea of Okhotsk. "We do not expect nuclear waste issues to hinder the joint exploration," Baard Glad Pedersen, a spokesman at Statoil, said by e-mail. Eni and Rosneft plan to drill the first well in Russian areas of the Barents Sea before 2020, according to Rosneft. A spokesman at Eni declined to comment.

<http://www.businessweek.com/news/2012-09-24/arctic-oil-near-soviet-toxic-waste-in-exxon-rosneft-plan>

#### THAILAND, SRI RACHA, SEPTEMBER 25 2012. GAS-GUZZLING THIEVES HIJACK FUEL TANK TRUCK



*Three armed criminals on a motorcycle hijacked a loaded fuel truck. They tied up the driver and his assistant and dumped them before driving away with the truck. The truck was found abandoned later in Sri Racha, drained of its fuel.*

At 2:30 a.m., a report of an armed hijacking of a fuel truck was received by Pol. Lt. Capt. Kritsakorn Kamolpop, shift officer at Lamchabang police station, Sri Racha. The hijacking was reported by the truck driver, Mr. Anan Kamolsungsud, age 41, who works for Good Team Co. Ltd., a fuel transport company from a well-known oil depot in Sri Racha. Mr. Anan told police that at 9:30 p.m., he had filled his truck tanks with fuel and drove out from the depot, with his assistant truck boy, Mr. Sakol Anantabut, age

45, sitting in his cab. When they reached Lamchabang junction moo 3, Toong Su Khla, Sri Racha, three men riding a motorcycle and wearing the company's Goode Company uniforms called for them to stop the oil truck. Then the men revealed that they were robbers, and climbed up to the driver's side of the truck and pointed a gun at them, which was covered by a coat. Then two robbers got in the truck and forced Mr. Anan to keep driving. The other man followed the truck on the motorcycle. After the truck was driven for a while, the robbers cut the truck's GPS system that was tracking the truck's location for the company. Then the criminals told Mr. Anan to park the truck near the entrance of Khao Kheao zoo. The robbers then tied his and the truck boy's hands and then dumped them, and drove away with the truck. Mr. Anan and the truck boy helped each other to untie their knots and rushed to notify the police at Lamchabang police station. The police reported the hijacking to nearby police stations to intercept the oil truck, but the truck was not immediately located. Then at 3:00 p.m., the Lamchabang police radio center heard from the Sri Racha police station that they found a white Scania 18-wheel fuel truck, registration code 77-5590, tail license plate 77-5971 Bangkok. The abandoned truck was parked on the street around the rim of the Bang Phra reservoir road, moo 5, Bang Phra, Sri Racha. Pol. Lt. Col. Attaporn Klanruengsang, detective inspector of



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Lamchabang police station, brought detectives to check the truck. Police found that the thieves had drained two diesel tanks and supreme 91 tank of fuel. The criminals also left an oil container on the site. Police discovered that the grille covers had been torn off from a tank with a capacity of 10,000 liters of diesel oil; another tank with a capacity of 6,000 liters of supreme 91 oil; and a third tank that could hold 6,000 liters of diesel oil. But the amount of both kinds of oil missing were still unknown so the loss could not be calculated. The truck's fueling records at the depot have to be rechecked again by the company before an accurate tally of the stolen fuel could be made. Police also found that the thieves had broken the vehicles two CCTVs, one mounted on a corner of the truck, and the other inside the cab. After the police inspection, company employees drove the truck to the company's parking lot. Earlier at 10:00 a.m., the police investigations had begun after the truck hijacking was reported to Pol. Col. Sakpree Peaoponich, director of the Lamchabang police station. The police commander had summoned Pol. Lt. Col. Tharatep Tupanich, vice director of detective division; and Pol. Lt. Col. Attaporn Klanruengsang, detective inspector; and called a meeting of all the detectives, who were then assigned to separate investigations to gather information. Pol. Col. Sakpree commanded his team to check all the CCTVs along the route taken by the hijacked truck, to check for the motorcycle that followed the truck, as well as the appearances of the hijackers and vehicle registration numbers. Police detectives then later went to check the hijacked truck being kept in the parking lot, and checked the truck's CCTV and security system of the company. Pol. Col. Sakpree commanded the detective team to question all the company's related staff, including the driver and the truck boy, and to check the records of all drivers, both new and old. The police commander suspected that the hijacking was an inside job that probably involved company employees. He expected police to make arrests soon.

<http://www.pattayadailynews.com/en/2012/09/25/gas-guzzling-thieves-hijack-fuel-tank-truck/>

## FRANCE, PARIS, SEPTEMBER 26 2012. FRANCE'S TOP COURT UPHOLDS CONVICTIONS OVER ERIKA OIL SPILL

*pascale juilliard*

 **Watch the Video**

- [Victims' Lawyer Praises French Court Decision on Erika](#)
- [French Court Upholds Erika Disaster Guilty Verdict](#)



*The 25-year-old Erika broke in two in violent seas in the Bay of Biscay in December 1999.*

France's top court on Tuesday upheld energy giant Total's conviction for negligence in a 1999 shipwreck and oil spill that blackened much of the country's Atlantic coastline. Total had been found guilty of failing to address maintenance problems when it chartered a rusty 25-year-old tanker, the Erika, that broke in two and sank off the Brittany coast, sparking one of France's worst environmental disasters. Plaintiffs in the case had warned that overturning the original rulings would have undermined decades of attempts to hold companies accountable for environmental damage caused by oil spills. They hailed the Court of Cassation's

ruling as a judgement that would set a strong precedent for future cases. Bruno Retailleau, the head of the regional council of Vendee, one of the places hit by the slick, said the ruling showed that "the sea is not a lawless place, it is not a place of impunity". "This is a decision that will make all oil companies think deeply about the organisation of maritime transport," said Jean-Pierre Mignard, a lawyer for several coastal districts affected. The Erika was carrying 30,000 tonnes of heavy fuel oil and the spill polluted a large stretch of the Brittany coastline, killing tens of thousands of seabirds. French beach resorts were deserted, fishing was halted and shellfish banned from consumption in the aftermath of the oil spill, leaving the local economy on its knees for years. Total, Italian certification firm RINA which found the ship to be seaworthy, the Erika's owner Giuseppe Savarese and its handler Antonio Pollara were all convicted in the case. All their convictions were upheld in Tuesday's ruling. A Paris appeals court in 2010 ordered Total to pay a fine of 375,000 euros (\$485,000) and awarded compensation to the civil plaintiffs of 200 million euros. The 80 plaintiffs included the French state, communities affected by the pollution and environmental groups. About 13 million euros of the compensation awarded was for "environmental damage". The ruling was considered to have established a legal precedent by recognising that polluters can be held accountable for harming the environment. Lawyers for the defendants had argued that the 1983 French law under which the prosecutions were made could not be applied as it contradicted international conventions signed by France. The Erika was outside French territorial waters when it wrecked. Total has already paid 171 million euros in compensation and RINA 30 million euros and Tuesday's ruling



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would in any case never have called those payments into question. The firm's lawyers said Monday they would consider whether to now take the case to the European Court of Justice. In a separate case on Monday, a French appeals court sentenced a former boss of a Total subsidiary to a year in prison for a 2001 chemical plant blast that killed 31 people. The court handed down a three-year jail term -- two of them suspended -- and a 45,000-euro fine on former plant chief Serge Biechlin for manslaughter. The blast, which erupted in September 2001 in a storage warehouse packed with 300 tonnes of ammonium nitrate at the AZF chemical fertiliser plant near Toulouse, also injured 2,500 people and damaged 30,000 homes

#### Related Links

- [France's top court upholds convictions](#)
- [UPDATE 1-French court upholds Total conviction in Erika oil spill](#)
- [France's top court upholds convictions over Erika oil spill](#)
- [FRANCE: Court upholds Total conviction in 1999 'Erika' oil spill](#)

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5qYhTH5lfKZycUUQq4GdMCh9FhbXA?docId=CNG.9ca2683996c13b4ebf4cdf131aec82cf.5c1>

#### USA, OK, OKLAHOMA CITY, SEPTEMBER 26 2012. DOCTORS REBUILD MAN'S FACE WITH PART OF HIS LEG BONE AFTER FIREWORKS ACCIDENT 'BLEW THE LEFT SIDE CLEAN OFF'

- Accident in July almost killed musician Taron Pounds
- He spent three weeks in a coma and three weeks in recovery after the accident destroyed the left hand side of his face
- Underwent a successful 22-hour operation on Friday to rebuild his damaged face

 [Watch the Video Doctors Rebuild Man's Face after Fireworks Accident](#)

 [Photo's \[10\] Doctors Rebuild Man's Face](#)



*A digital scan of Taron Pounds face displays the severe damage the firework that exploded caused.*

Talented jazz musician Taron Pounds was so badly injured in a fireworks explosion at a family party in July that his mother said that she didn't recognise him the first time she saw him in the hospital. Suffering severe wounds to his nose, eye, neck and chest, the left side of the 22-year-old's face was literally 'blown off' and doctors told his family that he was lucky to still be alive. Despite this the guitarist has come through a 22-hour operation in Oklahoma City on Friday during which doctors used part of the bone and skin from his leg to begin the difficult task of reconstructing his face. Celebrating a family wedding at his home when the stray firework exploded into his face on July 7th, Pounds was rushed to OU Medical Center in Tulsa as a level one trauma patient close to death. Coming through one month in intensive care, doctors shifted their focus to restoring what they physically could of Pounds' horribly disfigured face. 'Taron lost a lot of bone and tissue. He is really missing a lot of bone in the left eye area, the nose and the roof of his mouth,' said Trinitia Cannon, M.D., an ear, nose and throat specialist at OU Medical Center and one of the lead surgeons in the marathon surgical effort. 'We were able to take bone and skin from

his leg, as well as blood vessels that keep that skin alive and we basically reconstruct his face with that.' During the marathon operation, two surgical teams worked in tandem in the operating room - the first led by Cannon, spent time on the face and neck area attempting to close the four inch hole in Pounds' face left by the blast. The second team, headed by ear, nose and throat specialist Dr. Jose Sanclement harvested bone and tissue from the left leg used by the first team for the facial reconstruction. 'It's basically a transplant,' said Sanclement. 'We are transplanting a piece of bone to another place in the body. It is sort of like a puzzle finding the right pieces and then when we have the right pieces, we establish blood supply.' In the accident, Pounds suffered the loss of most of the bone that holds and stabilises his mid-face, in addition to a substantial amount of nasal and cheek bone which support his left eye, the roof of his mouth and teeth. Five days after the operation, doctors expressed their satisfaction with Pounds' progress as they monitored blood flow through the transplanted blood vessels and skin and bone. 'Mentally and emotionally, he has a lot of healing to go through,' said Cannon to KJRH. In July,



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Pounds was at a family party in Inola, in charge of fireworks, when something went badly wrong. Pounds lit the fuse of a commercial-grade mortar shell, and seconds later, his family members saw the firework explode on the ground. 'I didn't even recognize him,' said Tammy Cauthron, Pounds' mother, of the first time she saw him after the accident. 'His face was blown off -- the left side gone. The left side of his face was peeled back and parts missing. I literally identified my son by his fraternity tattoo.' 'This really is every parent's nightmare -- to have this much damage to our child. What do dads do? We fix stuff and Dad can't fix this one,' said David Cauthron, Pounds' stepfather. Dr. Cannon admitted to [Newsok](#) that the first time she saw Pounds, she was unsure where his nasal passages were because of the extensive damage. Together with Dr. Sanclement, the physicians have been working up to this operation for several weeks, performing smaller surgeries to repair his jaw and stabilise the bones around his mouth. Pounds will now spend another five days in recovery at the hospital before returning home to continue his recovery and his next surgery will most likely be in another two months. He still cannot see out of his left eye, however doctors are unsure whether his sight will be restored. And his surgical team believe that it will still be another six months before Pounds is back to what's 'cosmetically acceptable' for him in the long term. 'Taron has accepted ... he's not going to be exactly what you see in this picture ever again, inside or outside,' said Tammy Cauthron. 'He's changed. This is a life-changing event for our entire family. For Taron, it's physical, as well as emotional and mental. There's a lot of changes -- for the good, I know he's a much stronger man because of this.'

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2208568/Doctors-rebuild-mans-face-leg-bone-fireworks-accident-blew-left-clean-off.html?ito=feeds-newsxml>

#### USA, N.Y, NEW YORK, SEPTEMBER 26 2012. TOXIN LEAK AT NEW YORK SCHOOL SPARKS WORRIES

A PCB leak at a school in Long Island City in New York has parents and local leaders outraged. They gathered outside IS 204 on Tuesday morning to draw attention to the matter, MyFoxNY reported. The Dept. of Education says it will take approximately nine years to replace the lights at IS 204 and the 800 or so schools within the New York City school system that have the potentially dangerous liquid. Polychlorinated Biphenyl -- a thin, light-colored liquid or a yellow or black waxy solid-- were banned in 1979 for their potential toxicity, according to the Environmental Protection Agency. At least two schools have reported leaks of the toxin since the start of the school year. At IS 204, a school located in a low-income community, a PCB leak reportedly contaminated the desk of a guidance counselor and the floor below. At P.S. 41, PCB leaked from a light fixture onto the desk of a fifth grade student while at her desk. According to several local leaders, the Dept. of Education replaced the leaking light fixture within days at the school in New Dorp, Staten Island. Parents of IS 204 students say the DOE should work faster to safeguard their children from the toxin. "I think they can do this a lot sooner than they're doing it. I'm concerned about her education and health," the mother of a young girl told reporters outside the school. The cost of replacing all the school system's potentially contaminated light fixtures will run the DOE over \$100 million.

<http://www.foxnews.com/health/2012/09/25/toxin-leak-at-new-york-school-sparks-worries/>

#### USA, N.C, CHARLOTTE, SEPTEMBER 26 2012. ACID LEAK REPORTED AT WEST CHARLOTTE CHEMICAL PLANT

[Watch the Video](#) [Acid Leak at Chemical Plant](#)



Mecklenburg County and Charlotte fire fighters responded to the Emerald Performance Materials plant Tuesday to help contain an acid spill. The West Mecklenburg Fire Department was the first on scene at about 9 p.m. Soon after, they called for the hazmat team from the Charlotte Fire Department. Hazmat teams determined the spill was triflic acid. A pipe that was malfunctioning caused the leak. One employee was treated on the scene for chemical burns. He was not taken to the hospital, firefighters said. Triflic acid is extremely strong acid, often called a "super acid," according to manufacturers. It is used to make a variety of products. Investigators told WBTV News an improper mixture of chemicals caused a chemical cloud, that plant operators feared was caustic, caused the incident. Hazmat crews were able to control the spill and contain it to the plant. The scene was cleared in about an hour, and hazmat crews said there was no environmental impact.

<http://www.wbtv.com/story/19639880/acid-leak-reported-at-west-charlotte-chemical-plant>



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#### INDIA, NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 26 2012. BHOPAL: 'WATER CONTAMINATED NEAR UNION CARBIDE: INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TOXICOLOGY RESEARCH



The ground water around the Union Carbide factory in Bhopal continues to be contaminated even 28 years after the world's largest industrial disaster in which leak of a poisonous gas had killed more than 15,000 people, the Supreme Court was told on Tuesday. Indian Institute of Toxicology Research (IITR), which examined the ground water, submitted a report to the apex court saying the levels of lead, nitrate and nickel are more than permissible levels in many samples of water taken by it. "In nine of the 30 samples, nitrate levels exceeded its permissible Bureau of Indian Standard (BIS) limits for drinking water. Lead level in 24 samples were found to exceed its BIS permissible limit," said the report, submitted to a bench headed by Justice Altamas Kabir. The report, however, added there is no threat because of the ground water contamination as the requirement for drinking water in the area is being met through piped water supply. The water samples were to be examined by the institute on three

parameters of physico-chemical, heavy metals and organics but organic analysis could not take place as it takes time.

<http://daily.bhaskar.com/article/MP-BHO-water-contaminated-near-union-carbide-indian-institute-of-toxicology-research-3841070-NOR.html>

#### USA, WI, MONROE CO, SEPTEMBER 26 2012. FIVE SPARTA TEENS BURNED WHEN FIREWORKS EXPLODE IN CAR, POLICE SAY

bill novak

 [Watch the Video Fireworks Explosion Inside Vehicle Injures 5 Teens](#)

 [Slideshow \[5\] Fireworks Explode Inside Vehicle](#)



Five teen boys suffered burns when lit fireworks exploded inside the car they were in early Monday morning in Sparta, authorities reported. The Sparta Police Department said in a news release that the incident was reported at about 4:30 a.m. by Mayo Clinic Health Systems in Sparta after the five came to the facility for treatment — the driver of the car was able to drive to the facility after the explosion. Police said the teens were throwing fireworks out of the car when one of the fireworks didn't make it out of the car and exploded inside. All five are 17 years old and are from the Sparta area, police said. Medical helicopters were called to the medical facility to take four of the burn victims to medical facilities in the region. There was no indication by police as to the severity of the burns. "The Sparta Fire Department went to the medical facility to set up additional landing zones for the medical helicopters," said Sparta police Lt. David Livingston in the release. A spokeswoman at UW Hospital in Madison had no information on any of the victims being taken to the burn center in Madison. Police were investigating where in the Sparta area the explosion took place.

[http://host.madison.com/ct/news/local/crime\\_and\\_courts/five-sparta-teens-burned-when-fireworks-explode-in-car-police/article\\_4a2ca4b6-065d-11e2-b97a-0019bb2963f4.html](http://host.madison.com/ct/news/local/crime_and_courts/five-sparta-teens-burned-when-fireworks-explode-in-car-police/article_4a2ca4b6-065d-11e2-b97a-0019bb2963f4.html)

#### USA, MT, GREAT FALLS, SEPTEMBER 26 2012. REFINERY CALLS DEQ FINE FOR PERMIT VIOLATIONS EXCESSIVE

karl puckett

The Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has fined Montana Refining Co. in Great Falls \$307,750 for two major administrative violations of the Montana Clean Air Act of Montana, which a refinery official described as excessive. The company paid the fine in two installments with the final payment being made a week ago, said Larry Alheim, an enforcement specialist for the DEQ's Enforcement Division. Montana Refining Co. refines oil and emits particulate, sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxide. The first violation involved installing an air quality flow monitor in a stack 28 days after the deadline. The company should have installed the monitor no later than March 10, 2010, but it was not installed until April 7, 2010, the DEQ said. Montana Refining's operating permit also specifies that the company install and use a continuous emissions monitoring system on the fluid catalytic cracking unit. The second violation involved having no continuous emissions monitors operating in



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the stacks 11.8 percent of the time, or 522 hours out of the 4,416 hours in the reporting period. Dana Leach, Montana Refining's vice president of operations, said in one case the necessary parts needed for an instrument were not available worldwide. In the other instance, the installers were confused about the deadline and there was a breakdown in communication. Leach emphasized there was no release of excess emissions as a result of either violation. "We believe the fine was excessive," Leach said. "This is an issue of analyzer downtime and not excessive emissions and there are other ways of knowing whether emissions are high or not." Other ways to gauge if emissions are high are visually and by the way the plant is operating, and emissions were not high during the down time, he said. The DEQ has two types of air quality permit violations: harm to human health and environment and impact to administration, Alheim said. Under those two categories, there are three types of "gravity components": major, moderate and minor. The violations in this case violation were administrative and the gravity component was major, he said. "If you're not following your air quality permit we can't be sure everything is operating in accordance with our rules," Alheim said. "While there were no exceedances we could prove or show, the fact the monitor wasn't working 11 percent of the time -- we don't have good data for that time period. "And failure to install it 28 days late, we felt we give you a deadline we expect you to meet that deadline," he said.

<http://www.greatfalltribune.com/article/20120925/NEWS/309250014/Refinery-calls-DEQ-fine-permit-violations-excessive>

#### USA, PA, BUCKS CO, TINICUM TWP, SEPTEMBER 26 2012. TINICUM PROPANE TRUCK FIRE A 'FIREMAN'S NIGHTMARE'

*jim mcginnis & amanda cregan*

 **Watch the Video's**

- [Route 611 Reopens after Fiery Tanker Crash](#)
- [Propane Tanker Fire Extinguished](#)

 **Photo's [9]** [Fire Out, Evacuations Lifted after Propane Tanker Truck Fire](#)

 **Photo's [5]** [Propane truck crash keeps firefighters busy in Tinicum](#)



On Monday, firefighters battled a propane truck blaze that injured two people, shut down a major Bucks County roadway and forced nearby residents to evacuate their homes. Officials said two people were injured in the crash between the truck and another vehicle near Wehrung's Lumber and Home Center on Route 611 in Tinicum. The victims were taken to St. Luke's Hospital's trauma center in Bethlehem. The victims' names and conditions have not been released, but officials have said the two people were not burned by the fire. Hundreds of volunteer first responders and police set up a one-mile radius around the Cress Gas Co. propane truck, which caught fire shortly after the accident at 8:30 a.m. near the intersection with Tohickon Valley Road, officials said. For much of the morning and afternoon, crews managed a controlled burn of the gas leaking from the 2,000-gallon propane truck, which was full at the time of the crash. Firefighters feared the truck might explode, said Bucks County Emergency Management Coordinator John Dougherty. An explosion of that size would have looked like a mushroom cloud over Upper

Bucks and could have damaged nearby homes and businesses, he said. "The risk is that it could overheat and explode," said Bucks County Emergency Management Coordinator John Dougherty at the time, speaking from the county's emergency operations command center. "This is like a fireman's nightmare." Firefighters set up a "master stream" to douse the tank with cool water from a distance, officials said. By keeping the tank cool, it reduced the risk of explosion, Dougherty added. At about 9:30 a.m., firefighters were knocking on doors within one mile of the crash and ordering residents to evacuate. More than 200 people live in a one-mile evacuation area around the site, officials said. About a dozen were moved to a shelter at St. John the Baptist Church on Route 412 in Ottsville. Most evacuees went to work for the day, Dougherty added. Durham Road residents John and Marian Mergenthaler were among the residents evacuated. The couple live a half-mile from the crash site. Watching a rush of morning traffic head down her country road, "I knew something was wrong," said Marian Mergenthaler, 79. Soon after, Doylestown firefighters approached their door, asking the couple to immediately leave the home. With their Chihuahua,



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Lilly, Marian and John, 86, drove to a Plumstead shopping center parking lot. Upon hearing news of an evacuation shelter, family members arrived at the lot to help the elderly couple and their dog make it safely to the church. By 2 p.m., firefighters were able to extinguish the fire and seal the propane leak. A half-hour later, residents were allowed to return to their homes. As of late Monday night, Tinicum police had yet to release details of the accident. Marian was grateful that a potential propane explosion was averted, and noted that in her 76 years as an Upper Bucks resident it was her first evacuation order. State and township police blocked roads into the evacuation area. That section of Route 611 has remained closed in both directions. The air space above the scene was also closed to air traffic. "One day of inconvenience is certainly worth protecting lives and property," said Emergency Management Coordinator Marty Focazio. No injuries were reported from the continuing fire, officials said. Cress Gas company officials could not be reached for comment. On Saturday, there was also a collision between two vehicles at the intersection of Rt. 611 and Tohickon Valley Road. Two young women were injured in that crash.

[http://www.phillyburbs.com/my\\_town/palisades/gallon-propane-tank-could-explode-in-tinicum-fire-evacuations-ordered/article\\_9600c9f1-5615-5cef-8406-080becb47fee.html](http://www.phillyburbs.com/my_town/palisades/gallon-propane-tank-could-explode-in-tinicum-fire-evacuations-ordered/article_9600c9f1-5615-5cef-8406-080becb47fee.html)

### AUSTRALIA, QUEENSLAND, SEPTEMBER 26 2012. WORKERS INJURED AFTER CHEMICAL LEAK AT THE CALTEX OIL REFINERY IN EAST BRISBANE

kieran rooney

A Caltex oil refinery in east Brisbane has been evacuated after a chemical leak left four workers injured. Emergency services were called to the site near the Port of Brisbane about 7.15pm on Tuesday, after reports of a spilled chemical and a vapour cloud in the area. A Queensland Fire and Rescue Spokesman said paramedics were on the scene treating four workers who may have been injured in the leak. "They are not believed to be seriously hurt at this moment but the four staff members were involved in an incident and are seeking medical attention," he said. A Hazmat crew and a scientific officer joined two fire crews called to the scene. It is believed the leak is now under control. It is not yet known what chemical was leaked.

<http://www.dailytelegraph.com.au/news/national/workers-injured-after-chemical-leak-at-the-caltex-oil-refinery-in-east-brisbane/story-fndo2iwh-1226481339549>

### SOUTH AFRICA, GAUTENG, WESTONARIA, SEPTEMBER 26 2012. THREE HURT IN SERVICE STATION BLAST

Three people were injured, two of them critically, in a blast at a service station in Westonaria on the West Rand, on Tuesday, paramedics said. "Reports from the scene indicate that a welding gas cylinder exploded, causing the three men to sustain severe burns," Netcare 911 spokesman Chris Botha said. Two men were critically injured and another in a serious condition. Paramedics placed one of the critical patients on a ventilator before airlifting him to Netcare Milpark Hospital. The other men were taken to a hospital in Krugersdorp.

<http://www.iol.co.za/news/south-africa/gauteng/three-hurt-in-service-station-blast-1.1389808#.UGK1M40gjl>

### USA, S.C, NORTH CHARLESTON, SEPTEMBER 26 2012. AUTHORITIES INVESTIGATE CAUSE OF MONDAY EXPLOSION AT MEADWESTVACO PLANT IN NORTH CHARLESTON

 **Watch the Video** [Authorities Investigate Cause of Monday Explosion](#)



*North Charleston Police guard the closed off entrance of the Kapstone Plant in North Charleston after an explosion at MWV Specialty Chemicals caused 250 thousand gallons of oil to spill and halted the flow of traffic and wood chip-carrying trucks from entering the papermill.*

Around 10am Monday morning authorities responded to a call about an explosion at the [MeadWestvaco Corporation](#) plant on Virginia Avenue, in North Charleston. Stephanie Mangini, Director, Communications & Brand Management, says that clean-up and an investigation into the cause of Monday morning's fire continues. Charleston fire and emergency crews left the [MeadWestvaco Corporation](#) plant on Virginia Avenue at 1:30 p.m. North Charleston Fire Department PIO Bianca Sancic said it appeared a 250,000

gallon tank of crude oil ruptured in the facility. Firefighters from the facility, North Charleston, Charleston and St. Andrews Fire Departments were on scene along with DHEC Units, working to limit the risk of fire as crews initiated cleanup. Scott



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Openshaw with MWV's Corporate Communications office confirmed that there was a minor explosion. "We are assessing the situation," Openshaw said, adding that one person suffered from a minor injury and was treated for first aid on the scene.

#### Statement from MWV Specialty Chemicals:

At approximately 10 am today, there was a fire at the MWV Specialty Chemicals, Charleston, S.C., facility. A rupture occurred at the top of a storage tank containing crude tall oil (a by-product of pine trees), and no product was released. The cause is currently under investigation. One person was taken to the hospital as a precautionary measure. There is no risk to the outside community, and the fire has been contained.

Stephanie Mangin Director, Communications & Brand Management

[MeadWestvaco Corporation](http://www.mwv.com) continue to stress that there is no risk to the outside community as a result of the clean-up efforts and on-going investigation and there was no product released. Outside the plant, truck drivers had to wait hours to move their cargo onto the property. One driver, John Hammac, told News 2 that this means a small financial hit. "Well, a cut in pay, because normally we get three loads a day. And this is the first one here, and we won't be getting very many today as we can't even get this one unloaded."

<http://www2.counton2.com/news/2012/sep/24/11/hazmat-crews-respond-possible-explosion-paper-mill-ar-4614433/>

#### NEW ZEALAND, HAMILTON, ROTOTUNA, SEPTEMBER 26 2012. CAR SMASHES INTO PETROL STATION



*No Entry: The male driver of the car had accelerated away from the Rototuna petrol station after filling up when his brakes failed.*

Hamilton Police are investigating why a vehicle crashed through the front of a Hamilton BP connect store last night, startling customers and staff. Emergency services were called to the Rototuna petrol station just after 5.30pm to find the silver Volkswagen vehicle had crashed through the main doors. BP communications and external affairs manager Jonty Mills said he believed the incident was accidental. "The person had been filling up at pump 5 and soon after it crashed through the front doors and took out a metal bollard in the process, Mr Mills said. "Why that happened is now in the hands of the Police and we are just happy nobody was harmed." Mr Mills said the shop was quite

busy at the time of the incident with both customers and staff on the main shop floor. "The shop was cordoned off and closed down for about four hours while staff cleaned everything up," he said. Police will be viewing CCTV footage of the incident as they investigate what happened. Fire Northern Communications manager Jaron Phillips said one fire appliance from Chartwell was sent to the scene where extrication equipment was used to cut a steel bollard to free the vehicle. Mr Mills said incidents like these were rare but "did happen on occasion". "We are just very fortunate that nobody was injured in this instance," he said.

<http://www.stuff.co.nz/waikato-times/news/7730406/Car-smashes-into-petrol-station>

#### GERMANY, SÜDLOHN-OEDING, SEPTEMBER 26 2012. WEEKEND FIRE INCIDENT AT GERMAN BIODIESEL PLANT CONTAINED IN TIME

At Petrotec's biodiesel production plant in Südlohn-Oeding, Germany, a fire broke out on the morning of Sept. 23 in a side production line of its biodiesel production process. The local fire brigades were able to quickly extinguish the fire. The main biodiesel production line has not been damaged and there was no production halt of this line. Petrotec reports that biodiesel production throughput might be reduced at approximately 5 percent for up to six weeks. The management, however, estimates that the incident will most probably have no impact on the outlook it has provided in the second-quarter report published by the company. Petrotec AG, Germany, is the largest European producer of waste-derived biodiesel, mainly based on used cooking oil. The company owns an overall nominal biodiesel production capacity of 185,000 tons per year (approximately 55.5 MMgy) at two locations in Germany. Petrotec runs a vertically integrated business model including collection of used cooking oil from more than 15,000 collection points, treatment and refining of the raw material up to the technologically demanding production of waste-based biodiesel. The company sells its biodiesel to large mineral oil companies in northwest Europe. The usage of waste based biodiesel is incentivized by major EU countries with a double counting scheme as part of the mandatory blending quotas. Petrotec's EcoPremium biodiesel provides significant environmental and climate advantages with the highest CO2 emission reduction of 83 percent (compared with fossil diesel) amongst all biofuels approved by the EU Renewable Energy



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Directive (2009/28/EC). Since its IPO in 2006, Petrotec cleaned 600,000 tons of waste and saved over 1.6 million tons of CO2 emissions. Petrotec is a public listed company in the regulated market of Frankfurt Stock Exchange, in the Prime Standard segment, complying with high international transparency standards. It has a capital stock of 24,543,741 Euro, equaling 24,543,741 shares. Main shareholder is IC Green Energy Ltd., Israel, with a stake of 69 percent, freefloat is approx. 18 percent. In the 2011 business year Petrotec reached sales of €173 million and generated an EBIT of €5.3 million and a net profit of €3 million. The company employs about 100 employees.

<http://www.biodieselmagazine.com/articles/8712/weekend-fire-incident-at-german-biodiesel-plant-contained-in-time>

#### USA, MN, BATTLE LAKE, SEPTEMBER 26 2012. 3 HURT WHEN FUEL TANK EXPLODES ON COMBINE IN OTTER TAIL COUNTY >> A FUEL TANK EXPLOSION IN OTTER TAIL COUNTY HAS LEFT 1 MAN CRITICALLY INJURED AND 2 OTHERS WITH LESS SERIOUS INJURIES.

Authorities say three people suffered burns Monday when a fuel tank exploded as a cutting torch was being used to dismantle a farm combine so it could be crushed. According to a news release from the Otter Tail County Sheriff's Office: William Litza, 57, of Osage, and Tresten Schaefer, 36, of Frazee, were using the torch to remove straps on the fuel tank when it exploded at about 2:05 p.m. Monday. Litza suffered severe burns to his upper body and face. He was taken to Perham Health with life-threatening injuries and later airlifted to Regions Hospital in St. Paul. Schaefer sustained a second-degree burn to his arm and first-degree burns to his neck and face. He was taken to the Perham hospital in a private vehicle. Curt Zacharias, 35, of Richville, also was present when the tank exploded. He sustained burns to his right hand.

<http://www.dl-online.com/event/article/id/70135/>

#### USA, N.Y, GARDINER, SEPTEMBER 26 2012. EXPLOSION, FIRE AT GARDINER DISTILLERY COULD HAVE BEEN A NIGHTMARE, SAID ASSISTANT CHIEF

**Photo's [7] Fire Hits Gardiner Distillery**



An Ulster County Fire Inspector looks over the damage to the second floor of the distillery to piece together what happened to cause the fire. A two alarm fire broke out at the Tuthilltown Spirits Distillery on Gristmill Lane in the Town of Gardiner on Monday morning. An explosion was heard in the second floor of the distillery that blew the french doors open and blasted out a window and sent some boards across the parking lot. Gardiner and New Paltz Fire companies assisted by others quickly brought the fire under control.

An explosion and fire at Tuthilltown Spirits distillery in Gardiner this morning could have been a nightmare considering the amount of alcohol in the vicinity, said Gardiner 1st Assistant Fire Chief Brian Stiscia. "I figured if that place ever caught fire you wouldn't be able to save anything with the amount of combustibles and fuel," Stiscia said. "But everyone (responding fire companies) did a fantastic job." At 10 a.m., the Gardiner Fire Department responded to a structure fire at the distillery, located at 14 Gristmill Lane. Stiscia said the second floor of the distillery, which housed some barrels of liquor, was involved. "We believe that vapors collected on the second floor, found an undetermined ignition source and exploded," Stiscia said. "The east wall was blown out. The barrels on the second floor were exploding too, but some just burned due to the stored product." The cause of the fire is still under investigation. preliminary reports from the Ulster County Sheriff's Office point to no foul play, but a possibility that a tank with alcohol may have ruptured causing alcohol to contact a heat source. The distillery is one of three buildings that make up Tuthilltown Spirits. There's also a tasting room and shop, and an office building. Stiscia said that a distillery employee was on the west side of the second floor and

"saw the flames rolling across the ceiling." "He started down the stairs and the explosion happened behind him," Stiscia said. "He's a lucky guy." The fire was under control within a half hour and out within two hours, Stiscia said. "We had numerous companies helping out," he said. Besides the Gardiner Fire Department, Clintondale, Modena, New Paltz, Plattekill,



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Shawagunk Valley, Walker Valley and Walkill fire departments all responded to the fire, along with the Ulster County Fire Investigation Unit, Stiscia said. No injuries were reported. One of the owners of Tuthilltown Spirits, Cathy Erenzo, said that they're still open for tastings. "The fire was very contained, so everyone can still come here," Erenzo said. No one was hurt in the fire.

<http://www.poughkeepsiejournal.com/article/20120924/NEWS01/120924023/Explosion-fire-Gardiner-distillery-could-been-nightmare-said-assistant-chief>

### PHILIPPINES, MUÑOZ CITY, NUEVA ECIJA, SEPTEMBER 26 2012. 9 KILLED, 9 INJURED IN NUEVA ECIJA TANKER ACCIDENT

 **Watch the Video** [Bus- Tanker Crash Leaves 9 Dead in N. Ecija](#)



*In this handout photo released by the Philippine National Police Munoz city, Nueva Ecija, shows police officers and residents look at the remains of a passenger bus after it collided head-on with a fuel truck in Munoz city, Nueva Ecija province, northern Philippines on Wednesday, Sept 26, 2012.*

Nine people were killed, while nine others were left injured after three vehicles figured in an accident in Nueva Ecija before dawn Wednesday, a spokesperson said. Chief Inspector Karen Clark, Chief of Regional Public Information Office Region 3 said the accident occurred along Maharlika Highway, Purok Curva in Barangay (village) Bantug, Science City of Muñoz around 2:30 a.m., involving a Honda Wave motorcycle (YZ 5358) driven by Leoncio Pajarillo, an Isuzu Truck

Gasoline Tanker (XMD 771) driven by Sylvino Marzo, and a Victory Liner bus (CWR 195; body number 1664) driven by Ryan Camaging. Clark said initial investigation revealed that the bus was taking the southbound lane when it hit the motorcycle from behind. Camaging maneuvered the bus to the left, causing a head-on collision with the approaching tanker that was traveling along the opposite lane. All three drivers of the vehicles died on the spot, so as other people riding on the bus, and the lone passenger of the motorcycle. Along with drivers Pajarillo, Marzo and Camaging, other fatalities taken to Muñoz Funeral Parlor were identified as Evangeline Pajarillo, 41; Donatella Aquino; Marife Cale Bondoc; and three still unidentified victims. The nine injured victims were subsequently taken to San Jose General Hospital and CLSU Infirmary Hospital for medical treatment, Clark said.

<http://newsinfo.inquirer.net/277662/9-killed-9-injured-in-nueva-ecija-road-accident>

### USA, WYO, WHEATLAND, SEPTEMBER 26 2012. TANKER SPILLS NEARLY 200 BARRELS OF CRUDE OIL; INTERSTATE 25 CLOSED



*Wyoming Highway Patrol troopers investigate a tractor-trailer tanker crash that occurred at 3 a.m. Tuesday two miles north of Wheatland, Wyo.*

Wyoming Highway Patrol troopers are investigating a tractor-trailer tanker crash that occurred at 3 a.m. Tuesday two miles north of Wheatland, Wyo. Both north and southbound lanes on Interstate 25 are closed due to the spill crude oil spilled from the tanker. Troopers estimate a good portion of the tanker's 200 barrels of crude oil spilled when the tanker trailer was breached during the crash. Traffic is being diverted onto Wyo. 320 at Wheatland for northbound traffic and at the U.S. 26 Junction for southbound traffic. Motorists traveling that portion of I-25 can expect delays due to the rerouting of traffic. No injuries have been reported and no information on the cause is available at this time. The closure of I-25 may

last several hours as emergency personnel work to investigate the crash and clean up. At this time there is no estimate as to when the roadway may be re-opened to normal traffic. Extra troopers have been dispatched to the area to assist with traffic control and to assist in the crash investigation. The tractor-trailer is owned by Basin Western Incorporated out of Roosevelt, Utah.

[http://rapidcityjournal.com/news/tanker-spills-nearly-barrels-of-crude-oil-interstate-closed-near/article\\_9ca7c238-0730-11e2-b6b6-001a4bcf887a.html](http://rapidcityjournal.com/news/tanker-spills-nearly-barrels-of-crude-oil-interstate-closed-near/article_9ca7c238-0730-11e2-b6b6-001a4bcf887a.html)



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#### AUSTRALIA, NEW SOUTH WALES, SYDNEY, SEPTEMBER 26 2012. NSW: WORKCOVER MAY PROSECUTE WINERY



WorkCover will decide whether it is in the public interest to initiate prosecution proceedings in response to a fatal Hunter Valley winery blast. The explosion at the Draytons Family Winery in January 2008 killed high profile vigneron Trevor Drayton and welder Eddie Orgo. Assistant winemaker William Rikard Bell only survived after jumping into a dam to douse flames engulfing his body. Last year Deputy State Coroner Hugh Dillon blamed the explosion on systemic failures. He found liquid ethanol vapours ignited while Mr Orgo was welding an unlabelled wine vat. At the time of the inquest it was suggested that the blast fell into the category of negligent manslaughter as a result of an industrial accident. WorkCover has conducted an investigation and it is currently reviewing all of the evidence to determine whether it is in the public interest that prosecution proceedings go ahead.

[http://www.safetyculture.com.au/news/index.php/09/nsw-workcover-may-prosecute-winery/?utm\\_source=feedburner&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=Feed%3A+safetyculture+%28Safety+Culture+OHS+News%29](http://www.safetyculture.com.au/news/index.php/09/nsw-workcover-may-prosecute-winery/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+safetyculture+%28Safety+Culture+OHS+News%29)

#### USA, MI, FARMINGTON HILLS, SEPTEMBER 26 2012. TANKER CARRYING JET FUEL CRASHES ON I-696

 **Watch the Video's**

- [Fuel Truck Rolls Over on I-696](#)
- [Tanker Wreck on I-696 EB in Farmington Hills Cleared Up](#)
- [Driver of Overturned Tanker Speaks to 7 Action News](#)



A busy stretch of I-696 in Farmington Hills has finally reopened after hazmat crews spent almost 24 hours cleaning up a fuel tanker that overturned Monday afternoon. Reporting live from the scene, WWJ's Ron Dewey said a tanker carrying jet fuel ran off the freeway around 1 p.m. Monday and ended up in a ditch near Halsted Road. The truck driver reportedly told police he was cut off by a silver-colored compact that forced him off the road. Officials say the tanker had four chambers that had to be drilled into so the fuel could be siphoned into another tanker before the truck was turned upright and pulled from the ditch. Emergency crews worked overnight to clear the accident, but remained on the scene until just before 11 a.m. Tuesday. Lt. Michael Shaw said efforts to clean

up the mess were hampered in part by rubbernecking drivers. "We actually had a third traffic crash that occurred in the scene by somebody that was watching to see what was going on and that happened about 11:40 at night. The decision was made then that we were going to need to close the whole freeway, just to make sure that we didn't have another crash into the tanker truck," said Shaw. The truck driver, 40-year-old David Schultz, was taken to Botsford Hospital with chest contusions and various cuts, and is expected to recover. No other injuries were reported. An investigation is ongoing.

<http://detroit.cbslocal.com/2012/09/25/tanker-carrying-jet-fuel-crashes-on-i-696/>

#### USA, TN, NASHVILLE, SEPTEMBER 26 2012. I-24E RE-OPENS IN NASHVILLE AFTER SULFURIC ACID SPILL

 **Watch the Video** [I-24E Re-Opens in Nashville after Sulfuric Acid Spill](#)

The eastbound lanes of Interstate 24 at James Robertson Parkway have re-opened Tuesday morning, nearly 12 hours after a tanker leaked thousands of gallons of sulfuric acid onto the road. The roadway re-opened just before 5:30 a.m., but traffic remained slow. Exit 48 remained closed as crews continue their cleanup. It began Monday evening when a truck driver picked up a load of sulfuric acid in Clarksville and made on his way south. The man noticed the tanker leaking around 6:10 p.m. and pulled over on Interstate 24 near the James Robertson Parkway exit just east of LP Field. Officers with the Metro Nashville Police Department and hazardous materials crews from the Nashville Fire Department were called to the scene. Eastbound lanes of Interstate 24 were closed while crews worked to contain the spill. Witnesses said the acid could be seen leaking down the interstate embankment and pooling on the side of the road. The interstate was immediately closed, causing several traffic problems for evening commuters. Officials with the Metro Publics Works department were also called to the scene in case the contents leaked into the sewage system. The driver of the tanker was injured after trying to stop the leak and was transported



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to a Nashville-area hospital to be treated for burns on his hands. A person driving in a vehicle behind the tanker was also treated for eye irritation and fume inhalation. Both were expected to recover from their injuries. No crew members assisting with the clean-up were injured. Officials said they responded quickly and efficiently. "It was a very, very risky maneuver that the HazMat team made," said Assistant Fire Chief Charles Shannon with the Nashville Fire Department. "Certainly credit goes to them even though they would look at this as just doing their job." Officials with the Tennessee Department of Transportation said it was a major spill. It was unclear how the tanker lost part of its load. Crews estimated up to 5,000 gallons of acid spilled from the tanker. Officer Jim Knoll with the Clarksville Police Department said someone reported seeing a questionable substance Monday evening on Cumberland Drive near Zinc Plant Road and again on Highway 48/13 in Montgomery County. When police in Nashville alerted their counterparts up north about the possibility of a leak, HazMat crews were called out to investigate. The substance was confirmed as sulfuric acid. Cumberland Drive was shut down between Hawkins Road and Hillwood Drive due to leak, as well as a bridge on Zinc Plant Road. Both were re-opened late Monday night. The tanker was owned by Palm Trucking out of La Vergne. Officials said anyone who may have driven through the affected area in Clarksville should check their tires for possible damage. The eastbound ramp to James Robertson Parkway was expected to re-open noon Tuesday.

<http://www.newschannel5.com/story/19628150/i-24e-re-opens-in-nashville-after-sulfuric-acid-spill>

#### USA, TN, CLARKSVILLE, SEPTEMBER 26 2012. CLARKSVILLE POLICE REPORT SULFURIC ACID SPILL IN THE AREA OF ZINC PLANT ROAD AND CUMBERLAND DRIVE



Clarksville Police are asking the public to stay away from the area of Zinc Plant Road and Cumberland Drive (Hwy 48/13). There is a sulfuric acid spill in the area and the road is closed on Cumberland Drive between Hawkins Road and Hillwood Drive. The Zinc Plant Road bridge is also shut down at this time. A citizen saw an unidentified substance on the road and saw an additional spill on Hwy 48/13 and called 911. The tanker has been identified and the driver is in Nashville with burns after attempting to stop the leak. There are no additional precautions required at this time. The road will be shut down for an undetermined amount of time. The leak was from a Palm Trucking tanker out of Laverne, TN. Anyone who may have driven through the affected area in Clarksville should check their tires for possible damage. There is not an exact time frame at this point in time, but the damage would probably have been sometime around 7:00pm onward.

<http://www.clarksvilleonline.com/2012/09/24/clarksville-police-report-sulphuric-acid-spill-in-the-area-of-zinc-plant-road-and-cumberland-drive/>

#### ESTONIA, TALLINN, SEPTEMBER 26 2012. OIL TANKER KYEEMA SPIRIT RUNS AGROUND OFF ESTONIAN COAST >> THE ESTONIAN WATERWAYS BOARD HAD WARNED THE TANKER FOUR TIMES BEFORE IT RAN AGROUND, AS THE VESSEL'S MANOEUVRES HAD LOOKED STRANGE.



*Police and Border Guard Board image of the Kyeema.*

An oil tanker carrying no cargo ran aground off the Estonian capital Tallinn on Monday. The Estonian Waterways Board had warned the crew of the Bahamas-flagged Kyeema Spirit four times of the risk of running aground, as the tanker's manoeuvres had looked strange. For the time being, there are no signs of any technical malfunction, which indicates that the incident might also be attributable to human error. The prevailing strong wind could also have contributed to the accident, said [Kalev Vapper](#), a representative of the Estonian Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications, on Monday. At present, it remains unclear what precisely had made the 249-metre-long vessel run aground east of

the island of Aegna at 6:55 am on Monday morning. At the time of the accident, the wind was blowing at around 17 m/s, with the wave height being approximately three metres. The accident is being investigated by the Safety Investigation Centre of the Estonian Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications. The tanker was bound for the port of Muuga, located east of Tallinn, where it was apparently supposed to take on a cargo of oil. "Only bilge water was leaking from the tank, but this does not cause any threat to the environment", said [Ivar Treffner](#) from the maritime surveillance department of the Estonian Border Guard. According to Treffner, there is one hole in the hull of the ship, but it is not near the fuel tank. On Monday, divers were



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waiting for the wind to die down in order to be able to inspect the vessel properly. Estonia has recently improved its oil spill response and preparedness. In August, the country introduced a brand new oil spill response vessel named the General Kurvits, made at the Uusikaupunki Shipyard in Finland. The General Kurvits is observing the situation in the vicinity of Kyeema Spirit, grounded on Monday. In addition, Estonia has two old oil spill prevention vessels, which are in poor shape, plus one rented vessel. "We would have been able to cope with today's oil spill, as it could be located", said [Allan Oksmann](#), the head of the maritime surveillance department of the Estonian Border Guard.

<http://www.hs.fi/english/article/Oil+tanker+Kyeema+Spiriti+runs+aground+off+Estonian+coast/1329104840409>

### USA, ALA, TUSCALOOSA, SEPTEMBER 26 2012. ZONING AMENDMENT WOULD CHANGE RULES FOR NEW GAS STATIONS IN PARTS OF TUSCALOOSA'S RECOVERY AREA

*chris pow*

The Tuscaloosa City Council tabled a vote Tuesday night on an zoning ordinance amendment that would allow new gas stations in certain parts of the tornado recovery zone to place pumps facing the street. The amendment would add fuel service stations with forward-facing pump canopies as a building type to the [mixed-use districts created in January for areas impacted by the April 27, 2011, tornado](#). Currently there is no fuel service building type for the MX zones, but gas stations could be covered under the "general building type" as long as all requirements are met. Gas stations are allowed to build in the area now, but pumps and canopies can only be located behind a street-facing building. Officials said the proposed amendment came out of a discussion with Joe Gillis, a Columbus, Miss. businessman who is planning to build a mixed-use development with a gas station and convenience store, space for carry-out restaurants, a pharmacy and a doctor's office on the block south off 15th Street between 4th and 5th Avenue. Gillis, who said the planned 14,000 square-foot development will cost \$4-5 million, said placing pumps behind the building for his Dutch Oil Co. station would not make business sense and would present safety concerns for customers and employees. John McConnell, the city's director of planning and development services, said the proposed amendment allows flexibility for movement of vehicles while keeping the area pedestrian-friendly, one of the goals of the Tuscaloosa Forward rebuilding plan. Fuel service stations would not be allowed within 300 feet from one another under the amendment. Following remarks by 12 speakers supporting and opposing the amendment, Council President Harrison Taylor suggested that the council table the item for two weeks to allow time for Gillis to meet with area residents to discuss details of the development. Councilman Lee Garrison reiterated that council members originally said that the zoning codes that came out of the Tuscaloosa Forward plan would be amended. He said consideration of the amendment brings up an issue that did not surface when codes were being developed out of that plan. Tuscaloosa Mayor Walt Maddox said there is a need for upgrades in fuel service along 15th Street, and that the proposal "raises the bar." Gillis, who said the development will provide around 51 jobs, will be built in one phase if it takes place. He said he did not anticipate the issues he's seen in his attempt to develop around two-thirds of the block that was home to HoneyBaked Ham and Planet Smoothie before the storm. Phillip Kinard, president of the Tuscaloosa Homebuilders Association, said the organization supported the amendment and that changes should be made to maintain some leeway for developers. Jim Page, president and CEO of the Chamber of Commerce of West Alabama, also spoke in favor of the amendment, saying that the city knew that there were issues with the rebuilding plan that would later have to be addressed. Leaders of several local neighborhood organizations voiced concerns about amending the MX zones. Joan Barth, director of Tuscaloosa Neighbors Together, said that leaving the plan as it was originally adopted keeps predictability of development and respects the way the plan was formed with community input. Dan Maguire, president of Alberta Citizens Together, said the project looks like a good plan but asked the council not to make "sweeping changes" to the zoning rules that would affect Alberta as well. The amendment would limit pump canopy height to 20 feet or shorter, would require canopy support columns to be encased with its associated building's material and would not allow gas pumps to be closer than 20 feet to any property lines. It would not allow vehicle service or bay doors in the fuel service building, and no vending machines would be allowed outside. The Planning Commission has recommended the amendment, McConnell said.

[http://blog.al.com/tuscaloosa/2012/09/zoning\\_amendment\\_would\\_change\\_rules.html](http://blog.al.com/tuscaloosa/2012/09/zoning_amendment_would_change_rules.html)



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