



Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network Release 2013 – 1,009 Newsy Stuff

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

October 4 2013



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CANADA, ONT, FORT ERIE, SEPTEMBER 19 2013. TANKER TRANSPORT ROLLOVER IN FORT ERIE

 **Watch the Video** [Tractor Trailer Rollover Causes Closures in Fort Erie](#)



Gilmore Rd. in Fort Erie will likely remain closed for at least two days after a truck, filled with 40,000 litres of heating oil, rolled over and caused extensive damage to the roadway near Petit Rd. According to Niagara Regional Police, the tanker was turning right from Petit Rd. onto Gilmore Rd. near the Queen Elizabeth Way early Wednesday when it rolled onto its side. Two of the five large fuel compartments in the tanker were punctured causing the oil to spill onto the roadway. "The truck was severely damaged but we were able to contain approximately 30,000 litres of the oil," said Fort Erie Fire Chief Larry Coplen. Of the 10,000 litres of oil that spilled on to the roadway, crews used catch basins and sand to absorb the liquid. Staff Sgt. Dave Hunter said crews from the Town of Fort Erie worked quickly to contain the spill. "They acted very quickly and were able to stop it from spreading," Hunter said. A second tanker truck was called in to pump the oil from the overturned trailer. "Although all responding agencies were quick to react, a special thanks to the Fort Erie Public Works Department for their quick action in transporting sand to the area for containment," Const. Derek Watson added. "The environmental impact would have been significantly greater if they had not taken action as soon as they did." Representatives from the Ministry of the Environment and the Ministry of Transportation were also on site for much of the day. Coplen said the road may have to be repaved. "The oil is a hydrocarbon and when a hydrocarbon mixes with the asphalt on the road surface the binding agents come out and the road turns to tar and gravel or, at very least, becomes very slippery." No injuries were reported and no charges have been laid

<http://www.thoroldedition.ca/2013/09/18/transport-rollover-in-fort-erie>

USA, N.J, SPARTA, SEPTEMBER 19 2013. TRAIN DERAILS IN SPARTA

fran hardy



A tanker derailed and rolled over last week in Sparta.

Three tank cars from a freight train traveling through Sparta last week suddenly went off the tracks. The incident occurred late Wednesday night on the New York Susquehanna and Western Railway just north of the Route 15 and Houses Corner intersection. No injuries were reported and no evacuations were necessary, according to police, but an investigation into the cause of the derailment is still ongoing. The three tank cars, which measured a total of 170 feet and had a combined weight of 395 tons, were carrying refrigerated liquid carbon dioxide. After they left the tracks, the cars tumbled down a small embankment but did not rupture and none of the liquid gas escaped the tanks. Sparta Police and the Sparta Fire Department were on the scene, but determined there was no threat of a Hazmat situation. The situation could have

been much worse because exposure of the container of liquid carbon dioxide to prolonged heat or fire could have caused it to rupture violently and rocket, according to police. But this did not occur as all of the gas remained contained. The train, owned by Linde North America Inc, which is a world leading gases and engineering company, was in route to their depot on Demarest Road when the derailment occurred. The company manufactures and supplies industrial, specialty, and medical gases, as well as related medical equipment. By Friday, Winter's Rigging, which is a derailment and rigging service from North Collins, NY, was working to right the tank cars and hoist them back onto the track. The cars were undamaged and over the weekend they were upright once again and ready to roll.

<http://sparta-independent.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20130918/NEWS01/130919947/Train-derails-in-Sparta>

USA, MI, GRATIOT CO, SEPTEMBER 19 2013. FUEL COMPANY SHUTS ITS DOORS, GRATIOT RESIDENTS OUT MILLIONS OF DOLLARS

linda gittleman

Gratiot County businesses and residents are out as much as \$2 to \$3 million dollars from the Miles Petroleum Co. And, that is a conservative estimate, said Gratiot County Sheriff Doug Wright, who, along with the state attorney general's office and other



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local and state agencies are investigating. The investigation began after Miles Petroleum, a Merrill company, closed its doors and it concerns prepaid purchases of home heating fuel oil and diesel fuel, not propane, he said. The propane arm of the company had been bought out by Coyne Propane, now called Central Michigan Propane and that company is honoring commitments. Wright said he had a meeting with a large group of county people who had prepaid for fuel and now have no money and no fuel. "One school district is out \$30,000," he said. "One farmer prepaid \$250,000. Another is out \$150,000." A significant discount was offered to customers if they prepaid their fuel costs for the coming year. Some even received interest on that pre-paid amount, Wright said. "The company had established a decent reputation, so they prepaid to get a good deal," he said. Wright said the investigation, at its initial stage, is looking into the possibility of criminal acts that could include anything from fraud to larceny by conversion and co-mingling of funds. "I don't want to get into specifics, but some farmers showed us some evidence," he said. Owner Barry Marlow spoke with the media a few weeks ago, but he may have left the state, Wright said. Wright made it clear that no criminal charges have been filed against Marlow now. The investigation is big, covering a wide area and it's complex, he said, adding that special financial investigators will likely be required. It will take "weeks to months" before the investigation is complete. Wright is urging anyone who prepaid for home heating or diesel fuel to contact the sheriff's office at 989 875-5214. "They also might want to seek legal counsel," he said.

<http://www.themorningsun.com/general-news/20130918/fuel-company-shuts-its-doors-gratiot-residents-out-millions-of-dollars>

AUSTRALIA, VICTORIA, GEELONG, SEPTEMBER 20 2013. REFINERY WORKERS SHOWN DOOR

meagan rooth



Thirteen Geelong workers are looking for new jobs as Shell contractor UGL Limited completes shut-down projects at the Corio refinery. More UGL workers are expected to soon be retrenched. Australian Manufacturing Workers Union metals organiser Matt McPhee yesterday confirmed 13 UGL workers had been dismissed this week. "Some of the guys were shocked, especially as they'd shown a commitment to the company since last Christmas," he said. "They were part of the UGL team ... it would be a shock to anyone." Mr McPhee said work was no longer available at the refinery but the laid-off UGL employees had been encouraged to apply for other company positions across the country. "It's always a concern when there are job losses around Geelong and around Shell," he said. "It shows the Shell refinery is not immune to all of the job losses happening at the moment. "We hope UGL and other manufacturers commit to

the Geelong community because we've got a lot of highly-skilled workers in the area." UGL spokesman Ben Jarvis said this week's job cuts were the result of project completion. "When the shut-down is completed, the work is completed. They would have to understand that," he said. "Whoever is working on the shut-down will be leaving the site." UGL last year signed a 1/2-year deal, worth \$200 million, to be the primary mechanical services contractor at the Shell site.

http://www.geelongadvertiser.com.au/article/2013/09/19/373207_news.html

USA, CO, DENVER, SEPTEMBER 20 2013. OIL SPILL DUMPS OVER 5K GALLONS OF CRUDE ACROSS FLOOD-DRENCHED COLORADO

 **Watch the Video** [Colorado Monitoring 10 Oil Spills After Flooding](#)

 **Photo's [27]** [Colorado Flooding Triggers Oil Spills, Shutdowns](#)



An oil storage tank on a well pad lies toppled by flood waters in Weld County, Colorado September 17, 2013.

More than 5,250 gallons of crude oil have spilled into a river in Colorado, contaminating much of the same region that was ravaged days earlier by a monumental flood that left no fewer than eight residents dead. The Denver Post reported on Wednesday evening that the Colorado Department of Natural Resources was alerted of the spill that afternoon by Anadarko Petroleum, a Texas-based oil and gas exploration company. "To date, we are aware of two tank batteries that were damaged by flood waters, and have associated light-oil releases," Anadarko acknowledged in a press release. The crude reportedly



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emptied out of damaged tanks south of the town of Milliken where the St. Vrain and South Platte Rivers meet near Boulder, the county's most populous city with almost 100,000 residents. Todd Hartman, a spokesperson for the Colorado DNR, told the Post that state authorities are unsure of when the Anadarko spill happened, and stressed that it was only the first incident that was confirmed to his office after reports of widespread damage following last week's floods. "You have operations that are entirely underwater," Hartman explained to National Geographic this week. Days before Anadarko alerted officials of the spill, Hartman's office issued a statement warning residents that "many contaminants, such as raw sewage, as well as potential releases of chemicals from homes, businesses and industry, may be contained in the floodwaters" that displaced hundreds of people and cost upwards of \$2 billion in property damages, according to some early estimates. Already, though, other companies are confirming that flood waters have damaged their tanks and wells, leaking other contaminants from its containers into the already ravaged region. Representatives with another large natural resource company, Noble Energy Inc., said late Wednesday that they have also alerted the Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission that one of its wells "appears to be releasing a limited amount of natural gas." The Post reported that multiple state and federal offices have been alerted of the Anadarko spill, including the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. By Thursday morning, the paper was reporting that industry crews and state officials had already reached the scene near Milliken and had placed absorbent booms in an attempt to begin a clean-up mission. Practically 1,900 oil and gas wells in the region were already shut down as a precaution due to high waters, and the Colorado Oil and Gas Association said crews totaling roughly 600 industry personnel are inspecting and repairing sites, conducting aerial and ground surveillance and identifying and determining locations of possible impairments. In all, the region of Colorado impacted by the storm contains around 19,000 active wells, CBS News reported this week. Anadarko and Noble have each shut-down around 10 percent of their respective operations, and another company — Encana Oil & Gas — shuttered hundreds of its 1,241 area wells when the section of the start started to go under water last week. Anadarko has also closed down around 20 miles of pipeline, the Post reported. "This State of Colorado and the US Environmental Protection Agency must force Anadarko to clean it up -- no matter the cost -- and make reparations to the public, including paying fines and enforcing the Clean Water Act which may include civil and criminal penalties," Gary Wockner of Clean Water Action said in a statement on Wednesday.

Related Stories

- [Colorado flood death toll rises](#)
- [Ten oil spills detected in flood-hit Colorado](#)
- [Colorado Monitoring 10 Oil Spills After Flooding](#)
- [More oil, gas leaks found in Colorado after floods: regulator](#)
- [13500 gallons of oil spill along Colorado river](#)
- [Did Floods Cause a Fracking Disaster in Colorado?](#)
- [Noble Energy finds three leaking gas wells in flood-hit Colorado](#)
- [Oil spill dumps over 5k gallons of crude across flood-drenched Colorado](#)
- [Flooding and Fracking in Colorado: Double Disaster](#)
- [5000 gallons of oil spill into flooded S. Platte](#)

<http://rt.com/usa/colorad-flood-oil-spill-086/>

USA, WI, LA CROSSE, SEPTEMBER 20 2013. NITROGEN LEAK CONTAINED AT MISSISSIPPI WELDER'S SUPPLY

steffani nolte

 **Watch the Video** [Nitrogen Leak Contained at Mississippi Welder's Supply](#)

The La Crosse Fire Department and Hazardous Materials teams were called to Mississippi Welder's Supply at 6:00 a.m. for a liquid nitrogen leak. The business is located on the north side of town at 611 George Street. "I woke up about 5:25 this morning," Kathy Arntson said. "Heard this hissing noise, couldn't tell if it was water or what it was." She was hearing a Mississippi Welder's Supply tank leaking behind her house. "There was a significant leak going on and we were unable to determine what the product actually was," Div. Chief Tom Wallerich, La Crosse Fire Department said. "We knew it was either liquid nitrogen or liquid oxygen." Neighbors evacuated from their homes did the only thing they could, sit on the sidewalk and wait. "We've heard different things at Mississippi Welder's Supply behind us," Arntson said. "Nothing has ever alarmed us." As the sun came up, the Fire Department worked to shut off the valve. A half hour later it was off and they figured out liquid



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nitrogen was leaking. "Liquid nitrogen is an asphyxiant," Wallerich said. "So if you're in the immediate area there can be a concern but we were able to check it out with out meters and confirm everything was ok." An hour after all of this started, around 7 a.m., neighbors were able to go back inside to get ready for their day. "I feel fine, confident," Arntson said. "La Crosse has a Haz-mat team out here its all good." And the morning commute on George Street continued as if nothing even happened. Mississippi Welder's Supply said the nitrogen tank has a valve that is designed to open if there is extra pressure inside. Even though it hasn't happened before, here, this morning it vented like it was supposed to. The cloud that was seen happened because the liquid nitrogen was so cold. They also said it would only be a health concern if someone were to walk through that cloud.

<http://www.wxow.com/story/23473694/2013/09/19/haz-mat-crews-respond-to-leak-at-mississippi-welder-supply>

USA, CO, GRAND JUNCTION, SEPTEMBER 20 2013. STATE CITES COMPANY OVER LEAK NEAR PARACHUTE

Colorado regulators have reached an agreement with a pipeline company over violations of Colorado law and rules in a natural gas liquids leak near Parachute. The [Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment's](#) Hazardous Materials and [Waste Management Division](#) found Bargath LLC in violation for releasing hazardous materials to the environment without a permit, but ordered no fines. Officials believe the leak occurred from Dec. 20 to Jan. 3. They estimate about 50,000 gallons of hydrocarbons leaked, with most of that vaporizing, but about 10,000 gallons reached the ground. The leak from a pressure gauge on a pipeline leading from Bargath's gas processing plant resulted in high benzene levels in groundwater and occasional small amounts of the carcinogen in Parachute Creek. No benzene has been detected in the creek since August. "They stepped up to the plate and decided not to fight even though they felt strongly about this," said [David Walker](#), an environmental compliance officer with the division. The consent order includes no fines against Bargath, although that doesn't bar other state agencies from pursuing fines in the case. Division officials said the lack of a fine is based on the non-willful nature of the leak. The agreement calls for a payment of \$8,400 to reimburse division staff for its time working on the matter to date, and to pay for future expenses, the [Grand Junction Daily Sentinel](#) reported Thursday. The focus of the compliance order is on establishing requirements and schedules for continuing cleanup of the leak, which could last a couple of years, followed by a long period of monitoring, Walker said. WPX Energy, which owns the property where the leak occurred, has been cleared in the incident, the health department said. The department said in a letter to WPX that the company had shown it did not cause or control the operations that caused the leak.

<http://www.chron.com/business/energy/article/State-cites-company-over-leak-near-Parachute-4827187.php>

NIGERIA, LAGOS, SEPTEMBER 20 2013. AS OIL THIEVES BLEED NIGERIA, REPORT SAYS, OFFICIALS PROFIT



A worker at a makeshift production camp in Nigeria's swamps processed crude oil at an illegal oil refinery site near the river Nun in Bayelsa.

Oil is being stolen on an "industrial scale" in Nigeria, the world's 13th largest producer, and the country's politicians and security officials are among those profiting, [according to a new report](#) from a prominent British research group. Thieves steal an estimated average of 100,000 barrels a day, the report said; working in elaborate networks and protected by corrupted security officials, they tap into the huge and isolated network of pipes that crisscross the country's swampy southern Niger Delta region. The price of oil fluctuates, but a hypothetical per-barrel price of \$100 would mean an annual loss of \$3.65 billion. Oil closed at \$107.28 per barrel on Thursday. Much of this oil winds up being exported globally, said the report, which was released Thursday by the

London-based organization Chatham House. The problem has reached such proportions that major oil companies operating in Nigeria have recently complained that theft is cutting significantly into production. A [similar report last year](#), commissioned by the Nigerian government but largely ignored, said that over the preceding decade, thieves had been stealing 6 percent to 30 percent of the country's daily production. "Hydrocarbon theft is a major source of loss of revenue to the Federal Republic of Nigeria," said that report, prepared by the country's former top anticorruption official, Nuhu Ribadu. It described the problem then as an "emergency." The full extent of the country's larcenous ingenuity is on display in the oil thievery. There is "theft from tank farms, refinery storage tanks, jetties and ports," according to the Nigerian report. "Officials and private actors disguise theft through manipulation of meters and shipping documents." Small-scale pipeline tapping operations can easily be detected



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in short daytime trips into the swamps from the Niger Delta's population centers. Telltale plumes of smoke from illegal refining operations rise above the water. But more significant "bunkering," as oil theft is known here, involves siphoning oil from pipes on land or underwater, loading it onto small barges, then transferring it to bigger barges offshore in the Gulf of Guinea. Sometimes thieves use pipes up to 12 inches in diameter to tap the lines, according to Chatham House. Sometimes crude is stolen from export terminals. The Chatham House report underscored profiteering at high levels. "Top Nigerian officials cut their teeth in the oil theft business during military rule," it said. "Over time, evidence surfaced that corrupt members of the security forces were actively involved. The country's return to democracy in 1999 then gave some civilian officials and political 'godfathers' more access to stolen oil." Security officials are said to extort payments from the oil thieves in return for protection, according to Chatham House. The Chatham House report suggested that high oil prices have contributed to the incentive to steal. But it was inconclusive on the question of how much of the stolen crude was exported, and how much was processed in operations in the Nigerian swamps. "The bush refining business is highly decentralized and secretive," it said, "which makes its size hard to estimate." Mr. Ribadu's report gave a higher possible figure for the scale of daily theft — 250,000 barrels — but the Chatham House document emphasized the unreliability of figures from government and oil companies. Mr. Ribadu suggested, in stronger terms than the more recent document, that the problem is growing, noting that Shell claimed a fivefold increase in losses between 2009 and 2012, from 10,000 barrels per day to 50,000 in March of last year. Chatham House, by contrast, said that "outsiders should look closely at claims that Nigeria is losing oil at unheard-of rates," adding that "the high divergence in industrywide estimates makes it hard to gauge trends reliably."

http://www.nytimes.com/2013/09/20/world/africa/nigerias-politicians-profit-from-industrial-scale-oil-theft-report-says.html?_r=0

INDIA, UTTAR PRADESH, KANPUR, SEPTEMBER 20 2013. 7, INCLUDING MINOR CHILDREN AND WOMEN, KILLED IN EXPLOSION AT FIREWORKS UNIT IN UNNAO DISTRICT

faiz rahman siddiqui

Seven people, including minor children and women, were killed in a powerful explosion at a house-cum-fireworks unit in [Mohaana Nagar Panchayat](#) area under the limits of [Hasanganj police station](#) of Unnao district on Thursday. Five injured people, who were rescued by villagers, had been initially admitted to the community health centre from where they were later rushed to the trauma centre in Lucknow in critical condition. The tragedy took place at Pakra village, of Mohaana area, a small-pocket known for fireworks units. The powerful blast led to the razing down of "kaccha" (mud) structure belonging to fireworks unit owner Mohd Naim Khan alias Chotey Munna. It also nearly damaged three other neighbouring houses. It is estimated that a huge stock of explosives were hoarded inside the house. The death toll was confirmed after the removal of debris at the mishap site. "As per the locals, there was a huge explosion at around 4.20pm and five members of Mohd Naim's family, who were present in the house, besides a girl from neighbourhood, died at the spot, while one died on the way to the trauma centre in Lucknow," a senior police official told TOI. Crackers and unfinished goods were seen strewn all over the mishap site. Officials claimed that the death toll was likely to increase as the injured were in an extremely critical condition. There were nearly ten people inside the house when the incident took place. The deceased include Saliya alias Munni (45) the wife of the owner of the unit, Mohd Naim Khan alias Chotey Munna, his daughter Sana (9), his three sons Irfan (33) Irshad (17) and Imran (15), daughter-in-law Pammi Bano (25) and Sufiya (19) daughter of one Rafeeq Qadri, his neighbour, while those who sustained injuries include Mohd Naim Khan alias Chotey Munna (45) himself, his mother Mustaqeem (65), and two other of his relatives. "The fireworks unit has been running for the past few months, and whether it was a registered unit or not, investigation to corroborate the facts for the same is still underway," said circle officer Charan Singh. Sources further informed that the unit was working overtime to deliver fireworks to the nearby areas, as Diwali is slated for early November. Locals of the area were the first to reach the accident spot. They found severed body parts and human flesh strewn across the mishap site. They claimed that they heard a powerful blast from the spot forcing them to rush out of their homes. The residents informed the police control room following which the superintendent of police Sonia Singh along with other police officials rushed to the mishap site. Later, fire tenders and JCB's from Unnao arrived at the accident spot and took over the rescue operations. A case has been registered in connection with the incident. Superintendent of police Sonia Singh said that a thorough probe would be conducted in this regard. "The mishap site has been sealed and we have sought assistance from the forensic team to ascertain the cause, which led to the powerful blast and about the nature of explosives. Bodies have been sent to mortuary for postmortem examination," Singh added further.

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/kanpur/Seven-including-minor-children-and-women-killed-in-explosion-at-fireworks-unit-in-Unnao-district/articleshow/22770296.cms>



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USA, OH, CUSTER CO, SEPTEMBER 20 2013. FIRE, EXPLOSIONS AT DANLIN CHEMICAL PLANT NEAR THOMAS

Watch the Video's:

- [Fire, Explosions at Oklahoma Chemical Plant](#)
- [Fire, Explosions at Danlin Chemical Plant near Thomas](#)
- [Blaze at Okla. Chemical Plant Triggers Explosions](#)
- [Fire destroys Oklahoma chemical plant](#)
- [Evacuation after Explosions and Fire in Oklahoma, USA](#)

 Photo's [3] [Fire destroys Oklahoma chemical plant](#)

 Photo's [3] [Fire, Explosions at Danlin Chemical Plant near Thomas](#)



All ablaze: A huge explosion erupted on Wednesday night at the Oklahoma chemical plant.

People were forced to leave their homes late Wednesday night when a fire led to explosions at a plant in the town of Thomas in Custer County. Someone called 911 just before midnight after hearing the blasts at the Danlin facility, which is about 90 miles west of Oklahoma City. The plant produces chemicals used in oilfield productions. A News 9 photographer was on the scene quickly, and heard explosions and saw large flames and smoke shooting at least 100 feet into the air. Multiple agencies in the area are assisting the Thomas Fire Department, but

crews have decided to back off and let the fire burn itself out. An employee for the Thomas Fire Department told News 9 that evacuations were ordered for the immediate area; about 10 families had to leave their homes. There have been no reports of injuries. A representative for Danlin said the last employee left the plant between 6:30 p.m. and 7 p.m, hours before the fire. The fire appears to have destroyed the facility and at least a dozen vehicles at the plant. It's not known yet what caused the fire and explosions.

<http://www.news9.com/story/23471823/fire-explosions-reported-at-plant-near-thomas-oklahoma>

USA, MN, ROSEVILLE, SEPTEMBER 20 2013. MORE DETAILS ON ETHANOL TANKER TRUCK FIRE IN ROSEVILLE

scott carlson

Watch the Video

- [In Roseville, a Tanker Truck Catches on Fire](#)
- [Tanker Truck Filled with Ethanol Catches Fire in Roseville](#)



A semi-trailer truck fire late Wednesday night in Roseville left the vehicle's cab charred and burned out. But Roseville firefighters were able to contain and extinguish the blaze before it spread to the truck's trailer, which was carrying 7,700 gallons of ethanol. Fire crews doused the tanker with water and also undertook operations with its foam trailer to prevent the cab fire from spreading. Here is the [Roseville Fire Department's](#) summary of the incident:

"On Wednesday Sept. 18, approximately 2330 (11:30 p.m) hours, the Roseville Fire Department was dispatched to a reported semi -tanker truck on fire on County Road C between Long Lake Rd & the railroad tracks. Fire Crews arrive to find a semi-truck cab fully involved in fire and fire impinging on the tanker which was carrying 7,700 gallons of ethanol. First arriving crews began attacking the cab fire and trying to cool the tanker to keep the tanker from

burning. The fire progressed quickly causing the initial crews to reposition fearing that the ethanol tanker would rupture causing the product to combust. The department's newly purchased foam trailer and utility truck arrived and was positioned for foam suppression operations. Within minutes the foam operations began and quickly knocked down the fire keeping the fire from involving the ethanol product. Fire crews continued to cool the tanker, and extinguish hot-spots on the cab of the truck. Fire command notified the State Duty Officer of the incident, and requested State Haz Mat, and PCA for clean-up coordination. The tank containing the ethanol was damaged, and the wheels of the tanker were burned away, so plans were formulated to off-load the 7700 gallons of product. Approximately 0400 hours off-load operations, and clean-up operations were complete,



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and fire crews began to pick-up fire operations. Crews remained on scene until 0600 hours working with the tow company to remove the heavily damaged vehicle. There were not injuries related to the incident."

<http://roseville.patch.com/groups/police-and-fire/p/more-on-that-tanker-truck-fire-in-roseville>

CANADA, ONT, SOUTH RIVER, SEPTEMBER 20 2013. MORE ON THE SOUTH RIVER TRAIN DERAILMENT

mary beth hartill



Train derailment on the CN tracks just south of Trout Creek near Summit Road. Area residents are considering themselves lucky after train cars containing methanol and sulfuric acid residue derailed. Crews are cleaning up after 11 cars of 31-car train derailed on Monday morning, Sept. 16 around 11 a.m. almost 3 km from Summit Road. Lindsay Fedechyshyn, communications officer for CN, states the derailment took place in a fairly remote area with no impact to the public. There were no injuries or environmental issues stemming from the crash. The South River Machar Fire Department was called to the scene shortly after 1 p.m. by the OPP. The fire crew worked with CN police and their hazardous materials team to assess whether it was safe for CN work crews to enter the area. No leaks were found. According to fire chief Risto Maki, the Laurier Fire Department was also involved. "Three of the empty cars were empty residue cars and they last contained sulfuric acid and one other tank car was loaded with methanol," she said. "Again no leaks, they were upright, no exposures." Maki states that the car containing methanol was still upright and checked for leaks. There were none. "The other cars in question that were hazmat related that we were concerned about was the sulfuric acids, which were just carrying residue," he said. "It was basically an empty tanker car but with something that size there would still be a little bit in the bottom." Although some of those were overturned they had not leaked. The remainder of the 11 cars that derailed contained general merchandise and consumer goods. The fire department wrapped up their work at the scene around 3:50 p.m. "Crews are out there now," Fedechyshyn told the Almaguin News on Monday morning. "I don't know when they're going to be finished up but they are going to be working around the clock until they have the site cleared and the tracks can be reopened." Fedechyshyn says it is too early to tell the cause of the derailment but it is under investigation. She says the investigation could take several weeks to months before it is concluded.

<http://www.northbaynipissing.com/2013/09/more-on-the-south-river-train-derailment/>

ENGLAND, CHESHAM, SEPTEMBER 20 2013. LABELLING - KNOW THE HAZARDS



Supplying and transporting potentially hazardous cleaning substances requires accurate labelling to adhere to strict European legislation. James Killerby, director of [Hibiscus](#), supplier of bespoke labels, warning diamonds and software solutions for the chemical and transport industries, explains the legislation and what to look for in labelling products. Detergents, disinfectants, bleach and sanitisers are just some of the potentially harmful products used in the cleaning industry. Clear labelling is crucial to help prevent accidents and to provide speedy medical help should one occur. Universal labelling of hazardous materials in transport gives emergency crews vital knowledge of what action to take in the event of a collision: whether to use foam or water, what protective gear to wear and whether, in extreme circumstances, to evacuate the area. Legal documentation for transporting both hazardous and non-hazardous

substances needs to be considered too. The legislation relating to correct labelling is complex and changes frequently and there are a wide variety of regulations and laws to consider when designing your labels. The CLP Regulation (Classification, Labelling and Packaging of Substances and Mixtures) came into force in January 2009. Companies had until December 1 2010 to ensure that any labels for single substances were updated to the new regulations and, by June 1 2015, must do the same for mixtures. Its purpose is to protect people and the environment from the effects of hazardous chemicals by requiring suppliers to provide information about the dangers and to package substances safely. All over the world there are different laws on the classification of chemicals and how information about these hazards is passed to users through labels and safety



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data sheets. The same chemical can have different classifications in different countries so, to avoid confusion, the UN brought together experts from different nations to create the Globally Harmonised System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS). The aim of GHS is to apply the same criteria for classifying chemicals worldwide, according to their health, environmental and physical hazards and the subsequent requirements for labelling and safety data sheets. The UN GHS is not a formal treaty, but a non-legally binding international agreement. Therefore countries (or trading blocks) must create local or national legislation to implement GHS. CLP is the legal document that applies in Europe. CHIP (Chemicals Hazard Information and Packaging for Supply) is the law that has applied to suppliers of dangerous substances and mixtures for many years and will continue to be applied to mixtures until their reclassification to CLP on June 1 2015.

Transportation

When it comes to the transportation of hazardous cleaning substances, vehicles, rail carriages, pallets and packages must all be labelled. The regulations covering the transport of dangerous goods are very different from those covering supply although, with the implementation of CLP, some of the differences will diminish. There are also separate arrangements for road, rail, air and sea. Journeys by road through Europe are covered by the ADR Regulations. Kemler ADR panels on the side of the vehicle identify the hazardous substance being carried and how to respond in the event of an accident. Labelling companies will be able to supply either pre-printed or modular systems which comply with legislation in terms of weathering and ADR reflectivity requirements. Rail movement is covered by RID (Regulations concerning the International transport of Dangerous goods by rail (European Law) for Rail.

Free Movement

Air transportation is dealt with by the ICAO (International Civil Aviation Organisation) Technical Instructions for the Safe Transport of Dangerous Goods by Air. Anyone transporting dangerous goods by air should also check the IATA (International Air Transport Association) Dangerous Goods Regulations as these contain additional requirements. The transport of dangerous goods by sea is governed by the IMO (International Maritime Organisation) International Maritime Dangerous Goods Code (IMDG). The UK Maritime and Coastguard Agency website also contains useful information about dangerous goods. REACH is an EU regulation concerning the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and restriction of Chemicals. It is intended to make manufacturers and importers responsible for understanding and managing the risks associated with their use. It also helps to allow the free movement of substances on the EU market and enhances innovation and competition within the EU chemicals industry. When it comes to chemical labelling, there is no 'one size fits all' approach. The specification you need depends on so many factors – from the surface onto which the label will be stuck, to the part of the world it will eventually be. There are three parts of your label that you need to consider – the face, the backing and the adhesive. And just because one part is right, doesn't mean the whole label complies to standards. You could use the correct adhesive on office paper for example and it would just wash off – it is the combination that has to be correct. Some adhesives don't work well on some face materials – emulsion acrylic works better on PE better than PP for example. Focus on the whole combination of the label and adhesive or you might find you have spent a significant amount of money on something that is essentially illegal.

Consider Adhesives

Look out for different types of adhesive – increasingly they tend to be emulsion acrylics rather than solvent-based adhesives. The amount of solvents used by businesses is significantly lower than it has been in the past due to a government drive to reduce the risk to the environment. Before commissioning your label, think about what it will be expected to withstand. What will its life cycle involve? Where will it go? What will it be exposed to? Changes in temperature and humidity need to be taken into account. Lastly, think about when you will apply your label. If, for example, you stick it to a drum and then immediately fill it with a hot product, the surface will expand. If you then take it out into a cold yard it will shrink back quickly, which could lead to some label materials becoming wrinkled or even coming off completely. There is an adhesive product that will stand that extreme variation in temperature but it is more expensive as it's a higher specification. The most expensive consideration you might have is your production time so this product would be appropriate for fast and dynamic processes. The most important thing is that your labelling company knows all this when they come to create the label. We like to do a site visit with all our clients so we can see their processes at first hand. It helps guide us to use the most appropriate materials.

Top Tips

- Prepare the surface before you put your label on – make sure there is no moisture on it and your label will stick better.
- Stick down all the parts of your label carefully rather than just slapping it on.
- Don't stick your label to anything else before the surface it was designed for.



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- Ask yourself what the label's life cycle will be and what it will be exposed to. If you don't know, it will be poorly specified and might not look as good or stick as well as it could have done.
- Make sure that the ink you use to add the variable information onto your label is right for the material – for example, wax resin ribbons work better on matt label surfaces.

Every business is unique and the labels that are needed can serve very different purposes. Take time to think about your labels. A couple of minutes' care could save your business cost and reputation in the long term.

<http://www.europeancleaningjournal.com/magazine/articles/special-features/labelling-know-the-hazards>

USA, HI, OOKALA, SEPTEMBER 20 2013. TRUCK HAULING DIESEL BURNS ON HAWAII HIGHWAY >> CREWS MANAGED TO CONTROL THE FIRE BEFORE IT REACHED THE EXPLOSIVE CARGO.

A truck towing a tanker carrying 8,300 gallons of diesel fuel caught fire early this morning on Hawaii County's Highway 19 near Oookala, but firefighters were able to control it before the flames affected the cargo. The truck caught fire at 3:34 a.m. near the 32 mile marker. The cab was fully engulfed in flames when firefighters arrived and brought the fire under control at 3:55 a.m. The cab of the truck was destroyed. The driver escaped without injuries. The trailer with the tanker and its contents of diesel fuel were not damaged. The cause of the fire is under investigation. Police closed the highway while firefighters put out the truck fire. Police opened one lane and alternated traffic around the truck at about 5 a.m. until the truck was removed.

<http://video.firehouse.com/news/11173762/truck-hauling-diesel-burns-on-hawaii-highway>

AUSTRALIA, VICTORIA, LAKES ENTRANCE, SEPTEMBER 20 2013. OIL SPILL TRIGGERS FEARS OVER ESSO INFRASTRUCTURE

Map: [Lakes Entrance](#)

An oil spill at an Esso offshore platform near Lakes Entrance this month has sparked fears among environment groups of further spills. The national regulator, NOPSEMA, and Esso are investigating a 750 litre oil spill at Esso's Cobia platform in the Bass Strait. Esso has been flushing the pipeline with water over the past week as part of its investigation but says the spill has caused no environmental damage. Jo McCubbin from the Wellington Awareness Group says she is worried that faults in the company's ageing infrastructure could one day lead to a major spill. "The fact there has been a spill at all requires explanation, why did it happen?" she said. "If they want us to trust them to move onshore and start drilling, we need to know that they can manage their older infrastructure adequately." Esso declined the ABC's interview request.

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2013-09-19/oil-spill-triggers-esso-infrastructure-fears/4967316>

KENYA, NAIROBI, SEPTEMBER 20 2013. PETROL SCANDAL IS BIGGER THAN GOLDENBERG - DUALE

david mwere



The Kenya Petroleum Refineries Ltd premises in Mombasa.

National Assembly majority leader Aden Duale yesterday implicated powerful people in the last government in a conspiracy with Essar Energy Overseas Ltd to fleece Kenyans of Sh15 billion. He said the public funds were for the privatisation of Kenya Petroleum Refineries Ltd. Although Duale did not name the "powerful" individuals, he said he has enough information to prove his allegations. Speaking on the floor of the House, he said since Essar entered an agreement with KPRL, Kenyans have been forced to pay more for the petrol in the country. Duale said some Energy ministry officials in the Kibaki regime are to blame for the rising petrol prices. "Big people in the last government conspired with Essar in a deal that continues to rip off Kenyans. It is even bigger than the notorious Goldenberg scandal." The Public Investments Committee has summoned the refinery's management to appear on September 24 to explain the

circumstances leading to the change of ownership from a public to private. Duale had sought the direction of Speaker Justin Muturi to have the matter investigated by a House committee to establish how much was paid for the sale and whether the deal was above board. The refinery, whose value stands at over Sh3 billion, was allegedly sold in 2009 to Essar at only Sh258 million. Essar acquired a 50 per cent stake in KPRL, which was incorporated in 1960 under the name East African Oil Refineries Ltd on July 31, 2009. Essar got its stake from BP, Royal Dutch Shell and Chevron in 2009. Duale said the Energy



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committee chaired by Kigumo MP Jamlcek Kamau has failed to conduct proper investigations into the issue yet Kenya has continued to lose billions of shillings. Duale told the House he is ready to testify before the committee. Muturi directed that the Energy committee investigate the matter and table a report in 10 days. But later PIC chairman Adan Keynan said the matter is his committee's mandate and they have summoned the KPRL management. "Anything touching on investments and audits of government bodies falls within the purview of PIC," said Keynan during the committee meeting. The matter was raised by Changamwe MP Omar Mwinyi. He said KPRL has not benefitted the local people.

<http://www.the-star.co.ke/news/article-136392/petrol-scandal-bigger-goldenberg-duale>

USA, N.Y, LONG ISLAND, SEPTEMBER 20 2013. RESIDENTS OUTRAGED OVER BAY PARK SEWAGE PLANT DIESEL OIL SPILL

aisha al-muslim

About 200 gallons of diesel oil spilled early Wednesday at the Bay Park Sewage Plant as a result of a malfunction while delivering fuel to supply temporary generators at the plant, leaving some residents fuming mad over the odor. "The smell is unbearable," Trisha Kearney, a member of the Bay Park Civic Association's board of directors, said. The spill was reported to the state Department of Environmental Conservation's Spill Response unit about 3:30 a.m., and DEC personnel supervised the cleanup. "The spill apparently occurred when a truck that was delivering diesel to supply fuel for generators at the plant apparently had the pressurized delivery hose blow off during the delivery process," DEC spokesman Bill Fonda said. "The spill was cleaned and there was zero impact to the local waterways," said Nassau County Department of Public Works spokesman Michael Martino, adding measures have been put in place including using a berm system to contain the area. "This is just another reason the county Democrats must stop playing games with County Executive Mangano's plan to fully repair the plant." County Executive Edward Mangano has requested \$722 million in borrowing to repair the plant, but the legislature's Democratic caucus has opposed borrowing the full amount all at once, arguing additional oversight is needed. Mangano's office has said it expects 90 percent of that sum to be reimbursed by the federal government. But County Legis. Dave Denenberg (D-Merrick), a ranking member of the Public Works Committee, said he has been calling for hearings on status of capital projects, including Bay Park.

<http://www.newsday.com/long-island/towns/long-island-now-1.1732330/residents-outraged-over-bay-park-sewage-plant-diesel-oil-spill-1.6101177>

USA, CO, DENVER, SEPTEMBER 20 2013. CHEVRON, BP, EXXON SETTLE FOR \$8 MILLION IN COLORADO POLLUTION CASE



Energy giants Chevron Corp., BP PLC, ExxonMobil Corp., and others agreed to a \$7.76 million settlement with the state of Colorado on Monday, over alleged pollution at a mining and metallurgical research center in Golden Colorado, [Law360 reports](#). Colorado previously filed a complaint in federal court alleging that 11 defendants, including the federal government, were responsible for the release of harmful substances at the research site between 1912 and 1987. The state stipulated that all 11 entities would contribute to the settlement, which would reimburse the state for some of the cost of cleaning up the harmful substances from research projects. "As a direct and proximate result of such releases or threatened releases of hazardous substances at the site, Colorado has incurred approximately \$13 million in necessary, unreimbursed response costs to investigate and clean up hazardous substances," the complaint stated. The research site in Golden, Colorado was used by the defendants from 1912 to 1948 as a research facility to "develop ore preparation techniques," according to the complaint. In 1948, the site became the home of the Colorado School of Mines Research Institute, where mining research was conducted

"on behalf of private industry and government contractors." The Golden, CO site facilitated thousands of research projects, many of which were confidential and contained "military trade secrets." The complaint alleged that research materials at the site contained toxic, hazardous substances including, "radionuclides, lead, arsenic, molybdenum, vanadium and mercury." The toxic substances continue to contaminate the soil and groundwater at the former research site. The government will pay the largest share of the settlement, \$3.699 million. Other defendants include BP America Inc., Cotter Corp., Elf Aquitaine Inc., Freeport-McMoRan, Industrial Minera Mexico SA de CV, Mexicana de Cobre SA de CV, and Terra Industries.

<http://www.ringoffireradio.com/2013/09/chevron-bp-exxon-settle-8-million-colorado-pollution-case-2/>



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SIERRA LEONE, FREETOWN, SEPTEMBER 20 2013. IS ETHANOL STARVING AFRICA? >> ACCUSATIONS OF LAND GRABBING REVIVE DEBATE OVER "FOOD VERSUS FUEL"

amar too



Sugarcane is harvested for conversion into ethanol at the Addax Bioenergy Project in Sierra Leone.

The biofuel industry has enjoyed tremendous growth over the past decade, sparked by the ongoing search for renewable energy sources and government incentives for private sector investment. But ethanol and other biofuels have come under increased criticism in recent years, with some questioning their long-term environmental benefits, and others linking them to far more urgent disasters: food shortages in the world's poorest countries. ActionAid, a UK-based charity, lashed out at Addax Bioenergy earlier this month, accusing the Swiss company of engaging in a biofuels "land grab" that has diminished food supplies and harmed the livelihoods of locals in the Bombali region of Sierra Leone. Addax took out a 50-year lease on more than 50,000 hectares of land there in 2008, and has since set up a massive sugarcane plantation to produce ethanol for biofuels. The company plans to begin exporting ethanol to Europe

by 2014, and aims to provide electricity for around 20 percent of Sierra Leone's national grid. The Addax Bioenergy Project was the first Africa-based complex to earn certification from the Roundtable on Sustainable Biofuels, but according to ActionAid's survey of more than 100 local villagers, the investment hasn't made much of an impact on everyday life. The charity's [report](#), published on September 3rd, claims that Addax's sugarcane complex has decimated valuable farmland in Sierra Leone, decreasing food production in a region already ravaged by hunger. ActionAid also claims that Addax's lease contracts were signed without the involvement of local communities, and that a program designed to train farmers on more advanced agricultural techniques has so far resulted in lower crop yields.

Food Versus Fuel?

Sierra Leone is one of the world's poorest countries, and ranks near the bottom of the Human Development Index. Life expectancy at birth is just 48 years, and only 7 percent of households have access to electricity. According to the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), agriculture accounts for 49 percent of Sierra Leone's GDP, and employs around 60 percent of the population. Addax has vehemently denied ActionAid's allegations, contesting the charity's methodology, and charging that its motives are rooted in politics rather than reality. The project, the company counters, has injected nearly \$52 million into Sierra Leone's economy, and has employed more than 2,000 locals. Addax also contests allegations that leases for its sugarcane plantation were signed without transparency, pointing to yearlong public discussions it held with the land-owning Chiefdom Councils in the area. According to the company, more than 2,000 hectares of community rice fields have been developed under its farmer development program. "There is evidence that many communities have a better livelihood, more income at household level and more children attending school than before," the company said in an open letter to ActionAid this month. "Communities are prioritized for job opportunities and Addax Bioenergy makes every effort to ensure communities within the area are the first to be recruited for permanent and seasonal employment opportunities." ActionAid isn't the first to levy charges of land grabbing against Addax. A 2011 report from a Swiss non-government organization (NGO) made a similar case, arguing that many farmers had already been pushed off fertile land without due compensation. NGOs such as Oxfam have [waged ongoing campaigns](#) against biofuel multinationals in other parts of Africa, as well. "When Addax visited the area, they promised us schools, boreholes, hospitals because of the chemicals they would be using, and jobs," Ali Bangura, a representative of the Landowners Committee of Makeni, [told AFP](#) at the time. "But nothing has materialized since 2008." "What we've seen over the past three or four years is an absolute rush for land," says Anders Dahlbeck, biofuels policy advisor at ActionAid. "And this has been very much driven by European targets" — a reference to the European Union's goal of having 10 percent of all transport energy come from renewable sources by the year 2020. Last week, the European Parliament passed a preliminary measure to limit the share of food-based biofuel to 6 percent of all transport fuels. The US Environmental Protection Agency is [poised to take similar steps](#), underscoring what some see as a growing uncertainty around the future of biofuels. Many have [blamed ethanol production](#) for rising global food prices, based on the premise that biofuel production diverts resources away from traditional agriculture. Some studies have also shown that biofuel production can actually [emit more climate-warming carbon](#) into the atmosphere than traditional diesel or gasoline. "That land should be used to produce



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food for locals, not to fuel European cars," Dahlbeck argues. But some experts say that when it comes to biofuels and food security, it's not an "either-or" question. "At the moment we have a false dichotomy between biofuels and other forms of land development," says Jeremy Woods, a lecturer at the Centre for Environmental Policy at Imperial College London and co-author of a [2011 paper](#) that argued in favor of biofuels as a means of enhancing food security in Africa. "A lot of this dichotomy is led by the perspective of 'food versus fuel', whereas when you actually look at the data, it's very difficult to find any evidence of food versus fuel at almost any scale," Woods tells The Verge, noting that traditional agriculture continues to drive most demand for large-scale land acquisitions across the globe. Dr. Calestous Juma, a professor of international development at the Harvard Kennedy School, adds that the current debate surrounding biofuels has become too polarized and abstract, oversimplifying what, at its core, is a very complex issue. In an email to The Verge, Juma said that biofuels have become "scapegoats in political battles," while acknowledging that they are "grossly overrated as a sustainable pathway to development." In his view, biofuels shouldn't be decoupled from traditional agriculture because they both require the same infrastructure and strong governance — both of which are far more critical to food security than ethanol or other biofuels. "Much of the reaction from NGOs has been more rhetorical than it has been helpful to African governments," Juma says. "Ideological arguments are a poor substitute for building land-management capacity."

<http://www.theverge.com/2013/9/19/4748986/are-biofuels-starving-africa-food-versus-fuel-debate>

MALAYSIA, KUCHING, SEPTEMBER 20 2014. 35,000 LITRES OF SUBSIDISED DIESEL, TANKER SEIZED

gary adit



Disguise Attempt: The seized tanker which is made to look like a Shell oil tanker.

The Ministry of Domestic Trade, Co-Operatives and Consumerism recorded another illegal subsidised diesel bust when its officers seized 35,000 litres of the commodity from a house in Sungai Apong here yesterday. The ministry's state director Wan Ahmad Uzir Wan Sulaiman said the bust took place around 9.30am when his men raided the premises and found 19 tanks filled with suspected subsidised diesel. Enforcement personnel from the ministry had initially spotted an oil tanker, disguised to look like a Shell tanker in order to fool authorities, before trailing it to the house where the rest of the diesel was found. Wan Ahmad said the value of the seized diesel was RM68,000 which, coupled with the tanker, brought the total value seized yesterday to RM98,000. The tanker driver has been detained for further questioning, while samples of the fuel were collected to be sent for analysis. It is believed that the seized

subsidised fuel was meant to be sold locally as well as to foreign fishing vessels. "I urge anyone who happens to notice suspicious activities taking place at petrol stations or elsewhere, particularly involving the abuse of subsidised diesel, to immediately notify the authorities," he added.

<http://www.theborneopost.com/2013/09/20/35000-litres-of-subsidised-diesel-tanker-seized/>

ROMANIA, SEPTEMBER 20 2013. MOL INVESTS INVESTED EUR 3 MILLION IN THREE NEW ROMANIAN FILLING STATIONS

MOL Romania, part of Hungary's MOL Group, invested EUR 3 million in three new filling stations, in a bid to increase the distribution chain, taking its total retail network to 141 stations. The new stations are located in Floresti (Cluj County), the city of Iasi and Calinesti (Arges County). "We invested almost 3 million euros in total in the new filling stations, which will serve customers in 3 different regions of Romania. We further strengthen our retail presence in the country, in our drive to pursue the growth strategy we have set out for the medium to long term. In addition, we continue to enlarge our top quality supply towards our clients and partners", stated Kinga Daradics, MOL Romania CEO and Country Chairman. The Floresti stations is the 11th that the company operates in Cluj County, being located on the E60 European road, a major transit route. The 3,300 sqm stations is designed to serve traffic from Cluj-Napoca to Oradea and the Transylvania highway. The Iasi-based station is the fourth in the county, serving both proximity customers and motorists in transit toward Vaslui or using the city's bypass. Calinesti hosts the fourth MOL Romania filling station in Arges County, located on the National Road 7, used by vehicles in transit between Bucharest and Pitesti. It's the first filling station inaugurated under the new operating platform where the



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partner owns the filling station, the fuel and the shop merchandise, while MOL provides the brand, manages the fuel supply and controls the operation. Aside from the retail network, MOL owns the concession rights for three blocks in Western Romania. One of the blocks has been ratified by all relevant authorities, allowing the company to start seeking oil and gas deposits.

<http://www.balkans.com/open-news.php?uniquenumber=182145>

USA, MA, BOSTON, SEPTEMBER 21 2013. BOSTON COPS: FIREWORKS EXPERIMENT MAY HAVE SPARKED BLOODY EXPLOSION

 **Watch the Video's:**

- [Boston Cops: Fireworks Experiment may have Sparked Bloody Explosion](#)
- [Boston Apartment Explosion: Police Say Man Lost Both Hands in Chemical Accident](#)

A man may have been experimenting with fireworks when an explosion rocked a Readville neighborhood this morning, damaging an apartment building and injuring five, including blowing off a person's hands, officials said. Firefighters responded to the blast at the four-story apartment building at 9:30 a.m. at 19 Riley Road and police, including the bomb squad, are now at the address, which is regarded as a hazmat scene, officials said. Investigators now believe a man "may have been making fireworks" inside the unit when the explosion happened, Boston police Commissioner Ed Davis said. The man was mixing chemicals in the basement before the explosion, Davis said. "He lost one or both hands." Davis said before the man was taken to the hospital, he told police "he was experimenting." Members of the FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force arrived about 11:30 and were seen walking into the apartment. "There's no connection to drugs at this time," Davis said. He added: "There's no connection to terrorism." Meanwhile, firefighters set up their mobile decontamination truck behind Riley Road to hose down first-responders who may have been exposed to dangerous chemicals. Davis said police were checking all their databases to determine who the person was and what he may have been doing in the apartment. "We'll be going through everything, not just the chemicals in the room, but all of the evidence as we execute a search warrant," Davis said. The explosion happened in a basement unit, police said. Three others were treated at the scene for injuries and the man's roommate was hospitalized with respiratory problems not related to the explosion, Davis said. "I was on my deck and there was a loud bang," said Lindsey Bell who lives in the building beside the site of the explosion. "It sounded like a car crash. Then I saw the firetrucks pull in. ... I saw them taking him out on a stretcher. He had no hands. They were bloody stumps and they were wrapping them with bandages." The area around the apartment building was locked down as police, fire and EMTs swarmed the apartment complex on Riley Road. The building where the explosion occurred is one of a few identical four-story, multi-unit apartment buildings. "We put the fire out and now it is a crime scene," Boston Fire Commissioner Roderick Fraser said. Davis said the cause of the explosion is under investigation. It was unknown how many people were in the home and what the condition is of the injured person.

http://bostonherald.com/news_opinion/local_coverage/2013/09/boston_cops_fireworks_experiment_may_have_sparked_bloody

USA, WYO, CHEYENNE, SEPTEMBER 21 2013. STATE WANTS MISSILE SILO CONTAMINATION FEARS ADDRESSED *trevor brown*

State officials and local residents want the federal government to do more to address contaminated groundwater west of Cheyenne. The concerns were brought up Thursday during a meeting updating the public on the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' progress to clean up or at least contain the contamination caused by a 1960s-era missile site. Investigators discovered the presence of trichloroethylene, or TCE, during the 1990s in the groundwater near Belvoir Ranch, which was F.E. Warren Air Force Base's former Atlas Missile Site No. 4. Spilled chemicals that were used to clean the silo has created a groundwater contamination plume that extends for about 10 miles to the east. Federal studies have shown that ingesting TCE increases the risk of liver damage and cancer. State and federal officials say there currently is no major public health fears related to the water. That is because Cheyenne's municipal water is not affected by it, and many rural residents have had their water treated. However, the Army Corps of Engineers is working with the state and local residents on a long-term restoration project. The U.S. Department of Defense has spent about \$18 million on the project over the past decade. Jeff Skog, project manager for the Army Corps of Engineers, said they are currently monitoring wells to study the plume and make sure it is not spreading. They are also working on a feasibility study on ways to remove the chemical from the water. This includes studying the possibility of installing interceptor wells that will work as an infiltration system so water that flows past a certain point will be



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clean. But Jane Francis, a geological supervisor for the state's Department of Environmental Quality, said they should also look at ways to remove sub-surface contamination at the source of contamination. She said the state worries the contamination could spread because of the presence of TCE between the soil and the groundwater. "Every time it rains, it hits the surface and percolates down through (the contamination), hits the water table and can get into (the groundwater)," she said. "And since that is where the contamination was first spilled, that is where the highest concentrations are." She said a soil vapor extraction system could remove the TCE and eliminate that risk. Skog, however, said the Army Corps of Engineers believes doing so would be too expensive and is unnecessary. "There doesn't seem to be an exposure risk, and it doesn't seem to be feeding into the groundwater that's going down into the Ogallala," he said. "And if it did, it would, hopefully, be intercepted by the interception system." He said there also isn't any evidence that a significant amount of TCE is present between the soil and water table. He didn't give an estimate on the cost of the potential soil vapor extraction system, but he said a similar pilot program costs about \$1 million. George Halyak, a local resident, is the chairman of the Restoration Advisory Board. The group of state and local officials and area residents is charged with making recommendations to the Army Corps of Engineers. Halyak agreed with Francis that the subsurface contamination at the source should be addressed. He said the Army Corps of Engineers should at least prove there is no danger. "I would want to know for sure that there is no risk," he said. "And I want to make sure there is no risk over time n whether it be 50 years, 100 years or 200 years, because now is the time to take care of it." Skog and Francis both said the Army Corps of Engineers and the state DEQ will continue a dialogue over the issue.

http://www.wyomingnews.com/articles/2013/09/20/news/20local_09-20-13.txt

INDIA, TAMIL NADU, TINDIVANAM, SEPTEMBER 21 2013. DIESEL FLOWS AS TANKER OVERTURNS, LOSES LOAD

A tanker lorry carrying 12,000 litres of diesel turned turtle and lost its entire load on Thursday evening as its valves were damaged in mishap that occurred in Avanipur near Tindivanam. The loss has been estimated at Rs 6.75 lakh. Babu (27) of Gingee was driving the tanker to a petrol bunk near Siruvadi, when the accident happened. The valves were damaged resulting in a massive leak on the load. Puddles of fuel were seen on the road. News of the incident spread like wildfire and residents of nearby villages such as Koonerikuppam, Paniyur, Kambur, Oongur and Annampakkam rushed to the spot with empty cans to fill collect the diesel. However, police from the nearby Olakkur Police Station swung into action and dispersed the crowd to prevent a disaster. The fire brigade was also alerted and rescue personnel cordoned off the area as a safety measure. A complaint in this regard was lodged at the Olakkur police station.

http://newindianexpress.com/states/tamil_nadu/Diesel-flows-as-tanker-overturms/2013/09/20/article1793436.ece

USA, WA, SPOKANE, SEPTEMBER 21 2013. FUEL TRUCK COLLIDES WITH CAR IN DOWNTOWN SPOKANE

 **Watch the Video** [Fuel Truck Collides With Car](#)

 **Slideshow [10]** [Hazmat Spill In Downtown Spokane](#)

A two-vehicle collision Downtown was expected to block lanes for hours Friday morning. Authorities said a car carrying three people and a dog collided with a fuel tank truck at 3rd Avenue and Browne Street. The car was heading south on Browne and the truck was traveling east on 3rd at the time of the accident, according to reports. The intersection at 3rd and Browne was flashing red both ways, so investigators said it was not immediately known who was at fault for the crash. No one was reported injured. The driver of the truck was sent to the hospital as a precaution to be checked out. The dog in the car suffered a burned ear but was expected to be okay. As a result of the accident, a tank carrying diesel fuel on the truck burst and began leaking onto the roadway, authorities said. Hazmat crews were called to the scene and expected cleanup to take a couple of hours. Lane closures were expected. Investigators planned to look at surveillance footage of the intersection later to try determining who may have been at fault in the wreck.

<http://www.krem.com/news/Fuel-Truck-collides-with-car-in-Downtown-Spokane-224553871.html>

USA, MN, BROWERVILLE, SEPTEMBER 21 2013. LOADED FUEL TANKER CRASHES IN C. MINN.; CAB CATCHES FIRE, DRIVER KILLED

paul walsh

A fuel truck rolled over with a full load in central Minnesota before dawn Friday, killing the driver and leaving the cab separated from the leaking tank and ablaze, authorities said. The crash occurred about 5:25 a.m. on County Road 21, less than 4 miles north of Browerville, according to the Todd County Sheriff's Office. The driver's identity has yet to be released. He worked for



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Jack's Oil Distributing in Eden Valley, Minn., the Sheriff's Office said. According to the Sheriff's Office: The truck was heading north on County Road 21, when it veered to the left and rolled over. The cab became unattached and caught fire, while the tank started losing fuel. First responders stemmed the leak and put down gravel to block the fuel on the ground from reaching a culvert. Jack's Oil was founded in 1976 and has a fleet of 16 trucks serving homes and businesses throughout central Minnesota, its website reads.

<http://www.startribune.com/local/224608881.html>

USA, W.VA, SEPTEMBER 22 2013. MARSHALL COUNTY COMMUNITY WONDERS ABOUT SAFETY AFTER WELL FIRE

jake kauffman

It was definitely not something you want to hear in the middle of the night, an oil well next to your house is on fire and could potentially blow up. But quick thinking by some neighbors and authorities helped keep everyone safe in one small Marshall County community. Just before 1:30 Saturday morning, a Marshall County Sheriff's deputy notice one stack at the still-under-construction Dominion plant off of Route 2 was on fire. The small community of Kent is right down Route 2 from the Dominion plant and we're rocked by the sounds of explosions once the stack caught fire. "We just started hearing explosions, then I heard something that sounded like a crash and then another big explosion. We decided at about that time that we better get out," said Arwana Wade, a Kent resident. Once the Wade's decided it was time to head to safety, Arwana's husband Delbert started making sure his neighbors were safe. "I got excited and starting waking the neighbors up, we got a widow woman living next store to me with a blind daughter and there's a couple of older people around the neighborhood and they all kind of look to me," said Delbert Wade. The fire was finally put around 8:30 Saturday morning and Route 2 was reopened around 9:30 AM. Although there were no injuries this time, the neighbors are still worried about what might happen once Dominion finishes construction on the plant. "We don't feel safe, we don't know if it's going to get any worse," said Delbert Wade. "I mentioned it to them before and they said 'We have it under control. It's just releasing pressure on the smoke stack.' But they didn't tell us it was going to blow up and shoot fire everywhere." 7 News did speak with Dan Donovan of Dominion and they are currently working with the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection to find out what sparked the fire Saturday morning.

<http://www.wtrf.com/story/23494046/marshall-county-community-wonders-about-safety-after-well-fire>

USA, WASHINGTON DC, SEPTEMBER 22 2013. EPA FINES TEXAS REFINERY \$8.75M FOR FAILING TO RESOLVE AIR VIOLATIONS



Total Petrochemical USA Inc. (Total) will pay an \$8.75 million penalty for failing to comply with the terms of a 2007 settlement with the United States that resolved alleged violations of the Clean Air Act at its Port Arthur, Texas, refinery, the Department of Justice and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced today. Between 2007 and 2011, Total violated numerous requirements of the 2007 settlement, including failing to comply with emissions limits for benzene, a harmful air pollutant. The company also failed to perform corrective actions or to analyze the cause of over 70 incidents involving emissions of hazardous gases through flaring. EPA discovered the violations through a review of the quarterly compliance reports required by the 2007 settlement. The 2007 settlement required that Total pay a \$2.9 million penalty and make upgrades to its facility to reduce emissions of harmful air pollution to resolve Clean Air Act violations. The 2007 settlement further required that Total upgrade leak detection and repair practices and implement programs to minimize flaring, which can result in emissions of gases that can cause serious respiratory problems and exacerbate asthma. "Total failed repeatedly to adhere to obligations they willingly took on when they settled with the United States in 2007. These are court-enforceable requirements for the protection of the health of their Texas neighbors, not simply the cost of doing business," said Robert G. Dreher, Acting Assistant Attorney General for the Justice Department's Environment and Natural Resources Division. "Companies that settle with the United States must meet their obligations or there will be consequences, as this significant

penalty demonstrates." "EPA has been working with local officials, community leaders and organizers, and local industry to improve living conditions for residents of Port Arthur. These efforts have already produced results, especially with the opening



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of the Westside Health Clinic," said EPA Regional Administrator Ron Curry. "Clean air is essential for keeping communities healthy. EPA will continue its efforts to hold companies accountable for violating our nation's environmental laws and meeting our enforcement orders and decrees." In addition to the penalty, today's action extends the requirement that Total comply with a lower benzene emissions limit for an additional two years. The enhanced limit for benzene, which is 30 percent lower than the federal limit, was initially required by the 2007 settlement. In addition, Total must hire a third-party to audit its compliance under the settlement and must implement a company task force to monitor its compliance. Reducing illegal emissions of toxic air pollutants at facilities that have a significant impact on air quality and health in communities is one of EPA's national enforcement priorities. Exposure to high concentrations of sulfur dioxide (SO₂), a key pollutant emitted from refineries, can affect breathing and aggravate existing respiratory and cardiovascular disease, particularly in children and in the elderly. SO₂ is converted in the air into fine particulate matter, which can harm health through decreased lung function, aggravated asthma, and premature death in people with heart or lung disease. Chronic exposure to benzene, a volatile organic compound which EPA classifies as a carcinogen, can cause numerous health impacts, including leukemia and adverse reproductive effects in women. Total is a refiner and petrochemical manufacturer whose products include automotive fuels, lubricants and liquefied petroleum gas. Total processes approximately 230,000 barrels per day of crude oil. The settlement, lodged in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Texas, is subject to a 30-day public comment period and court approval. The settlement will be available for viewing at www.justice.gov/enrd/ConsentDecrees.html. The claims resolved by this settlement are only allegations and there has been no determination of liability.

<http://northdallasgazette.com/2013/09/20/epa-fines-texas-refinery-8-75m-for-failing-to-resolve-air-violations/>

USA, N.C, FAYETTEVILLE, SEPTEMBER 22 2013. FATAL EXPLOSION OF CHIMINEA CAUSED BY LIQUID ACCELERANT, INVESTIGATORS SAY

nancy mccleary

The explosion of a chiminea last weekend, which resulted in a fatality, was caused by the ignition of vapors from a liquid accelerant used to start a fire, the Fayetteville Fire Department said Friday. Investigators believe that someone used gasoline or another type of fuel in the cast-iron stove, which was burning Saturday evening in a yard at 6544 St. Louis St. off Bunce Road. Martin Antoine Blossom, 28, was killed by shrapnel in the explosion, and four others were injured. "The forensic tests have ruled out everything, except that there was a gas or gas mixture poured on a log inside to accelerate the burning," Battalion Chief Ron Lewis said Friday. Investigators interviewed Blossom's family and friends this week and inspected the stove's remnants, Lewis said. An aerosol can was ruled out, he said. "(Evidence of a can) would have been on the inside of the shards," he said. None of those questioned could say what was put on the wood in the bell-shaped stove, Lewis said. The wood wasn't burning when someone poured the accelerant in the stove, Lewis said. "That just left putting gasoline or a gasoline mixture inside," he said. The vapors built up in the belly of the stove, he said. "Someone stuck a piece of paper in there to ignite the liquid, they stuck it in the door of the stove," he said.

Related Stories

- [Survivor: Fire pit explosion 'could have been a lot worse'](#)
- [Fayetteville man killed in fire pit explosion was 'well loved'](#)

<http://www.fayobserver.com/articles/2013/09/20/1284221?sac=fo.home>

USA, N.M.FE, SEPTEMBER 23 2013. DIESEL FUEL LEAKS INTO CITY RESERVOIR

A small amount of diesel fuel leaked into one of Santa Fe's municipal reservoirs and into the river late Friday afternoon. City water staff and the city contractor responsible for the spill were working to clean it up Friday and Saturday, according to Nick Schiavo, the water utility director. RMCI, a contractor hired by the city to take down an old water intake tower in the Nichols Reservoir and build a new one, had been draining water from Nichols into the Santa Fe River since early September before beginning demolition of the old tower. "The water began pooling and not going out [to the river]," Schiavo said. The contractor brought in a diesel-powered pump to suck out the remaining water and pipe it into the river. But a line running from a 50-gallon barrel of diesel fuel near the reservoir began leaking. Before workers discovered the leak, between 2 and 5 gallons of fuel had leaked into pooled water in the reservoir and was pumped into the river. Schiavo said when he heard what had happened, all he could think was, "Are they flippin' idiots? You are not supposed to have anything like a barrel of diesel [fuel] next to a reservoir, much less a river." Special blankets were used to soak up the diesel in the reservoir, and staff checked below the Nichols dam, but could see no sheen of fuel in the river water. Schiavo said the diesel fuel will be moved away from the



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reservoir, and the company will have to find some other way to pump out the water. He said the New Mexico Environment Department expects a report Monday. "It's embarrassing, but we're not trying to hide anything," Schiavo said. None of the water in the Nichols Reservoir, and none of the contaminated water, is part of Santa Fe's domestic drinking-water supply at this time. The water-treatment plant is closed for the duration of the tower replacement.

http://www.santafenewmexican.com/news/local_news/article_505ea8e9-c1b7-5fea-bef2-9a287dd4b214.html

USA, FLA, LAKE WALES, SEPTEMBER 23 2013. STATE ROAD 60 REOPENED AFTER 18-HOUR SHUT DOWN FOR NITRIC ACID SPILL

micah grimes

The major highway between Lake Wales, Alturas and Bartow has reopened after being partially shut down for 18 hours Saturday. State Road 60 was shut down around 5:30 a.m. when a waste transporter noticed damage to a drum containing nitric acid. Polk County Fire Rescue and third-party environmental cleanup crew responded to the acid spill. The eastbound lanes of SR-60 were opened to both lanes of traffic for several hours, but all four lanes of traffic are open Saturday night.

http://www.abcactionnews.com/dpp/news/region_polk/lake_wales/state-road-60-reopened-after-18-hour-shut-down-for-nitric-acid-spill

NIGERIA, BAYELSA STATE, SEPTEMBER 23 2013. "WE ARE IN DANGER," BAYELSA COMMUNITY CRIES OUT OVER OIL SPILL

osa okhomina

The people of Ikeinghenbiri community in Southern Ijaw Council area of Bayelsa, weekend cried out over the rising danger they are exposed to by last week's massive oil spill from the oil field of the Nigerian Agip Oil Company, asking that the company shut down the leakage or they will all die. The deputy paramount ruler of the community, Chief Collins Adikoko, said yesterday at the riverside, Ikeinghenbiri that though they had reported the spill to the oil firm, it was yet to be fixed. "The spill resulting from the leakage has exposed members of our community to hazards and untold hardship; we understand the oil is coming from an underwater valve. "The first thing we want is for them to stop the oil from leaking into our creeks and ponds, but six days after we reported, nothing has happened, we want them to hasten their response," Adikoko said. The community, he said had experienced frequent spills from the oil fields in the area operated by Agip which adversely affects the fishing occupation of the residents. He called on the company to deploy its response team to commence immediate clean up and work out plans to ameliorate the sufferings of the fishermen affected. The deputy paramount ruler noted that oil bearing communities that suffered the negative impact of oil exploration and production deserves special consideration by the oil firms in the provision of social amenities. Officials of Nigerian Agip Oil Company have scheduled a joint investigative visit to the spill site with representatives of the community and oil industry regulators. Mr Marshall Josiah, Chairman of Ikeinghenbiri Community Development Committee, said that officials of the oil firm had visited the spill site ahead of the joint visit.

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201309230244.html>

USA, TX, HOUSTON, SEPTEMBER 24 2013. BP OIL SPILL CLEANUP WORKERS HAVE ELEVATED RISK OF LEUKEMIA, LYMPHOMA AND LIVER DAMAGE

sarah rae fruchtnicht



Workers hired to clean up the BP Oil Spill in the Gulf of Mexico have significantly altered blood profiles, according to a new study, putting them at an increased risk of developing fatal illnesses, including leukemia, lymphoma and liver damage. A study published Tuesday in the American Journal of Medicine shows that more than 170,000 cleanup workers who responded to the 2010 explosion of BP's Macondo well, the Deepwater Horizon, were exposed to benzene, a powerful carcinogen that is easily absorbed into human tissue. "Benzene is a very toxic substance. It's easily absorbed through tissues, such as your skin," said Mark A. D'Andrea, the study's lead author and medical director for the University Cancer and Diagnostic Centers. "Once it enters your system, it affects several organs." The study found abnormal values for enzymes in the blood of 117 former cleanup workers, when compared to 130 participants not involved in spill cleanup. Workers had higher levels of three liver



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enzymes, which are normally a warning sign of liver dysfunction and damage. Live damage increases the risk of liver, pancreas and gallbladder cancers. D'Andrea said benzene travels to the bone marrow through a person's blood. Damage to bone marrow means a higher risk of leukemias, lymphoma and myelomas. The workers also had fewer blood-clotting platelets and lower blood urea nitrogen and creatinine, which are indicators of kidney health. The study also documented spill workers' clinical visits from 2010 to November 2012 and found the majority are reported headaches, shortness of breath, skin rashes, and chronic coughing. "Based on extensive monitoring conducted by BP and the federal agencies, response worker and or public exposures to dispersants were well below levels that would pose a health or safety concern," BP said. However, D'Andrea said there is little research in the U.S. on benzene exposure. "There are not a whole lot of studies of incident exposure in the United States, even though we have a big petrochemical industry," D'Andrea said. BP spokesman Jason Ryan criticized the study for having a small sample size, "fewer than 0.1 percent of the workers involved in the cleanup." He claimed the study had a selection bias, since participants were "referred by their legal counsel, not randomly recruited." "This selection bias raises fundamental questions about the study," Ryan said, adding that "the authors present no basis for assigning clinical significance to the non-specific biological markers they report."

<http://www.opposingviews.com/i/society/environment/bp-oil-spill-cleanup-workers-have-elevated-risk-leukemia-lymphoma-and-liver#>

USA, OH, DARKE CO, SEPTEMBER 24 2013. FLASH FIRE CAUSED BY GASOLINE INJURES TEEN, WOMAN

A 15-year-old girl and 22-year-old pregnant woman were injured Sunday after a flash fire caused by gasoline. Sheriff's deputies and Greenville first responders were dispatched to a Horatio Harris Creek Road address after the girl reportedly put gasoline on a campfire, which caused the flash fire. The fire burned the girl's arms, legs and abdomen. The pregnant woman, who was nearby, fell to the ground and landed on her stomach. The girl was transported by CareFlight to Miami Valley Hospital. The woman was taken to Upper Valley Medical Center for evaluation. Deputies did not know the condition of either females. The incident remains under investigation.

http://www.abc22now.com/shared/news/top-stories/stories/wkef_vid_16155.shtml

USA, VA, MANASSAS, SEPTEMBER 24 2013. PRESSURIZED TANK EXPLODES IN MANASSAS BUILDING

 **Watch the Video's:**

- [1 Injured in Tank Explosion in Manassas](#)
- [Pressurized Tank Explodes in Manassas Building](#)

A pressurized tank exploded Monday in a Virginia building inhabited by a defense contractor that makes rocket launchers for the military. The blast led to evacuations and a robust response by local emergency crews to 9441 Innovation Drive in Manassas, a worksite used by defense contractor Utron. One male employee suffered a minor injury after a large pressurized cylinder launched through the roof and crashed back into the building in another area, Fire Marshal Curtis Brodie told News4's Julie Carey, creating "substantial" damage inside. The injured man was transported to a local hospital with minor injuries. He suffered abrasions and other injuries due to the release of the cylinder, Brodie said. The vessel created a four-foot hole through the roof at its exit. "I was just sitting in my cubicle, working on engineering stuff when all of a sudden, there was this loud boom," said Dylan Pizzitolo, an electrical engineer at the adjacent Nikon Metrology office space. "And I thought it might be have been thunder or it might have been an earthquake, or something like that, and then I heard another boom a few seconds later, and I got concerned and left the building." The object left a large debris field, and parts of the roof littered the parking lot, breaking car windows and denting other vehicles. Pizzitolo said someone at Nitron pulled a fire alarm, and a group of people left the building to see smoke coming out of the complex's garage. "And there was pieces of rock all over the floor, the ground.... The glass got blown out, some people's cars," he said. "It was basically just glass damage, glass damage in front of the building. Some things got shattered, rocks, gravels, the roof material." Employees at Nikon said even in their section of the complex, ceiling tiles were shifted and some light fixtures were dropping from the ceiling. The Prince William County Fire Department and Manassas Volunteer Fire Department were called to the scene, as were a hazmat team and the Prince William building collapse rescue team. Almost 40 units responded in all, said the Manassas Volunteer Fire Department. Officials have determined there are no hazardous chemicals present. The building department is now inspecting the structure to determine whether it is safe to enter. The building has been evacuated shortly after the blast. There is partial damage to the building and to the roof. According to Utron's website, the company is a compacted-powder parts manufacturer that develops



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products for the defense and aerospace industry. Past and present clients include the U.S. Navy, the U.S. Army, NASA, the Ballistic Missile Defense Organization and others, [according to Utron's website](http://www.nbcwashington.com/news/local/Hydrogen-Tank-Explodes-in-Manassas-Building-224881482.html).

<http://www.nbcwashington.com/news/local/Hydrogen-Tank-Explodes-in-Manassas-Building-224881482.html>

USA, FLA, ST AUGUSTINE, SEPTEMBER 24 2013. STATE DROPS CHARGE AGAINST FUEL TRUCK DRIVER IN BP EXPLOSION

stuart korfhage

Already cleared of civil liability, the fuel delivery truck driver involved in the Aug. 19, 2011, explosion at the BP gas station on State Road 16 has been cleared of criminal liability. David Hunt Cowles found out last week that the State Attorney's Office has dropped its charge against him. Cowles had been facing one count of culpable negligence exposing others to injury, a second-degree misdemeanor. The case had been continued several times and was scheduled for another pretrial hearing today. Instead, Assistant State Attorney William Underhill filed a Nolle Prosequi form on Friday. The form states: "Although probable cause exists to sustain the charges, the victim has requested the charges be dismissed." In the last court appearance in June, defense attorney Mycki Ratzan argued in front of Judge Charles Tinlin that the case should be dismissed. She filed a motion for dismissal based on the ruling in civil court that Cowles' actions during the incident at the gas station did not rise to the level of gross negligence. The state defines gross negligence as "conduct [that] was so reckless or wanting in care that it constituted a conscious disregard or indifference to the life, safety, or rights [of] persons exposed to such conduct." Because the burden of proof is actually lower at the civil level than the criminal level, Ratzan argued that there was no way Cowles could be found criminally responsible for the explosion that injured no one other than himself. Ratzan said she was confident Tinlin would have dismissed the case once the state presented its evidence. Avoiding the trial altogether was the best situation for everyone, she said. "This is the just result," she said. "I don't think it was fair to charge him in the first place." There was no comment on the case from the State Attorney's Office. Shortly after the explosion, it did appear there was reason to charge Cowles. He was judged to be at fault in the initial report by the fire marshal. "I do understand why they originally filed," Ratzan said. However, as evidence was collected for civil cases — with Cowles both defendant and plaintiff — it became clear that there was little to show Cowles had acted improperly. It was first alleged that Cowles had left his truck while the fuel was being offloaded from his tanker truck. But it turned out the evidence did not support the charge. Civil attorney Stuart Ratzan argued in court documents that the BP station did not have properly working gauges for the above-ground fuel tanks that were being filled at the time of the explosion. An investigation by the U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration found fault with and fined both the BP station and Florida Rock & Tank Lines Inc., Cowles' employer. A news release from OSHA stated: "OSHA's inspection found that the gas station and Florida Rock & Tank Lines decided to refill the storage tank even though the liquid level gauging system was inoperable." Because of the faulty gauges, there was an overflow during the offloading process, and the vapors from the fuel and the heat from the running truck sparked a huge explosion. Cowles and Stuart Ratzan reached a settlement in their lawsuit against 5th Wheel BP gas station owner J.B. Coomes of Coomes Oil in the summer. It was a confidential settlement agreement, which means neither side can reveal the details. An order for dismissal with prejudice was recorded on Thursday. A lawsuit listing Cowles as a defendant was closed in May.

<http://staugustine.com/news/local-news/2013-09-23/state-drops-charge-against-fuel-truck-driver-bp-explosion#.UkFaiJanp9U>

USA, TX, DALLAS, SEPTEMBER 24 2013. CALIFORNIA AND NEVADA BENZENE LEUKEMIA INJURIES

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As a Texas Benzene Leukemia and Toxic Tort attorney, I am directing the public to the dangers of benzene and its carcinogenic (cancer causing properties). Benzene is found in petroleum, gasoline products and oil and gas production.

Mayflower, Arkansas Oil Spill

Six months ago, 200,000 gallons of oil poured out into the streets of Mayflower, Arkansas before ending up in a popular local fishing lake. The source of the oil leak was a 65-year-old oil pipeline owned by Exxon Mobil Corp. Federal pipeline officials had warned for twenty years that the aging pipeline had a higher risk of failure because of an old manufacturing defect. Two years earlier, another Exxon pipeline had ruptured on Montana's Yellowstone River despite government warnings.



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Lawsuits are being filed against Exxon-Mobil oil giant, alleging that it was negligent in maintaining its 8,000-mile U.S. pipeline network. According to Exxon Mobil, "it manages its pipelines with a detailed and systematic integrity management program, consistent with the requirements outlined by the federal regulators."

Scope of the Oil Pipe Rupture Problem

Since 2010 there have been more than 600 oil pipeline spills in the United States, the worst of which sent more than 840,000 gallons of crude into Michigan's Kalamazoo River when a line owned by Enbridge ruptured.

Exxon's Silvertip Pipeline Guillotine Break

Just east of Montana's Rocky Mountains, Exxon's Silvertip pipeline crosses beneath the Yellowstone River bound for an oil refinery upstream. In Spring 2012, the federal pipeline agency was concerned that the Spring flooding would erode the river bottom covering the pipeline, and the agency contacted Exxon to express "continuing concerns," according to a report filed earlier this year. On May 25, as the flooding worsened, Exxon and another company that operates a pipeline under the Yellowstone, WBI Energy, agreed to shut off their lines. But Exxon, after closing its line a few hours to assess the river, was running the Silvertip again. At 10:40 p.m. on July 1, Exxon's control center in Houston got an alarm that pressure on the Silvertip was dropping. Federal authorities would later learn that the line had become exposed to the floodwaters and suffered a "guillotine break" caused by passing debris. That night the staff manning Exxon's control center missed or did not understand the alarm, and the foot-wide pipeline ran for almost another hour, dumping more than 60,000 gallons of oil into the river. Earlier this year, federal pipeline officials fined Exxon \$1.7 million for the spill, saying the company had "failed to consider all relevant risk factors" in operating the Silvertip. Exxon denied the charge and is awaiting a hearing before the U.S. Department of Transportation.

Engineering Techniques for determining Pipeline Failure

Engineers run water through the lines at high pressure, and robot-like devices called "smart pigs" scan the interior for signs of corrosion and flaws in the metal. Hair-thin cracks develop in the walls of pipe manufactured before 1970 because of a faulty welding technique. The U.S. Pipeline and Hazardous Material Safety Administration first warned oil companies about the problem in the late 1980s. 25% of U.S. 180,000 miles of petroleum pipeline potentially has the defect, and so the agency has decided against a recall and advised companies to inspect those lines more thoroughly. When workers dug up the Pegasus pipeline in Mayflower, they found a 22-foot gash running along its spine. The metal around the break was brittle and contained multiple fractures and according to experts, the aged Pegasus suffered from the same welding flaw the government had warned about. Federal pipeline investigators are now trying to determine whether Exxon followed established protocols in maintaining the Pegasus line, which runs more than 850 miles between Patoka, Ill., and Nederland, Texas.

Exxon-Mobil Fines

In 2010 the Transportation Department fined the company \$26,200 for not inspecting the Pegasus where it ran under the Mississippi River. Three years later, Exxon Mobil was fined \$112,300 for not performing required pressure tests on another oil pipeline in Louisiana. For decades the Pegasus had transported oil from the Texas Gulf Coast north to Illinois, but once Canada's oil sands fields took off, demand shifted. Before reversing the line, Exxon performed a hydrostatic test to check Pegasus' integrity. The results, revealed multiple points along the line where the flawed weld failed to hold.

Exxon Mobil Denies Liability

In Mayflower, of the approximately 200,000 gallons that spilled, only about 84,000 has been definitively accounted for. Much of the rest would have been taken up in thousands of tons of soil and water that have been carted off, but no one is sure how much, said Ryan Benefield, deputy director of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality. That leaves unknown quantities of benzene, a known carcinogen, and other chemicals languishing in Mayflower. State water testing shows the lake is clean. But residents are worried that the fear of the spill will permanently reduce real estate values. The Arkansas attorney general and the U.S. Department of Justice have sued Exxon for alleged violations of state and federal environmental law.

<http://fortworth.legalexaminer.com/uncategorized/california-and-nevada-benzene-leukemia-injuries/>



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