



Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network

Release 2013 – 921 Newsy Stuff

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

January 17 2013



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USA, TX, SEGUIN, JANUARY 7 2013. TANKER WRECK DUMPS CRUDE OIL

felicia frazar



Crude oil continues to spill after the tractor-trailer transporting it rolled over Saturday morning. Crews from the trucking company, Seguin Fire Department, TxDOT and an environmental clean up crew worked quickly to stop the oil from spreading and clean up the hazard before it caused any permanent damage.

An overturned 18-wheeler sent one man to the hospital and spilled hundreds of gallons of crude oil on Saturday morning. A tanker from Gold Spur Trucking Company was traveling southbound on the U.S. Highway 90 exit ramp of State Highway 130 about 6:30 a.m., when it went into a side-skid crossing Hwy 90 and turning over in the ditch, said Seguin Police Sgt. James Springer. "We know that he was southbound on SH130, we know he took the exit here at Highway 90

after that we don't know," he said. "At this point we don't know what happened to have caused him to go off the road and roll over." After turning over, the 18-wheeler came to rest on the grassy embankment, with the cab crushed, the tank punctured and hundreds of gallons of crude oil leaking out. "We didn't know what we were dealing with and were trying to figure out if we were going to have to shut down the highway and start evacuating," Springer said. None of that proved necessary after determining what was leaking. Officers and EMS crews said the driver was still inside the cab of the truck. "He was able to crawl out on his own," Springer said. "There was just enough room on the driver's side for him to crawl out." The driver was taken to Guadalupe Regional Medical Center. Crews from the Seguin Fire Department and TxDOT responded to try and contain the oil that had made its way to the drainage ditch and under the highway. "TxDOT put sand down, brought out a backhoe to help move the sand over the drainage ditches to stop it from spreading further," Springer said. The truck was estimated to be hauling about 175 barrels of crude oil — about 7,300 gallons. A crew from Gold Spur came out and began reclaiming some of the spilled oil, while an environmental cleaning crew was on the way, Springer said. "They are going to have to dig up all of the soil and haul it away," he said. "It is all contaminated and they don't want it leaching into the water sources." The remaining oil in the tank had to be removed before a wrecker could move the damaged truck and tractor. The cause of the accident is under investigation.

http://seguingazette.com/news/article_bef142a4-57aa-11e2-a579-001a4bcf887a.html

NIGERIA, OYO, OGBOMOSO, JANUARY 7 2013. 15 KILLED AS PETROL TANKER COLLIDES WITH BUS



Fifteen persons were reported dead in a multiple auto crash on Ogbomoso-Oyo-Ibadan road on Sunday. The accident, according to an eyewitness, occurred when a fully loaded petrol tanker coming from Oyo/Ibadan end ran over an 18-seater commercial bus coming from Ilorin/Ogbomoso at a sharp bend on Odo-Oba village, five kilometers to Ogbomoso. An eyewitnesses said the impact of the collision made the tanker to turn over, thus throwing off its petrol contents which exploded immediately. The driver of the bus, the eyewitness added, lost control of the vehicle and, in the process, thrown the passengers out of the vehicle, leaving only three survivors. But the Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC) said only three people died in the accident. As of the time of filing this report, men of the FRSC were having hectic time to control traffic on the route, while victims had been taken to Bowen University Teaching Hospital,

Ogbomoso.

<http://tribune.com.ng/news2013/index.php/en/component/k2/item/2519-15-killed-as-petrol-tanker-collides-with-bus-on-ogbomoso-oyo-road>

SAUDI ARABIA, HOFUF, JANUARY 7 2013. CHILD RECOVERS FROM GAS STATION EXPLOSION BURNS

A child who was injured in an explosion at a fuel station at a town in Al-Ahsa governorate has recovered. Mohammad Al-Jobran was badly burned in the incident, which happened when workers were pouring fuel into a damaged fuel pump at the station in Al-Bataliyah. The explosion caused rogue flames to burn the child and a Filipino worker. The child's father told Al-Watan newspaper that a medical team at King Fahd Hospital in Hofuf has released the child after his condition stabilized.



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The medical team removed the top skin layer of the child's burned face. The father has asked for a medical report and a Civil Defense report of the incident. Both reports will be submitted to local judicial authorities. The hospital's medical sources said the Filipino worker is still in intensive care. Witnesses said the blast occurred after a Yemeni worker asked his Filipino colleague to change the filter in the tank without getting permission. The Filipino worker's burns were extremely bad.

<http://www.saudigazette.com.sa/index.cfm?method=home.regcon&contentid=20130107148371>

CHINA, SHANXI PROVINCE, LUCHENG, JANUARY 7 2013. DETAIL REPORT ON N CHINA CHEMICAL LEAK



Staff members examine the damaged flexible tube which caused aniline leakage at Shanxi Tianji Coal Chemical Group in Changzhi, north China's Shanxi Province, Jan. 6, 2013. A flexible tube rupture at Shanxi Tianji Coal Chemical Group caused aniline to leak into the Zhuozhang River, the upper reaches of the Zhanghe River, on December 31. Aniline is a toxic chemical widely used as precursors in the manufacture of pigments, herbicides and other chemicals. Authorities in Shanxi said they received the report on Jan. 5, and that an emergency response had been initiated to stop the leak and clean up the pollutants.

"Health experts criticized Changzhi authorities for the delay in reporting the accident because aniline may be carcinogenic. Aniline is a toxic substance," said Xia Zhaolin, a professor at Fudan University's School of Public Health. A lethal dose for humans is 4 grams. The aniline level in the river was 2.15 milligrams per liter on Sunday, down from a peak of 72 mg per liter immediately after the leak, according to Liu Dashan, spokesman for Shanxi's environmental protection bureau". Nearly 9 tonnes of aniline leaked by a chemical plant in north China's Shanxi Province have ended up in the Zhuozhang River, affecting a downstream city in neighboring Hebei and Henan provinces. Water in Yuecheng Reservoir and the Red Flag Canal of Anyang City in central China's Henan Province has been tested for excessive aniline and volatile phenol after the pollution in Shanxi, said an announcement released by Anyang municipal government. Anyang has five water plants, among which only one uses Yuecheng Reservoir as its water source. The city government authorities have cut the water supply from the affected reservoir and canal. The announcement said drinking water in urban areas is safe with all indexes rated as standard, while the government also told

residents living along the pollution-affected river and reservoir not to use water for drinking and irrigation. An initial investigation revealed that a loose drainage valve in the plant, which is owned by the Tianji Coal Chemical Industry Group in the city of Lucheng, was to blame for the leak. Plant employees spotted aniline leaking from a broken pipe on the morning of Dec. 31, 2012 while conducting a routine check, a company spokesman said. The Shanxi provincial government said it received a report regarding the leak on Saturday, adding that an emergency response had been initiated to stop the leak and clean up the pollutants. Another 30 tonnes of spilled aniline have been contained in a nearby disused reservoir, the local emergency response headquarters said. A statement from the municipal government of Changzhi, which administers Lucheng, said the leak has not resulted in any casualties so far, adding that the river's water quality has been recovering. Concentrations of aniline in the river have decreased to 2.15 mg per liter from the previous level of 72 mg per liter, according to data from a monitoring station on the river. However, the concentration should be less than 0.1 mg per liter, according to national standards. A large amount of dead fish were observed in the upper reaches of the river on Friday evening, according to the emergency water supply headquarters in the city of Handan, located on the river's lower reaches in Hebei. The Handan municipal government was informed of the accident by authorities in Changzhi on Saturday afternoon and subsequently cut off water supplies for the city, the headquarters said. Handan resident Geng Huanjie said many people have rushed to supermarkets to buy bottled water after hearing about the incident. However, water supplies in most parts of downtown Handan have been resumed, as the local government has resorted to an alternate underground water source. Fire engines have also been mobilized to bring water to more of the city's residents. A local resident surnamed Li said he was able to draw water from his tap Sunday morning, although he added that he is concerned about the quality of the water he was using before



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the water was cut off, as water was still available for six days after the leak occurred. "Since the pollutants won't decompose easily, it will likely take weeks to solve the problems caused by the spill," said Zhang Xiaojian, a professor at the environmental school of Tsinghua University. Aniline, a toxic chemical widely used to manufacture pigments, pharmaceutical industry and other chemicals, can cause serious damage to internal organs, such as the kidneys and liver. Other rivers have experienced similar contamination in recent years. In 2010, the Songhua River in northeast China's Jilin Province was polluted by chemicals that were swept into the river after floods hit warehouses owned by two chemical companies. The Longjiang River in south China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region was polluted with industrial waste in January 2011, killing fish and cutting off water supplies in the city of Liuzhou. China has witnessed major pollution incidents due to local governments and enterprises' excessive pursuit of economic benefits and neglect of pollution control, said Wang Yinghui, professor with the college of environment at Guangxi University. Deficiencies in emergency mechanisms to handle environmental incidents at some local governments worsen the pollution problem, Wang added. Industrial contamination is blamed for China's environmental pollution due to the country's rapid economic growth, said E Xueli, a researcher with the China Disease Prevention and Control Center. Many large-scale factories have been built along rivers at a small cost and with comparatively little fines for their pollutant discharge or even leakages, he said. Continuous incidents should sound an alarm to local governments and enterprises, E said, adding that to effectively control public pollution incidents, the government must increase penalties to each violator and close down "repeated offenders."

<http://english.peopledaily.com.cn/90882/8081246.html>

USA, AKA, ANCHORAGE, JANUARY 7 2013. FISH PROCESSING SHIP SPILLS DIESEL FUEL IN KODIAK

abby hancock & kuba wuls

 **Watch the Video:** [Pacific Producer Leak](#)



A fish processing ship sitting in the Kodiak harbor, spilled an estimated 150 gallons of diesel fuel on Saturday. The [U.S. Coast Guard's](#) Marine Safety Detachment responded to the leak from the vessel Pacific Producer. Officials with the Kodiak harbormaster, Kodiak Fire Department and the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation were also part of the response. Petty Officer Guy Hughey said the fuel leaked inside of the ship before a portion of it was pumped into the harbor. "At first, there was a discharge of about 500 gallons of diesel into the vessel's bilge. That triggered the bilge pump and we estimated close to 150 gallons of diesel to the waterway," said Hughey. The fire department was also called out to test the atmosphere for ammonia which is

used in the ship's refrigeration system. Officials said there was no ammonia threat to the crew on board the Pacific Producer.

<http://www.ktuu.com/news/ktuu-fish-processing-ship-spills-diesel-fuel-in-kodiak-20130105.0.5271416.story>

USA, VA, CHURCHVILLE, JANUARY 7 2013. FUEL FIRE SENDS TWO TO HOSPITAL

laura peters



A fire during a fuel exchange caused damage to this carport and a truck behind a residence on U.S. 250 in Churchville on Saturday.

Damage to a carport and truck during a fuel exchange sent two people to the hospital. Saturday afternoon two people were transferring fuel from a tank into a truck in Churchville on U.S. 250, across from Churchville Elementary. According to Craig Williams, the acting captain of Churchville Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department, a spark started the fire in the tank. The incident occurred after 1 p.m., Williams said. One of the two people was treated for minor burn injuries, Williams said. The second person was later airlifted to the burn unit at U.Va. for more severe burns. The condition of the two individuals is unknown at this time. There was only minor damage to the free-standing carport and truck involved in the fire. No other structures were damaged in the fire, Williams said.

http://www.newsleader.com/article/20130106/NEWS01/301060003/Fuel-fire-sends-two-hospital?nclck_check=1



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USA, AKA, ANCHORAGE, JANUARY 8 2013. DRILLING BARGE PULLED FROM ROCKS OFF ALASKA ISLAND

dan joling

Watch the Video's:

- [Salvors Ready Shell Drill Ship for Tow Attempt](#)
- [Oil Drilling Rig Runs Aground in Rough Alaskaseas](#)
- [No Leaks Off Grounded Drill Rig](#)
- [Oil Rig Runs Aground in Gulf Of Alaska](#)
- [Environmental Impacts Still Unknown after Ship Runs Aground in Alaska](#)
- [Runaway Oil Rig Drags Tugs through Alaskan Storm](#)
- [Oil Drill Ship Hits Alaskan Coast](#)

Photo's [8] [Drilling Barge Pulled from Rocks](#)



In this image provided by the U.S. Coast Guard the conical drilling unit Kulluk sits grounded 40 miles southwest of Kodiak City, Thursday, Jan. 3, 2012. The Kulluk grounded after many efforts by tug vessel crews and Coast Guard crews to move the vessel to safe harbor during a winter storm. Calls for federal scrutiny of Royal Dutch Shell PLC drilling operations in Arctic waters swelled Thursday with a request for a formal investigation by members of Congress.

A large floating drill rig that ran aground a week ago on a remote Alaska island arrived as planned Monday in the shelter of a Kodiak Island bay after being towed about 45 miles through swells as high as 15 feet, officials said. The [Royal Dutch Shell PLC](#) vessel was lifted off rocks late Sunday and towed away from the southeast side of Sitkalidak Island, where it sat exposed to the full-on fury of Gulf of Alaska winter storms since grounding near the beach there on New Year's Eve. The Kulluk — a circular barge with a diameter as long as nearly

three basketball courts — was towed for about 12 hours to the protected waters in Kiliuda Bay, where it will undergo further inspection, including an underwater look at its hull. "We could not be more impressed with the caliber of the response and recovery crews who were safe and meticulous in their effort to move the Kulluk offshore," Shell Alaska spokesman. The vessel will remain in the bay 43 miles southwest of the city of Kodiak until inspectors review its condition and the [Coast Guard](#) clears it to travel. Shell incident commander [Sean Churchfield](#) said there's no timetable for departure. "Until we have that damage assessment, we'll not be able to develop those plans," Churchfield said at a news conference Monday. The massive effort to move and salvage the ship involves more than 730 people, according to the Unified Command, which includes the Coast Guard, Shell and contractors involved in the tow and salvage operation. Eleven people are aboard the ship — a salvage crew of 10 people and one Shell representative. Shell earlier reported superficial damage above the deck and seawater that entered through open hatches. Water has knocked out regular and emergency generators, but portable generators were put on board last week. The Kulluk is 266 feet in diameter with a derrick in its middle and a funnel-shaped, reinforced steel hull that allows it to operate in ice. Its derrick rises 160 feet. The barge drilled last year in the Beaufort Sea and was headed to Seattle for upgrades and maintenance when it ran into trouble. Its towing vessel, the 360-foot anchor handler Aiviq, on Dec. 27 lost its line to the Kulluk in heavy seas and hours later lost power to all four of its engines, possibly due to contaminated fuel. Four reattached lines between the Aiviq or other vessels also broke in stormy weather. The Aiviq on New Year's Eve again broke its line, leaving the Kulluk attached to the tugboat Alert. Coast Guard Capt. [Paul Mehler](#), the federal on-scene coordinator, said Monday the Alert also experienced a mechanical problem the night the Kulluk went aground. The agency is investigating. "The understanding the night of the response was that when she was taking maximum power, there was an engine problem," Mehler said. "They did recover that within 30 minutes. The details of that, I couldn't answer yet." Inspections after the grounding determined that the Kulluk could be towed, and the Aiviq on Sunday reattached a tow line. Tension was added to test the line Sunday night and increased as high tide approached, Churchfield said. He was not on scene but did not hear of complications. "The Kulluk came off reasonably easy, would be my assessment," he said. Mehler said he was in the command center when salvors reported the Kulluk had come off the rocks. "I won't say that I saw anyone high-fiving," Mehler said. "I'll say there was certainly a sense of relief, but recognizing now we have a lot more work to do." Likewise, the tow "has gone pretty much according to plan," Churchfield said. Inspections will involve an underwater look at the hull with divers or remotely



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operated underwater vehicles or divers or both, he said. The Kulluk will be tethered to two tugs in the bay and will attempt to set its anchor. If that doesn't work, he said, additional tugs will be used to keep it in place. Four more tugs were on scene Monday. A tug trailing the drill vessel used infrared equipment to watch for oil sheens and reported no petroleum discharge.

<http://www.seattlepi.com/news/us/article/Grounded-Shell-oil-drilling-ship-refloated-4171770.php>

USA, CA, SAN DIEGO, JANUARY 8 2013. 1 KILLED AFTER CAR, FUEL TANKER COLLIDE ON FRIARS ROAD IN MISSION VALLEY



One person was killed on Sunday when a car spun out on a rain-slick exit from Interstate 15 and crashed into an oncoming fuel tanker on Friars Road in Mission Valley. The driver had been exiting northbound Interstate 15 onto westbound Friars Road at about 8:20 a.m., according to San Diego police Officer Dan Lasher. The ramp was wet from recent rain and the driver's car spun out of control, slid across Friars Road and collided with the eastbound tanker, Lasher said. The driver was killed in the crash, Lasher said. His or her name was withheld until relatives could be notified, Lasher said. Friars Road was closed in both directions following the crash, and Lasher said the closure would likely extend for several hours. The roadway was reopened shortly before 3 p.m. The curving offramp from northbound Interstate 15 to westbound Friars Road was

also closed due to the investigation, according to the California Highway Patrol.

<http://www.10news.com/news/1-killed-after-car-semi-truck-collide-on-friars-road-in-mission-valley-01062013>

USA, CA, SAN FRANCISCO, JANUARY 8 2013. TANKER HITS BAY BRIDGE - PROBE BEGINS

will kane, bob egelko & ellen huet

 **Photo's [5]** [Tanker Ship Strikes Bay Bridge](#)

 **Photo's [5]** [Tanker Hits Bay Bridge - Probe Begins](#)



The [Coast Guard](#) is looking at human error as a possible explanation for an accident Monday in which an empty oil tanker sideswiped a tower of the Bay Bridge, officials said. No oil spilled into the bay when the starboard side of the tanker, the Overseas Reymar, scraped the easternmost tower of the bridge's western span at 11:20 a.m. as the ship headed out to sea, the Coast Guard said. Caltrans said that the fenders around the tower were damaged, but that the bridge itself was unharmed. No one was injured. It was the second time in a little more than five years that a ship hit a tower of the western span. Unlike in November 2007, when the container ship [Cosco Busan](#) spilled 53,000 gallons of fuel oil, the Overseas Reymar's hull survived with only "scrapes and dents," said [Charlie Goodyear](#), a spokesman for the [San Francisco Bar Pilots association](#). The Overseas Reymar is a double-hull vessel, its owner said. The Cosco Busan

had only a single hull.

Limited Visibility

It wasn't immediately clear what caused Monday's accident, the Coast Guard said. Fog had cut visibility to about a quarter-mile, but all the navigational aids designed to alert pilots to the presence of the bridge appeared to be working correctly, officials said. Lt. Cmdr. [Shawn Lansing](#) said the Coast Guard was looking into human error as a possible cause of the crash. "That is ... what we'll look into here and see whether in fact it was a human error or something else," Lansing said at a news conference on Treasure Island. The Coast Guard cautioned, however, that a final determination could take months. The ship was under the control of Guy Kleess, a bar pilot with eight years of experience, state authorities said. Efforts to reach Kleess for comment were unsuccessful. Kleess, 61, a resident of San Francisco, has a clean record as a pilot, Goodyear said. "He had previously been a ship's captain, and I think that experience included captaining oil tankers," Goodyear said. "He is a very experienced mariner."



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Pilot has Control

A bar pilot gives orders to the helmsman while a ship is in the bay. Although the captain has the ultimate responsibility, the pilot has control. Bar pilots are regulated by the [California Board of Pilot Commissioners](#) for the Bays of San Francisco, San Pablo and Suisun. Its executive director, [Allen Garfinkle](#), said the board was looking into the accident. "We try to determine if there's any pilot error," Garfinkle said. "Our investigation runs concurrent with the Coast Guard," which is leading the probe into the incident. Lansing said the ship's crew and Kleess would be tested for drugs and alcohol and held in port until the investigation is complete. Goodyear said Kleess was scheduled to talk to Coast Guard investigators Tuesday.

Ship had left Martinez

The Overseas Reyamar, built in 2004, is 751 feet long and 105 feet wide and has a maximum speed of 14 knots, or about 16 mph. The vessel is based in Majuro, a large coral atoll in the Marshall Islands, and is owned by OSG Ship Management, which is headquartered in New York. The tanker left a dock near the Shell refinery in Martinez early Monday before passing south under the Bay Bridge. It briefly anchored, then turned around and headed back north, according to the ship's track on MarineTraffic.com, a commercial ship-tracking website. The ship was traveling at 11.8 knots when it hit the tower, according to the website. OSG Ship Management issued a statement saying the ship "came in contact with an underwater portion of the structure." Goodyear said there was damage to the rear starboard portion of the ship above the waterline. Some 4,000 feet of absorbent boom was staged as a precaution after the tanker anchored west of Yerba Buena Island, the Coast Guard said. "We have game wardens, scientists and oil spill prevention specialists on scene," said [Alexia Retallack](#), the spokeswoman for the [California Department of Fish and Wildlife Office of Spill Prevention and Response](#). "So far our patrol boats have not found any oil."

Cosco Busan Disaster

The tower that the Overseas Reyamar hit is just east of the tower that the Cosco Busan struck on Nov. 7, 2007. Oil from that spill spread along 26 miles of shoreline and beaches in Marin and San Mateo counties and killed more than 6,800 birds. The 901-foot Cosco Busan hit the bridge in a thick morning fog. The [National Transportation Safety Board](#) assigned much of the blame to the pilot, Capt. [John Cota](#) of Petaluma, a pilot for 27 years. The board said he set sail in a fog that kept other pilots in port, failed to inform the ship's captain of his navigation plan, misread the ship's radar and navigation charts, and used medications that impaired his thinking. The board also said the vessel's operators had failed to train the crew adequately, and criticized state authorities for renewing Cota's license and Coast Guard spotters for failing to provide clear warnings. Cota pleaded guilty in 2009 to federal charges of causing water pollution and was sentenced to 10 months in prison. The ship's operating company, [Fleet Management Ltd.](#), pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor charge of water pollution and two felony counts of filing false documents and was fined \$10 million. Fleet Management and the ship's owner, [Regal Stone Ltd.](#), settled damage claims by federal, state and local agencies for \$44.4 million in 2011, and also agreed to pay \$3.6 million to 120 members of the Bay Area fishing community.

<http://www.sfgate.com/bayarea/article/Oil-tanker-hits-Bay-Bridge-4172745.php>

USA, COMMONWEALTH OF PUERTO RICO, JANUARY 8 2013. EXXON UNIT REJECTED BY HIGH COURT IN PUERTO RICO GAS CASE

greg stohr

The U.S. Supreme Court left intact a \$70 million award assessed against an Exxon Mobil Corp. unit for failing to comply with a Puerto Rico law governing gasoline prices. The justices today turned down an appeal from the oil company's Puerto Rico gasoline wholesaler, which said the award in the consumer class-action lawsuit violates the Constitution. The 1996 law was designed to ensure that wholesalers, in the prices they charge to gas stations, account for the expansion of fuel in warmer climates. The law requires wholesalers to make a "temperature adjustment," reducing the price. In its appeal, the Exxon unit said it had no way of complying with the law until regulations implementing the measure were adopted in 2005. The company said the Constitution's due process clause barred liability until those regulations took effect. The suing consumers said the regulations concerned prices at the pump and didn't affect the wholesalers' obligation to provide the temperature adjustment to retailers. The consumers said the Exxon unit was receiving a windfall of 1.34 cents per gallon before the law was enacted. Puerto Rico's Supreme Court let the award stand last year. The case is Esso Standard Oil Co. (Puerto Rico) v. Trilla Pinero, 12-445.

<http://www.businessweek.com/news/2013-01-07/exxon-unit-rejected-by-high-court-in-puerto-rico-gas-case>



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NIGERIA, AKWA IBOM STATE, IBENO, JANUARY 8 2013. MOBIL YET TO CLEAN UP OIL SPILL ON IBENO SHORELINE

okon bassey

About three weeks after oil spill was reported within the Qua Iboe oil fields being operated by Mobil Producing Nigeria Unlimited in Ibeno Local Government Area of Akwa Ibom State, the cleanup of the contaminated Atlantic shoreline is yet to be carried out. Already, residents of Ibeno coastal settlement, which hosts the Qua Iboe fields, said the marine environment had been left at the mercy of tidal waves spreading the crude deposits farther along the coastline. THISDAY recalled that several oil spill incidents had been recorded at the oil field on August 13, August 24, November 9, December 16 and December 19, 2012. The oil field from where the spill emanated is operated by the Mobil Producing Nigeria (MPN), a subsidiary of the US oil firm, ExxonMobil. MPN presently exports an average 600,000 barrels of crude daily from its two oil blocks from the Qua Iboe oil export terminal. Residents at the coastal settlements on the Atlantic coastline, who reacted to the development and its implications, decried the insensitivity of the oil firm in abandoning the spill reported to the MPN officials since the middle of December 2012. "We started seeing fresh oil deposits since December 16, and we reported to Mobil and they came to inspect and collected samples of the oil. "But up till now, they have not responded to clean it up. And the dynamic nature of the tide at this time of the year has not helped matters. "The tide has been flushing the oil to other places and this is worsening the situation," John Etim, a resident and community leader in Iwuokpom community in Ibeno said. Ikpe Jonathan, who also works for an oil services firm at the oil field, said the offshore crude facility was responsible for the rupture of the pipeline that caused the earlier spill of November 9 last year. "The source of the oil came from the same pipeline they claimed to have fixed, the pipeline discharged more oil when the divers tried unsuccessfully to repair the leak, the entire pipeline network lacks integrity and needs total replacement and not patchwork that they are currently doing. "Rather than do the right thing which is to replace the pipelines, Mobil officials keep cutting corners because the only thing the government cares about is the oil money and not the safety of the environment," Jonathan said. MPN had confirmed a reported spill within its operations at the Qua Iboe oil fields in Akwa Ibom and pledged to clean up the impacted areas immediately.

<http://www.equities.com/news/headline-story?dt=2013-01-08&val=897897&cat=energy>

TURKEY, ZONGULDAK PROVINCE, KOZLU, JANUARY 8 2013. GAS LEAK LEAVES 8 DEAD IN TURKISH COAL MINE

A gas leak inside a coal mine in northern Turkey killed eight workers Tuesday, Turkish officials said. The miners were working on opening up space to reach a coal deposit when they were hit by a sudden methane gas discharge, Burhan Inan, the head of Turkey's coal mining authority, told Turkish state television TRT. Eight workers died from breathing the gas or getting trapped under coal dust that blanketed the mine after the discharge. One worker was rescued with injuries, and six others were evacuated unharmed, Inan said. The accident in Zonguldak province, on the Black Sea coast, comes at a time when Turkey is trying to improve safety conditions in its mines. The government has been shutting down dangerous mines or those operating without proper licenses. Turkey's most deadly mine disaster occurred in 1992, when a gas explosion killed some 270 workers in Zonguldak.

http://zeenews.india.com/news/world/gas-leak-leaves-8-dead-in-turkish-coal-mine_821520.html

USA, TX, ABILENE, JANUARY 9 2013. OSHA INVESTIGATING TANK INCIDENT THAT LED TO ABILENE WORKER'S DEATH

christopher collins

An official with the U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration said Tuesday the agency is investigating a fatal, work-related accident that occurred Monday at Smith Pipe. Thomas Blaine Stewart, 38, of Smithville was killed when a tank being loaded onto a truck slid off and struck him, according to the Taylor County Sheriff's Office. The sheriff's office received a call about the accident at 6:41 p.m. Monday. Stewart apparently died of a head injury, the sheriff's office reported. He was pronounced dead at the scene at 8:06 p.m. by Justice of the Peace Ronny Doan. He was an employee of Smith Pipe, an oil field supply company located just southwest of Abilene. Stewart, who was living in Buffalo Gap, had a wife and three children, two of whom are four-month-old twin boys. Frank Garrard Jr., senior director at Smith Pipe, said the company is conducting an "in-house" investigation, but would not comment further. OSHA also did not provide further details on its investigation. Martha Cervantes, who has been a friend of the Stewart family for more than 10 years, described Thomas Stewart as a "very nice young man." Cervantes said Stewart once worked at the jail for the Bastrop County Sheriff's Office. "I am very sad," Cervantes said. Since 2010, Smith Pipe has received numerous OSHA citations, including exposing workers to



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electrical, compressed gas and amputation hazards. In total, the company has initially been cited 45 times by the worker safety agency, according to data on the OSHA website. Eleven of those citations were eventually dropped and others were changed from being listed as "repeat" violations to "serious" violations. Fourteen of those initial citations were reported by the agency in January 2012. Thirty-one of them were logged in August 2010. Fines totaling \$181,700 were initially levied on the company by OSHA, but have since been reduced to \$70,030. Regarding the 2012 allegations, OSHA's El Paso office began investigating Smith Pipe in January 2012. The company protested several of the allegations and met with the agency in July in an informal conference, which resulted in a settlement. The 2010 allegations — which included a work environment that could lead to a risk of injury and potentially a fire or explosion — were also dealt with in informal meetings. The citations did not appear to be related to any worker-related injuries. "Our thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends," said Cliff Smith, owner and manager of Smith Pipe.

<http://www.reporternews.com/news/2013/jan/08/osha-investigating-incident-that-led-to-abilene/>

USA, MT, HAMILTON, JANUARY 9 2013. LOST TRAIL SKI AREA PAYS FINE FOR UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK VIOLATIONS

The Montana Department of Environmental Quality has settled its administrative enforcement action against Lost Trail Ski Area for violations of the Montana Underground Storage Tank Act at Lost Trail Powder Mountain located in Sula. In its administrative order, DEQ alleged that Lost Trail failed to obtain a compliance inspection within the required timeframe and conduct tank and line leak detection monitoring. An administrative penalty of \$2,820 was assessed for the violations listed above. To resolve the violations, Lost Trail paid the \$2,820 administrative penalty and submitted the last 12 months of leak-detection monitoring records.

http://helenair.com/news/state-and-regional/lost-trail-ski-area-pays-fine-for-underground-storage-tank/article_8410cca6-59b5-11e2-8b3f-0019bb2963f4.html

USA, WASHINGTON DC, , JANUARY 9 2013. SETTLEMENT WITH NEW CINGULAR WIRELESS TO RESOLVE VIOLATIONS AT HUNDREDS OF LEGACY AT&T WIRELESS SITES

stacy kika

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and New Cingular Wireless (NCW) have reached an administrative settlement requiring the company to pay a civil penalty of \$750,000 and spend \$625,000 on environmental projects to resolve alleged reporting, planning and permitting violations at 332 legacy AT&T Wireless (AWS) sites now owned by NCW. The violations, which occurred at AWS sites in 43 states, such as cellular towers, transmitter sites, switching stations and warehouses, included failure to comply with Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) reporting requirements related to the presence of sulfuric acid and diesel fuel at sites, inadequate or no Clean Water Act (CWA) Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure (SPCC) Plans, and Clean Air Act (CAA) minor source permitting requirements. The EPCRA requirements help communities plan for emergencies involving hazardous substances, the CWA's SPCC rule requires facilities to have oil spill prevention, preparedness, and response plans to help prevent oil discharges to navigable waters and adjoining shorelines, and the minor source permitting requirements under the CAA ensure that air emissions limits are met. Under the settlement, NCW will provide a certification of EPCRA compliance at 1,356 sites and conduct comprehensive compliance audits of CAA and CWA/SPCC requirements at 1,361 and 41 legacy-AWS facilities, respectively. NCW has also agreed to pay stipulated penalties for all disclosed and corrected violations discovered through these audits. NCW has also agreed to conduct environmental projects, which will provide hazardous materials awareness and health/safety training to building inspectors and fire fighters. The projects will also support the procurement of emergency response equipment such as fire-fighting equipment, gas meters, hazmat identification equipment, satellite phones and other emergency communications equipment. The seven entities, located in four states that will benefit from the projects are: Palm Beach County Fire Rescue and Georges Lake Volunteer Fire Department, Putnam County, Fla., New York City Fire Department, N.Y., Yancey, Texas Volunteer Fire Department, Texas, and San Diego, County California Office of Emergency Services, Bodega Bay, California Fire Protection District, and Los Angeles, California Police Department Calif. Since 1998, nearly 6,000 telecommunications facilities have been brought into compliance through more than 30 settlements as part of EPA's effort to improve compliance in the telecommunications sector.

<http://www.epa.gov/enforcement/waste/cases/att.html>



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USA, ME, AUGUSTA, JANUARY 9 2013. OAKLAND MAN SUES MAINEGENERAL, MANCHESTER FOR BURNS SUFFERED IN EXPLOSION

craig crosby



Firefighters extinguish flames from a chemical storage tank in Manchester, which erupted when Edward T. Bishop, 34, of Oakland, cut into the tank, burning him seriously, on April 10. Bishop is suing MaineGeneral Medical Center and the town of Manchester over the incident.

Edward T. Bishop, 34, suffered second- and third-degree burns in the April 10 explosion that occurred as he attempted to cut the old fuel tank in half with a gas-powered saw. An Oakland man who suffered serious burns last spring when the fuel tank he was cutting exploded in his face is suing the hospital that owned the Manchester property, and the town. Edward T. Bishop, 34, argues his work on the property should have been supervised. He is seeking unspecified damages from MaineGeneral Medical Center and the town of Manchester as well as Code Enforcement Officer Paul Mitnik. Bishop, in a complaint filed in

Kennebec County Superior Court, claims negligence on the part of the town and hospital set up the circumstances that led to his injuries when the fuel tank ignited. "Defendants negligently failed to designate hazardous materials, which required specialized handling and disposal, which the plaintiff was unqualified to handle," Bishop's attorney, Peter Clifford, wrote in the complaint. Bishop suffered second- and third-degree burns in the April 10 explosion that occurred as he attempted to cut the old fuel tank in half with a gas-powered saw. According to a contract he signed in February with MaineGeneral Retirement Community, Bishop was hired to remove tires, metals, tanks and other debris from property the hospital owns on Foye Road in Manchester. The property is off Granite Hill Road, right near the Hallowell border, and abuts Granite Hill Estates, MaineGeneral's retirement village. It was used as a junkyard by a previous owner. Following the afternoon explosion, Bishop was taken by LifeFlight helicopter to Central Maine Medical Center in Lewiston and then transferred to Maine Medical Center in Portland, where he remained for more than a week. Bishop's complaint claims he was clearing the property in advance of MaineGeneral's planned construction project. He says Manchester Code Enforcement Officer Paul Mitnik visited the site with Bishop last January and "inspected the premises and directed (Bishop) to remove materials on the premises that were hazardous." Bishop claims Mitnik, the town and MaineGeneral failed to thoroughly inspect the site and warn Bishop that he would encounter flammable materials, such as the old fuel tank. "As a result of the unreasonably dangerous premises, and the negligence and fault of the defendants, (Bishop) suffered severe and permanent injuries," the suit alleges. Clifford on Monday declined comment on the lawsuit, and MaineGeneral's attorney, Jonathan Brogan, did not return a call seeking comment. Attorney Edward Benjamin, who represents Manchester and Mitnik, said his clients had little to do with the cleanup. "The basic defense of Mr. Mitnik and the town is this was not property owned or controlled by the town," Benjamin said. "The allegation that Mr. Mitnik was supervising the work -- they vehemently deny." Brogan, in court documents, denies Bishop's claims of negligence and says Bishop's contract protects MaineGeneral from responsibility. "The negligence of (Bishop) is greater than or equal to any negligence of (MaineGeneral)," Brogan wrote. The contract Bishop signed specifies that he was working independently from the hospital and says that neither Bishop nor his employees were subject to direct supervision. The contract indemnifies MaineGeneral against any "claims, actions, damages or other liability." Further, the contract says Bishop "understands and acknowledges that hazardous material may be contained in and upon the debris and the premises" and that he "accepts and assumes all risks that may arise out of ... coming into contact with or removing any hazardous material." The contract specifies that the hazardous waste may include petroleum. Benjamin said Mitnik's only visit to the site, last January, coincided with an assessment by workers from the state [Department of Environmental Protection](http://www.kjonline.com/news/oakland-man-sues-hospital-town-for-burns_2013-01-07.html). He said the lawsuit against the town is built on the premise that Mitnik failed to specifically warn Bishop about the old fuel tank during that visit. "Somehow that's the town's fault," Benjamin said.

http://www.kjonline.com/news/oakland-man-sues-hospital-town-for-burns_2013-01-07.html

USA, N.Y, CEDARHURST, JANUARY 10 2013. OVERTURNED TANKER TRUCK CAUSES TRAFFIC DELAYS ON LONG ISLAND

An overturned tanker truck is causing significant traffic problems on two major Long Island highways. Nassau County police say Rockaway Turnpike and the Nassau Expressway are closed in the area of Burnside Avenue where the accident occurred



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at 4:54 a.m. Wednesday. Firefighters are on the scene spraying foam on the truck. It's not immediately clear if any of the tanker fuel has leaked. There are no immediate reports of injuries.

<http://www.nbcnewyork.com/news/local/Tanker-Truck-Overturn-Long-Island-Traffic-Delay-186149591.html>

USA, CA, LA, SORRENTO, JANUARY 10 2013. 18-WHEELER CRASH SHUTS DOWN PART OF LA 22 IN SORRENTO

 [Watch the Video](#) [Semi Hauling Ethanol Involved in 5 Vehicle Crash](#)

 [Photo's \[3\]](#) [Semi Hauling Ethanol Involved in 5 Vehicle Crash](#)



LA 22 at LA 70 in Sorrento was opened shortly before 5:00 p.m. A crash involving an 18-wheeler tanker has forced a lane closure on LA 22 that will delay traffic in the area for several hours. The incident happened in the early morning on Wednesday, Jan. 9. We're told the tanker was driving in the northbound lane on LA 22 when a vehicle turned out in front of it. The tanker struck the vehicle and two others before it crashed in a nearby ditch. Hazmat teams are currently working to unload the tanker, which is carrying Ethanol. LA 22 at LA 70 is closed to traffic and traffic is only being allowed onto the southbound lane of LA 22 from LA 70. We're told the lane closure could remain for several hours. No information was provided regarding the status of those involved in the crash, or whether any citations have been issued.

<http://www.fox44.com/news/18-wheeler-crash-shuts-down-part-la-22-sorrento>

USA, MISS, MADISON CO, JANUARY 10 2013. TANKER FIRE ON I-55

 [Watch the Video](#) [I-55 Reopens after Tanker Crash](#)

 [Photo's \[8\]](#) [Tanker Fire on I-55](#)



The driver of an 18-wheeler miraculously survived a wreck which could have turned deadly after the crash ended up in a fiery explosion. It happened on Interstate 55 just south of the Gluckstadt exit very early Wednesday morning. The highway explosion lit up I-55 northbound in Madison County around one Wednesday morning. A burnt up 8,000 gallon fuel tanker, which was fully loaded with gasoline exploded after overturning. "I guess the Blessing of it is we're on an interstate, a wide open area, it wasn't a residential neighborhood or in a service station when it happened," said Butch Hammack, Madison County's Emergency Management Director. Hammack said the tanker carrying all of the

oil split from the cabin of the truck, carrying the driver. Hammack said the cabin and the driver landed in a median on the other side of the highway, away from the gasoline filled tanker. Emergency officials said if it weren't for the median, the driver could have ended up in southbound traffic, causing an even greater wreck. "You're basically riding in a bomb when you're toting gasoline like that and it's very fortunate he didn't lose his life," said Hammack. The Mississippi Highway Patrol led the investigation after the wreck. "It appears the driver overturned his vehicle, ran off the road to the left there, possibly fell asleep," said MHP Master Sergeant Calvin Ousby. After the accident fire and emergency crews from all over Madison County helped fight the blaze which took several hours to put out. Both lanes of northbound traffic were shut down for several hours while wreckers and a U.S. Environmental Services crew pulled pieces of the burnt tanker from the side of the highway and soaked up the gasoline spill. Ironically, the early morning rain worked to the advantage of crews cleaning up the mess. "The rain will help us a lot, it usually makes the fuel come to the top of the surface where we can absorb a lot easier," said Hammack. Environmental crews will check the wreck scene out within the next few days to test the quality of the soil where the tanker landed. The driver of the truck was taken to UMC with minor injuries. No other vehicles were involved in the accident. Traffic is back open to northbound traffic.

<http://www.wlox.com/story/20539901/i55n-shut-down-by-tanker-accident>



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USA, ID, BOISE, JANUARY 10 2013. BOISE FIRE HAZ MAT CREWS INVESTIGATE FUEL SPILL AT GAS TANK NEAR CURTIS ROAD



Firefighters stand in snow and water, monitoring a spill of 5,000 gallons of gasoline that got out of a gas tank in the 700 block of Curtis Road, just after 7 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 9, 2012. The spill was contained by a trench installed for that purpose.

Boise Fire officials say the cold weather helped keep fuel vapors from spreading when the valve systems of a large gasoline storage tank failed on Curtis Road Wednesday morning. As many as 5,000 gallons of gasoline got out of the tank, one of several in the 700 block of Curtis Road, just south of Emerald Street, just after 7 a.m. Wednesday. The fuel spill did not get to the street as it was contained in a trench around the tank, which is installed for that purpose, Boise Fire officials said. Fire officials say a mechanical failure caused a valve to fail but workers were able to close the isolation valves quickly once it was

discovered. The gas spill is contained and clean-up crews were on their way to clean up the spill at 9 a.m. The public and haz mat crews caught a break thanks to cold weather, which kept the fumes from spreading and helped crews contain the spill quickly, officials said.

Related Links [More than 1,000 Gallons Leak from Boise 'Fuel Farm'](http://www.idahostatesman.com/2013/01/09/2406051/boise-fire-haz-mat-crews-investigate.html)

<http://www.idahostatesman.com/2013/01/09/2406051/boise-fire-haz-mat-crews-investigate.html>

NIGERIA, APAPA, TIN CAN ISLAND PORT, JANUARY 10 2013. OIL BARGE EXPLODES IN FLAMES: 5 FEARED DEAD, SCORES INJURED IN LAGOS

Watch the Video [Explosion in Lagos Port](#)



At least five people were feared dead and many injured in the late hours of the morning yesterday, as an oil barge offloading products at the MRS Jetty located at the Tin Can Island Port, Apapa, Lagos exploded in flames. The high degree explosion, which happened at about 11.30am, shattered glass doors and windows of buildings as far as 500 metres away from the jetty, including the administrative building of the Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA), Ports and Cargo complex and a branch of First Bank situated over 500 metres away from the scene. Our correspondent gathered that the incident occurred after a barge, a small ship bringing in fuel from the mothership and offloading into the MRS tank farm was improperly handled. The Department of Petroleum Resources (DPR) confirmed the barge was bearing petroleum motor spirit (PMS) commonly known as petrol. When LEADERSHIP visited the MRS complex at 12.30pm, business activities at the port had come to a halt, with people settling in small groups and discussing the incident, which was said to have caused stampede at the port.

Officials of MRS were not available for comment and the place was filled with security operatives who barred newsmen from entering the facility. Our correspondent however sighted officials of the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), fire-fighting vehicles belonging to neighbouring Integrated Oil Services and the Lagos State Fire Service, which came in at 1.26pm. An eyewitness said he saw at least five lifeless bodies wrapped in white cloths and taken away to an unknown morgue before he was asked to leave the premises.

<http://leadership.ng/nga/articles/44626/2013/01/10/5-feared-dead-scores-injured-lagos.html>

CANADA, N.L., UPPER ISLAND COVE, JANUARY 10 2013. FUEL TANKER OVERTURNS IN SMALL N.L. COMMUNITY

RCMP in eastern Newfoundland say a fuel tanker suffered a small leak when it overturned on a road, but that it has been controlled. Police say the driver lost control of the truck as it travelled up a small hill Tuesday in Upper Island Cove, about 110 kilometres west of St. John's. The vehicle went through a guardrail and landed at the bottom of a small embankment, causing



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the driver to suffer minor injuries. The tanker was carrying six thousand litres of furnace oil and it wasn't clear how much was lost in the spill. Police say the fuel spill was controlled by the fire department.

<http://www.ctvnews.ca/canada/fuel-tanker-overturms-in-small-n-l-community-1.1106450>

USA, TX, DALLAS, JANUARY 10 2013. CRASH CLOSES I-55, DIVERTS TRAFFIC THROUGH MADISON

Watch the Video's:

- [Semi Crash Causes I-30 Lane Closures in Dallas](#)
- [Person Injured In Dallas 18-Wheeler Crash](#)

The driver of a fully loaded gasoline tanker escaped serious injury in an early morning accident Wednesday on I-55 at Gluckstadt, which closed a section of the interstate for a few hours and diverted traffic through Madison, the authorities said. The driver of a fully loaded gasoline tanker escaped serious injury after the 18-wheel rig he was driving left Interstate 55 at Gluckstadt, flipped and burst into flames, closing the roadway and diverting traffic through Madison for hours, the authorities said. The northbound 18-wheeler loaded with 8,000 gallons on gasoline left the roadway at about 1:21 a.m., flipped and exploded into flames near L-3 Communications, said Madison County Emergency Management Director Butch Hammock. The cab of the truck disconnected from the trailer and probably saved the driver's life, he said. "The truck ended up in the median on the other side of the interstate," Hammock said. "The driver was very fortunate. The truck coming loose from the trailer probably saved his life." The first lane of traffic reopened by 6:30 a.m. All the lanes were reopened by 8 a.m., said Cpl. Odis Easterling of the Mississippi Highway Patrol. The driver, who had not been identified at press time, was taken to the University Medical Center for non-life threatening injuries, he said. The cause of the accident remains under investigation, Easterling said. Fire departments from Madison, Ridgeland, Canton and Flora were among the units responding to the blaze. Hammock said a fuel company in Pearl owned the tanker.

<http://onlinemadison.com/main.asp?SectionID=1&SubSectionID=1&ArticleID=26016>

THAILAND, BANGKOK, JANUARY 10 2013. PTG TO OPEN 130 SERVICE STATIONS IN B1BN EXPANSION



PT Energy Plc (PTG), the operator of PT petrol service stations, is to invest about 1 billion baht next year to expand its retail network with an aim to boost revenue by 30% to 52 billion baht. President and chief executive Pitak Ratchakitprakarn said most of the money will be spent to open 130 service stations on top of its existing 570. The remainder will be used to increase its number of fuel trucks to 300 from 243. PTG is ranked third with Shell in terms of the number of service stations. Energy flagship PTT Plc owns 1,300 sites and majority-state-owned Bangchak Petroleum Plc has 1,100. PTG this week opened a pilot petrol station covering nearly six rai in Ayutthaya that includes all kinds of non-oil services such as convenience and coffee stores. The company plans to spend 400 to 800 million baht to open 20 more large stations next year. Another 100-110 sites will be used for standard-sized stations. Mr Pitak said the network would be expanded mainly outside Greater Bangkok, where the market is becoming mature and land prices are expensive. "We will focus on large cities in the Central and Northeast regions where the local economy is growing sharply," he said. PTG expects its monthly fuel sales to reach 160,000 litres per site by the end of this month, up from 144,000 litres last year. Sales at the large station are expected to be 250,000 litres this month and to rise to 600,000 litres

by April. PTG aims to increase its market share to 6.5% in 2013 from 5% this year, thanks to aggressive expansion. Sales volume is forecast to grow 40% to 1,890 million litres next year from 1,350 million litres. Sales revenue is projected at 40 billion baht this year. PTG has postponed its listing on the Stock Exchange of Thailand from this quarter to early next year. "Since we have invested to expand our retail oil business and logistics network, we need time for investors to see what we have done in the past several years before listing," said Mr Pitak.

 **Related Links** [As Oil Giants Depart, PTG Gets Serious](#)

<http://www.bangkokpost.com/business/economics/327232/ptg-to-open-130-service-stations-in-b1bn-expansion>



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USA, JANUARY 10 2013. A DIY KIT TO DETERMINE IF YOUR WATER IS CONTAMINATED



To get definitive evidence if oil from the BP spill has seeped into water sources, citizen scientists need a device called a spectrometer. Sounds fancy and expensive. But a new project will send you one made with nothing but a few parts for just \$35. Ever since the BP oil spill, the [Public Laboratory for Open Technology and Science](#) has been trying to help amateur researchers explore their communities for evidence of oil contaminants and pollution. The project began with [balloon-mapping](#), a good tool for gathering aerial views of environmental damage. But if you really want persuasive signs of, say, an oil spill, you need a chemical snapshot, not a photographic one. You need, well, a [spectrometer](#). "It was kind of a surprise to us, a grassroots science community, to realize that when people wanted to identify an unknown substance, there's this completely ubiquitous device that's used in almost all branches of the sciences in different ways," says Public Lab research coordinator Jeff Warren, who counts

himself among the community's members without a formal science background. "It really does sound kind of like a Star Trek device." Spectrometers come in a number of different forms, but all of them perform the same basic function, diffracting light shone through a substance to reveal a kind of color fingerprint that corresponds to its chemical makeup. When the EPA wants to test soil or water samples, it sends them to a spectrometer. If a community group wants to ship a sample to a lab for testing, that goes to a spectrometer, too. Suffice it to say, most of us don't have one of these things lying around. And so Public Lab [developed one](#)—something DIY, affordable, that you can [order over the Internet](#) (like their [balloon-mapping kits](#)). For 35 bucks, maybe you can't assemble the kind of tool a laboratory scientist might use to identify fine components in a soil sample. But Public Lab was aiming for something that could answer a simpler question: Is that oil in my lagoon? "It was kind of an article of faith for a while that we should be pursuing this and it wasn't a waste of time," Warren says. But the thing really seemed remarkably simple once the group started researching it. Public Lab found DIY scientists building spectrometers out of toilet paper rolls and pizza boxes. "We thought, well wait a second, are they really that simple to build?" Warren recalls. "I guess in some ways the answer is yes. In some ways the answer is no." It's fairly simple to construct something that diffracts light just like a prism does. The trickier part is capturing and recording that data for analysis. The simplest \$35 edition Public Lab is now shipping out to its Kickstarter supporters is composed of laughably simple MacGyver-like parts: a \$9 web camera and USB cable, a slice of a DVD-R that functions like the prism, some black paper, Velcro, and double-sided tape. Inside the little box, the DVD-R diffracts the light, and the web camera snaps an image of the rainbow-like pattern that emerges from the other side. Picture the album cover to Pink Floyd's [The Dark Side of the Moon](#). "Literally that's a diagram of the interior of our spectrometer," Warren laughs. The [software](#) Public Lab has been developing to accompany the tool then graphs the results. Warren and others have been working on churning out nearly a thousand of these kits for people who supported the project earlier this fall on the [Kickstarter campaign](#). But anyone else can pre-order one now for likely some time in February. The non-profit organization is a DIY community, which means you're expected to spend half an hour or so assembling this spectrometer when it arrives (with instructions). This whole community only works, Warren says, because its members are eager to roll up their own sleeves. Public Lab doesn't produce consumer electronics. If you order a kit, it will come with a note welcoming you to the citizen-science fold. "We want to make sure you know you're not just a customer," Warren says. "You're a collaborator, a contributor." The hardest part of all of this, Warren says, has not been designing a cheap instrument, but designing a cheap instrument that anyone can learn to use without being overwhelmed by the technology. "We have this balance we're trying to seek," he says. Want to know exactly how the thing works? "Half of me wants to say 'don't worry about it'—the Apple approach. I kind of hate that in some ways, it's patronizing to me if someone wants to learn and understand things. But you also want to think, once something is abstracted and made easy, then people can simply use it as a tool." He doesn't want you to make serious decisions about your safety and health based on the data from a homemade spectrometer. This is an ongoing experiment, one that will evolve as more people join it and improve the tool. If you built your own car from scratch, Warren says, you'd probably want to drive it around a parking lot before speeding onto the highway. But Warren hopes that ultimately you'll be able to identify metals in your vegetable garden, or signs of oil in a waterway that the EPA should look into. Maybe this just helps your low-budget community group decide where to spend scarce resources sending samples off to a high-tech lab. At any rate, for \$35 or \$40, it's probably a good investment.

<http://www.fastcoexist.com/1681079/a-diy-kit-to-determine-if-your-water-is-contaminated#1>



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Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network

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January 17 2013



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USA, IN, WARSAW, JANUARY 10 2014. WARSAW MAN HURT AFTER USING GASOLINE TO BURN TRASH

don wagner

A [Warsaw](#) man was seriously hurt Wednesday while he was trying to burn some trash. Kosciusko County police say 31-year-old Toby Jackson was using gasoline to attempt to burn the trash when fire exploded back to the gas can and then onto him. Jackson told police he was at a home somewhere on Backwater Road near North Webster and was taken to Kosciusko Community Hospital in Warsaw by his mother. He was then moved to the St. Joseph Regional Burn Center in Fort Wayne where he was in serious condition with 2nd degree burns to his arms and neck and 3rd degree burns to his hands. Police were called to Kosciusko Community Hospital around 9:00 a.m. after hospital staff called 911 despatch about the burn victim. County deputies tried to find the original scene of the fire but were unsuccessful after checking several locations. The investigation continues into the case.

http://www.wsbt.com/news/wsbt-warsaw-man-hurt-after-using-gasoline-to-burn-trash-20130109_0_3760595.story

AUSTRALIA, WESTERN AUSTRALIA, ESPERANCE, JANUARY 10 2013. ESPERANCE HARBOUR CLOSED AFTER SUSPECTED DIESEL SPILL



The contaminate is seen floating on top of the water at Bandy Creek Boat Harbour.

Beaches at Bandy Creek Boat Harbour have been closed by the Department of Transport and the Shire of Esperance due to pollution. An oily substance, suspected to be diesel, was observed by a member of the public on the surface of the water at the beach on the town side of the groin on Wednesday morning. As a precautionary measure, the Shire of Esperance and Department of Transport closed the beaches at about 8.30am on Thursday. The cause of the contamination is yet to be determined. The Shire of Esperance Chief Executive Officer Matthew Scott said the Shire closed a number of beaches

within the Bandy Creek Boat Harbour as a precautionary measure to protect the public from a suspected minor diesel spill. "The Shire has been assisting relevant state agencies in monitoring the suspected spill and it is expected that the beaches will be reopened later this evening or early tomorrow morning, as a result of capture and clean up measures and local weather conditions," he said. "The Shire is confident that there will be no significant long term environmental impacts associated with this event."

<http://www.margaretrivermail.com.au/story/1228251/esperance-harbour-closed-after-suspected-diesel-spill/?cs=12>

USA, CA, PASADENA, JANUARY 10 2013. PASADENA BUSINESS EVACUATED, HAZMAT TEAM INVESTIGATES ODOR

 **Photo's [7]** [Chemical Spill at Liox Power, Pasadena](#)



Burbank Hazardous Fire Material and Glendale Fire Hazardous Material team with Pasadena Fire and South Pasadena Fire assisting, at a chemical spill at 2:10 p.m. at Liox Power, 129 N. Hill Avenue in Pasadena Wednesday, January 9, 2013. Liox Power is developing rechargeable lithium air batteries for next generation energy storage. A small amount of two chemicals, Acetonitrile and Dimethylacetamide spilled and an estimated 40 people were evacuated from the business and other nearby businesses.

Chemicals used to make batteries at a business on Hill Avenue caused an odor that forced the evacuation of the building, a fire official said. A business on Hill Avenue was evacuated Wednesday afternoon because of an odor caused by

battery-making chemicals, Pasadena Fire Department spokeswoman Lisa Derderian said. The building housing a company called LIOX on Hill Avenue between Walnut Avenue and Union Street was evacuated for about an hour and a half as hazmat teams responded to the scene, Derderian said. "It produced more of an odor than an actual spill," Derderian said. The building was later determined to be safe and employees were allowed to return. The cause of the incident is under investigation.

<http://pasadena-ca.patch.com/articles/pasadena-business-evacuated-hazmat-team-investigates-odor>



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USA, AKA, SITKALIDAK ISLAND, JANUARY 11 2013. ALASKA OIL RIG'S LIFEBOATS MAY HAVE LEAKED FUEL, COAST GUARD SAYS

kim murphy

Lifeboats from an oil rig that was temporarily grounded on a small island in southern Alaska may have leaked as much as 272 gallons of diesel fuel into pristine waters along the shoreline, but that cannot be determined until a full inspection is completed, [U.S. Coast Guard](#) officials said. A preliminary assessment of four survival boats and one rescue boat at Sitkalidak Island, near Kodiak Island, where the Kulluk rig became stuck along the rocky shore, has revealed that some fuel tanks on the smaller boats were damaged, incident commanders said in a statement late Wednesday. Each of the survival boats, which were left behind when the Kulluk was towed away from the beach to safety this week, contained a 68-gallon fuel tank. Incident response officials said they were informed that of those, one appeared to be intact, two had been damaged, and one was inaccessible and could not be examined. "As such, approximately up to 272 gallons of diesel fuel may have been released from the tanks," the response team said in the statement. Patty Richards, a spokeswoman for the team headed by the Coast Guard and Shell Alaska, said the estimate was based not on actual leakage, but on the theoretical possibility that all four tanks could have leaked. "We need to examine the tanks fully. We're waiting for the weather and some other issues, and after that we'll have more clarity. In the meantime, we wanted to be fully transparent about the maximum amount that could have been released," Richards told the Los Angeles Times. The response team said that if any fluids had been released on the shoreline, the damage would be mitigated. The [National Audubon Society](#) and other environmental groups have expressed concern about the possibility of fuel spills. Sitkalidak Island lies in a globally significant area where up to 180,000 seabirds nest and more than 100,000 black scoters, white-winged scoters, harlequin ducks, king eiders and red-necked grebes overwinter, the Audubon group said in their [overview](#). A map prepared by the organization, shown above, displays important bird habitats near both locations. The group Oceana prepared [a map](#) documenting other wildlife resources in the area, including habitat for Steller sea lions and harbor seals. Kiliuda Bay on Kodiak Island, to which the Kulluk was towed for safe harbor, is within the same important bird area, the society said. Coast Guard officials have said they have seen no evidence of a sheen on the water or any other suggestion of a fuel spill during several overflights of the area. Remotely operated underwater vehicles have been inspecting the hull of the Kulluk. So far, they have seen no evidence of leaks.

<http://www.latimes.com/news/nation/nationnow/la-na-nn-kulluk-diesel-fuel-tanks-20130109,0,3537732.story>

ENGLAND, CAMBRIDGESHIRE, JANUARY 11 2013. A14 REOPENED AFTER OVERTURNED TANKER SPILLS CHEMICAL LOAD

 [Watch the Video A14 to Reopen after Tanker Crash](#)



Both the eastbound and westbound carriageways of the A14 in Cambridgeshire have now reopened following a serious collision involving a tanker. Emergency services were called to the scene of the crash at 6.26am where a chemical tanker had overturned on the westbound carriageway between J16 and J15. It resulted in the closure of the carriageway in both directions west of Huntingdon. Callum Faint, station commander at Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service, said: "Firefighters arrived to discover the tanker on its side, with an ethanol substance leaking from it. "Crews used absorbent granules and an environmental grab pack to cover the nearby drains to stop the leaking liquid from entering the drains." A total of seven ambulances attended including three

from the hazardous area response team. An ambulance service spokesperson said: "All emergency crews worked very well in difficult circumstances as potentially harmful chemicals were leaking from the tanker. "Crews treated a man in his 40s with a non-serious head injury and transported him to Hinchingbrooke Hospital for further treatment." The road was closed in both directions between J13 and J21 and effectively from its junction with the A45 at Thrapston and the A1 at Brampton just west of Huntingdon.

http://www.eadt.co.uk/news/update_cambridge_a14_has_reopened_after_overtuned_tanker_spills_chemical_load_1_1787883



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