



Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network Release 2014 – 1,069 Newsy Stuff

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

May 20 2014



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USA, S.C, GREENVILLE CO, MAY 9 2014. MAN WORKING ON CAR BADLY BURNED WHEN IT EXPLODES

carla field



Shirt worn by Josh Cheatham when car exploded

A man who was working on a car was badly burned Wednesday afternoon when fumes in the empty gas tank exploded. Charles Garrison said he was working on a truck near where his friend, Josh Cheatham, was working on his race car in a garage at the Vinings at Laurel Creek apartment complex on Laurens Road. Garrison said Cheatham was trying to cut away the vehicle's fuel tank when it exploded. He said Cheatham came out of the garage on fire and he grabbed a bottle of water from his truck and put the fire out. He then got a fire extinguisher and out on the vehicle fire. Garrison said Cheatham was burned on his chest from the waist up. Cheatham was treated at the scene by EMS and then airlifted to Augusta Burn Center. Cheatham's sister, Crystal, contacted WYFF News 4 said that her brother is listed as stable. She said earlier reports that her brother was working on a race car were incorrect, and it was his personal vehicle.

<http://www.wyff4.com/news/man-working-on-race-car-badly-burned-when-it-explodes/25857736>

GHANA, ACCRA, MAY 9 2014. BLAST ON OIL REFINERY PIPELINE, OUTPUT NOT DISRUPTED

An explosion on a pipeline linking Ghana's 45,000 barrel-per-day Tema Oil Refinery in an industrial hub near the capital Accra to a nearby port has been reported. The 5 km (3 mile) stretch of pipeline was transporting naphtha, primarily used as a feedstock for producing gasoline, when it began to leak around midday. Passersby had begun collecting the highly flammable liquid, when a sudden fire broke out. The fire sent a column of dense black smoke billowing hundreds of metres into the sky above Tema, around 20 km (12 miles) east of Accra. The fire was brought under control in around three hours and output from the refinery would not be disrupted. The fire also damaged part of Cocoa Processing Company's nearby factory forcing it to shut down. The facility has capacity to process 64,500 tonnes of cocoa beans annually. The refinery has been hobbled by repeated shutdowns over the last few years, but was close to signing a joint venture agreement with PetroSaudi International. The refinery's managing director was in London at the time of the accident as part of a delegation meeting with PetroSaudi to conclude the deal.

<http://businessdayonline.com/2014/05/blast-on-oil-refinery-pipeline-output-not-disrupted/#.U24Ifsanry0>

USA, WASHINGTON DC, MAY 8 2014. U.S. ISSUES SAFETY ALERT FOR OIL TRAINS

jad mouawad



A CSX train carrying crude oil derailed into a river in Virginia on April 30, forcing the evacuation of hundreds.

Calling the movement of crude oil by rail an "imminent hazard" to the public, the federal Department of Transportation said on Wednesday that railroads would be required to notify local emergency responders whenever oil shipments traveled through their states. The [emergency order](#) follows a spate of accidents that have raised concerns about the safety of the trains that carry increasing amounts of crude oil from the Bakken region of North Dakota across the United States. It said railroads with trains that carry more than one million gallons of Bakken crude, the equivalent of about 35 tank cars, must provide state emergency commissions with detailed information about their shipments within the 30 days of the emergency order. Typically, oil trains carry 100 cars or more. The requirement includes disclosing the number of trains each week, the specific routes the trains will travel and which counties they will cross. Until now, railroads were under no obligation to disclose any of that information and provided it only under strict conditions if it was requested. In addition, transportation regulators said they would urge shippers to stop using older tank cars to carry crude oil, recommending that they use cars with "the highest level of integrity in their fleet when transporting Bakken crude oil." The



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announcements come a week after an oil train derailed in Lynchburg, Va., spilling 30,000 gallons into the James River, erupting into flames and forcing the evacuation of 350 people. It was the latest in a series of accidents that have caught industry regulators as well as railroads off guard. Last year an oil train exploded in Lac-Mégantic, Quebec, killing 47 people. The announcement on Wednesday included regulators' starkest language yet about the dangers of crude oil transport; the regulators have been accused by lawmakers and safety advocates of being slow-footed. The number of accidents, the order said, "is startling, and the quantity of petroleum crude oil spilled as a result of those accidents is voluminous" in comparison with past accidents. Last month, regulators in Canada said they would require emergency plans from the railroads on responding to catastrophic explosions and would quickly retire older models of tank cars commonly used to carry crude oil. Canada also took a decisive step to force shippers to use a stronger model of tank car within the next three years, effectively setting a new benchmark in the United States as well, given the amount of traffic between the two countries. The new model is based on a standard developed by the North American railroad industry in 2011. Communities around the United States have experienced a surge in oil traffic in the last five years thanks to a boom in domestic oil production, particularly from the Bakken Shale region. This Bakken oil, which accounts for almost all the crude oil in the United States that is transported by train, is more flammable than other types of crude oil, which typically travels by pipeline. The Bakken region produces about one million barrels of crude each day; about two-thirds of that is shipped by rail. Many states, including New York, Oregon and Minnesota, and cities like Seattle have urged railroads [to provide more information about their shipments](#), something the industry has resisted so far, invoking protections from state oversight afforded by federal commerce rules. The railroad industry has traditionally been secretive about its routing of hazardous materials, citing security concerns. Earlier this year, railroads said they would treat oil as a hazardous material and agreed to speed limits, among other things, to increase safety. But in its latest announcement, the Transportation Department said the recent accidents "have demonstrated the need for emergency action to address unsafe conditions or practices in the shipment of crude oil by rail." It required that railroads also assist state officials in disseminating any information they provide to emergency responders in the affected counties. Also, according to transportation officials, the shipping information provided by railroads would not be made public. It would instead be restricted to emergency personnel, something rail officials have long insisted on. But some elected officials remained skeptical about how the requirements would be put into effect. "The D.O.T. absolutely needs to further clarify to the oil and rail companies how to implement these steps, as I'm concerned that calls for action without clear guidelines won't actually do much to improve safety," Senator Heidi Heitkamp, Democrat of North Dakota, said in a statement. The Association of American Railroads said in a statement that rail companies would do "all they can to comply with the Department of Transportation's emergency order." In a separate safety alert, regulators sought to "encourage" shippers and rail carriers to "take additional precautionary measures to enhance the safe shipment of bulk quantities of Bakken crude oil by rail throughout the United States." It also advised railroads and shippers to avoid using older tank cars when carrying crude oil "to the extent reasonably practicable." The Transportation Department [is still working on updating standards](#) for the old tank cars, known as DOT-111s, which have been in service since the 1960s. It recently sent its proposed new rules for review by the White House's Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs and expects to make them public by the summer. Regulators are weighing the proper timeline for phasing in the new cars. A timeline that is too quick would curtail shipments from the Bakken region. There are more than 94,000 of those tank cars used to transport crude oil in Canada and the United States, according to the Railway Supply Institute, a trade group for rail car suppliers and owners. About 14,000 of them were built after 2011 based on a new industry standard, CPC-1232, that complies with the new Canadian rules. A total of 55,000 have been ordered through 2015, according to the group. But complicating matters, the Association of American Railroads, which helped set the new tank car standards in 2011, has since called for even tougher standards. The association, representing major freight carriers, said in November that the government should develop more-stringent regulations and aggressively phase out or refit old tank cars, including the CPC-1232. The association's newest proposals include using thicker shells to strengthen the tank cars and equipping them with features to better withstand a crash. It is unclear whether those proposals are part of the government rules being considered. The delays over a federal standard have complicated matters for shippers and oil companies. Some companies, like the Canadian National Railway and Canadian Pacific, said they would charge higher rates for customers that move crude in rail cars built before October 2011. Others have taken voluntary steps. Global Partners, which operates a large rail yard in Albany, said last week that it would require oil trains arriving at its terminals to comply with the CPC-1232 design starting on June 1. The company has led the expansion of the Albany crude terminal, which supplies a large number of East Coast refineries.

http://www.nytimes.com/2014/05/08/business/us-orders-railroads-to-disclose-oil-shipments.html?_r=0#



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USA, TX, TEXAS CITY, MAY 9 2014. TEXAS CITY STREET SHUT BY MARATHON REFINERY LEAK

A street in Texas City, Texas was shut for several hours on Wednesday morning by a leak of the volatile hydrocarbon naphtha at Marathon Petroleum Corp's Galveston Bay Refinery, said a city official and a company spokeswoman. "We had a small naphtha leak this morning in a tank farm area of the Galveston Bay Refinery ... no injuries and no offsite impact," said Marathon spokeswoman Stefanie Griffith. The naphtha was released by excavation on the grounds of the refinery near Fifth Avenue in Texas City, said Derek Duckett, Texas City emergency management director. "We shut a portion of Fifth Avenue that runs by the refinery due to the proximity; to prevent setting something off," Duckett said. Foam was applied on top of the naphtha and air monitors did not detect any further presence of naphtha. The street was reopened. Griffith said the cleanup of the spilled naphtha was progressing on Wednesday afternoon. Marathon purchased the 451,000 barrel per day (bpd) refinery in Texas City from BP Plc in 2013. The refinery was the site of a deadly 2005 explosion of a volatile hydrocarbon that killed 15 workers.

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/sns-rt-us-refinery-operations-20140507.0.4849852.story>

USA, WASHINGTON DC, MAY 9 2014. NEW ONLINE MAPPING TOOL FOR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENTS

EPA launched an interactive web-based mapping tool that provides the public with access and information on Environmental Impact Statements (EIS) filed with EPA for major projects proposed on federal lands and other proposed federal actions. When visiting the website, users can click on any state for a list of EISs, including information about the potential environmental, social and economic impacts of these projects. The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires federal agencies to consider the impacts of proposed actions, as well as any reasonable alternatives as part of their decision-making process. For proposed projects with potentially significant impacts, federal agencies prepare a detailed Environmental Impact Statement which is filed with EPA and made available for public review and comment. EPA is required to review and comment on Environmental Impact Statements prepared by other federal agencies. You can find comment letters submitted by the EPA on Environmental Impact Statements within the last 60 days by clicking on a state in the map. The tool also provides information on projects with open comment periods, including how to submit comments. The tool supports EPA's commitment to utilize advanced information technologies that help increase transparency of its enforcement and compliance programs. EPA's Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance has recently launched the "Next Generation Compliance" initiative, designed to modernize its approach and drive improved compliance to reduce pollution. Learn more about the effort by visiting: <http://blog.epa.gov/epaconnect/2013/08/nextgen/>. To use EPA's EIS Mapper, visit <http://eismapper.epa.gov/>.

<http://www.epa.gov/compliance/nepa/>.

USA, W.VA, HUNTINGTON, MAY 9 2014. HUNTINGTON ALLOYS SUBMITS AMENDED REMEDIAL PLAN

tony rutherford



Region III of the US Environmental Protection Agency has released an updated webpage for the Huntington Alloys Corporation which indicates that an amended remedial plan was submitted March 31, 2014 for further assessment of chemicals under concern in the groundwater. The newly submitted document will serve as a supplement to their Voluntary Remediation Agreement. According to the EPA website, there are four areas of concern: They are the former dip tank, seven underground storage tanks, the sulfuric acid spills/overfills, and a stained area. The former dip tank has no evidence of a spill or release during the October 2009 RCRA site visit or during a WVDEP or EPA file review. For the seven underground storage tanks, no information was found in files reviewed indicated a release from these tanks or any sampling activities relating to their removal. There was a release of sulfuric acid in April 1994. The facility reported the spill to the National Response Center and neutralized the spill with soda ash; no confirmatory samples were

collected. A second sulfuric acid release occurred in July 1990. Soil sampling was recommended in May 1994 but there is no evidence in the files that this sampling was ever completed. There was an area of black staining observed on the ground near the pre-treatment plant (one of the SWMU). The source or cause of this staining could not be determined during the 2009 RCRA site visit. Under waste management, the EPA lists 37 solid waste management units: These include a container storage, former baghouse dust storage, former nitric-HF tank, waste holding, spent acid tank system, neutralization tank, former west tailing pond, three former lagoons, former landfill, waste pile, hydraulic oil recycling unit, multi-hearth roasting furnace area, former barium chloride area, existing west tailing pond, dewatering filter press, reslurry tank, multi-hearth furnace, equalization tank, picking rinsewater pre-treatment plants, equalization tank, reaction tank, clarifier, three sludge



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dewatering tank, satellite accumulation areas, pre-treatment plant, former strip mill/current spent acid tank, former electro plating tanks, sludge holding tank, former temporary sludge holding tank, trash dumpsters, parts washer, equipment boneyard, and vacuum truck washer area.

Editor's Note: Although no data is contained on the former nitric HF tank, a description of the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant --- where a contaminated portion of the Huntington uranium/nickel carbonyl processing plant are buried --- does detail HF and by products. "Wet atmospheric air continuously leaks into the cascade past the compressor seals and through cracks and pinholes that sometimes develop. UF₆ reacts with the moisture in the air to form gaseous hydrogen fluoride (HF) and uranyl fluoride (UO₂F₂) which is solid at operating temperatures. This material settles out and degrades cascade efficiency. It also poses a uranium accountability problem as the material appears to be lost. A third concern is the possibility of a nuclear criticality incident if the material is allowed to collect in the process equipment. In order to recover this uranium, fluorine and/or chlorine trifluoride are introduced to remove these uranium deposits. Nitrogen and oxygen from the inleaked air are also present. The process coolant, R-114, also leaks into the cascade. Nitrogen and/or dry air are used to provide a buffer between the cascade and the atmosphere. Some of the buffer gases also leaks into the cascade. Due to the much lower molecular weights of these substances, they flow rapidly to the top cells of the cascade where they block the upflow of UF₆ process gas unless they are removed."

<http://www.huntingtonnews.net/87263>

SA, CA, VENTURA CO, MAY 9 2014. HIGHWAY TO THE CLEANUP ZONE >> EFFORTS TO CLEAN 26-YEAR-OLD SPILL BRINGS ROADWORK TO NEIGHBORHOOD

chris o'neal

Residents of the neighborhood at the corner of Porter Lane and Eva Street in midtown Ventura are in for a month-long sighting of detour signs during a concerted effort to rid the area groundwater of a gasoline additive that leaked from an underground tank some 26 years ago. In 1988, an underground tank containing gasoline at the Five Points Car Wash began to leak. The gasoline contained the additive methyl tert-butyl ether (MTBE), which bonds easily to water. After reaching the water table, the MTBE drifted under Main Street and into the community in a narrow plume. To further complicate matters, another leak from an adjacent property, of the same chemical, drifted into the same plume. MTBE was added to gasoline in the past in because it aids in combustion. The area affected stretches from behind Five Points Car Wash to just past the sidewalk on the corner of Eva Street and Porter Lane to a depth of 16 feet. Gina Teresa, environmental health specialist with the County of Ventura, says that the groundwater in the community is not a drinking water source and that the project has been going on for months, taking samples from area wells in order to determine if the concentration is lessening. The current project will inject a two-part oxidant that will destroy the contaminants. Teresa says that the project has been delayed several times before in the past. "A lot of these cases are funded by the state, so if they don't have the funding to do the cleanup they wait for reimbursement," said Teresa. Using the California State Water Resources Control Board's GeoTracker map, details of areas in need of cleanup can be seen. In the city of Ventura, there are multiple sites that are scheduled for cleanup. TRAK Environmental Group, a local private business, has been contracted to complete the project and, on a Monday afternoon, was on-site. Several white trucks and road crews were on hand to guide traffic, and temporary no-parking signs have been erected on Porter Lane and Eva Street. The Ventura County Environmental Health Division estimates that the cleanup should be completed by December 2015, but the project on Eva Street and Porter Lane should conclude within 30 to 40 days. Area residents have been notified of the project, says Teresa. "[MTBE] is not a volatile organic carbon, it's more of a nuisance chemical," says Teresa.

http://www.vcreporter.com/cms/story/detail/highway_to_the_cleanup_zone/11932/

USA, WASHINGTON DC, MAY 9 2014. EPA UPDATES OIL AND GAS STANDARDS FOR STORAGE TANKS

EPA issued updates to its April 2012 oil and natural gas standards for storage tanks, which allow responsible oil and natural gas production while ensuring air emissions are reduced as quickly as possible. The updates will phase in emission control deadlines, starting with higher-emitting tanks first, and will provide the time needed to ramp up the production and installation of controls. Storage tanks that emit 6 or more tons of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) a year must reduce emissions by 95 percent. This rule establishes two emission control deadlines:

- Tanks that come online after April 12, 2013 are likely to have higher emissions and must control VOC emissions within 60 days or by April 15, 2014, whichever is later; and
- Tanks that came online before April 12, 2013 are likely to have lower emissions and must control VOC emissions by April 15, 2015.



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The updated standards also establish an alternative emissions limit that allow owners/operators to remove controls from tanks if they can demonstrate that the tanks emit less than 4 tons per year of VOC emissions without controls. In addition, the rule streamlines compliance and monitoring requirements for tanks that have already installed controls. This final action does not affect the April 2012 standards for capturing natural gas from hydraulically fractured wells. These updates respond to petitions for reconsideration of the 2012 New Source Performance Standards for Oil and Natural Gas Production.

<http://www.epa.gov/airquality/oilandgas/actions.html>.

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES, SHARJAH, MAY 9 2014. 'SILENT KILLER' GUILTY OF 3 DEATHS IN SHARJAH

mohammad al sadafy

The Sharjah Police on Wednesday revealed the reasons that led to the death of two Asians and one Egyptian person who worked at a car polishing shop in the emirate's Abu Shaghara area. The three people died of inhalation of carbon monoxide. The trio were found dead by one of their own colleagues who then contacted the police around 12:15pm on Tuesday and a family member of one of the victims. The three workers were immediately transported to Al Kuwaiti hospital where the doctors declared them dead. The police did not find any signs of violence and foul play was ruled out. It was revealed that those who died used to work on the ground floor of the polishing shop and sleep on the roof of the shop. When questioned by police, the man who discovered the dead bodies said that he had woken up early in the morning and left the shop. When he returned around 9am, he found his colleagues and tried waking them up. After he failed to do so, he called the brother of one of the deceaseds. Finally, they informed the police about the incident. On investigation of the shop and the cars parked, police officials found that one car was in switch-on mode and the engine was hot as well. The survivor admitted that he had spent the night inside the car with the AC on to beat the heat. Initial forensic report confirmed that the death resulted from asphyxiation by carbon monoxide, which was found in high concentration, ranging from 70% to 75% in the samples submitted. Colonel Dr Abdul Kader Al Amri, Director of Sharjah Police Forensic Laboratory said that all indications and preliminary evidence suggests the occurrence of death as a result of inhaling poisonous carbon monoxide, which leaked through the car's exhaust into the shop. He added that carbon monoxide has no smell, colour or taste, which could have alerted the victims who inhaled the so-called "silent killer". In fact, inhalation of the gas causes the victim to feel sleepy, while inhalation of large quantities of it leads to death, because of the shortage of oxygen. Colonel Sultan Al Khayal, Director of Security Media called the owners of industrial facilities to ensure the provision of a safe environment for workers.

<http://www.emirates247.com/silent-killer-guilty-of-3-deaths-in-sharjah-2014-05-08-1.548372>

USA, N.Y, WARRENSBURG, MAY 9 2014. FUEL COMPANY'S TRUCKS REPOSSESSED

don lehman

If Able Energy Co. of Warrensburg is going to get back on its feet, the company is going to have to find new fuel delivery trucks. The company has been the subject of numerous customer complaints, and shut down for a period of time last summer and fall. The state Attorney General's Office is investigating complaints that the company took customers' money and didn't provide fuel. It appears the company's vehicles were taken this week. Eleven trucks that belonged to the company and sister company Greenough Oil were repossessed earlier this week, and temporarily stored on state property near Exit 22 of the Northway by the finance company that repossessed them, authorities said. The state Department of Transportation called State Police to have them removed, and a trooper went to the site Wednesday afternoon. They stayed there until some point Wednesday when the owner of a Crown Point fuel company who bought them had them towed. Will Deyo, owner of Avery Energy of Crown Point, bought the trucks and said Thursday he had already reached a deal to resell them to an out-of-state buyer. Deyo said he had no plans to buy Able Energy's business, and is owed money by the company as well. Warrensburg Supervisor Kevin Geraghty said there haven't been any recent signs that the company has remained in business. It owes about \$9,000 in county property taxes, and after working out a payment plan last summer, did not make a single payment on the plan, he said. "We get calls from people wondering what's going on. I've been telling them they might want to make other arrangements," he said. A call to the company's office was not answered, and the voicemail was full. Owner Vincent Franzone, who lives in the New York City area, could not be reached for comment Thursday. Franzone had acknowledged cash flow problems last fall but said the company would resume deliveries. They did resume for some customers, and he said he would make restitution to those who were owed money. Brant Lake resident Paul Frasco was among a number of customers who complained they paid for fuel that was not delivered. Frasco said he did not receive any reimbursement for the \$370 he put toward a pre-paid oil delivery plan last summer. His calls to the company were not returned, even when it apparently resumed deliveries for a period last fall and winter. Frasco was one of a number of customers who said they contacted the Attorney



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General's Office about the situation. He said the agency indicated it was "looking into it," which it had confirmed to The Post-Star last year as well. Frasco said he planned to file a small claims lawsuit. A call to the Attorney General's Office was not returned Thursday.

http://poststar.com/news/local/fuel-company-s-trucks-repossessed/article_407023fa-d6ed-11e3-b4cb-0019bb2963f4.html


USA, CO, PUEBLO, MAY 9 2014. CHEMICAL LEAK DRILL CONDUCTED AT PUEBLO CHEMICAL DEPOT

 **Watch the Video** [This is the Pueblo Chemical Depot Emergency Drill in Action.](#)



Tuesday a dangerous chemical leak has occurred at the [U.S Army Chemical Depot in Pueblo](#), but not to worry it was all part of an annual drill. "Today involved moving a pallet of mustard filled projectiles, a simulated accident occurred, and the response went on from there," said U.S Army Chemical Materials Activities Spokesperson, Greg Mahall. Mustard agent is kept in bulk containers, and is considered a cancer-causing chemical. The [Pueblo Chemical Depot](#) is one of two chemical weapons stockpiles in the country. "The mustard agent here has a constituency of molasses," said Mahall. The teams took the day to plan and prepare in case of an emergency, and even threw another disaster in the mix, a chlorine spill. "That was designed to allow the county

more opportunity as well to exercise not only the chemical weapons event but also a simultaneous event that usually happens when we're involved in these kinds of things," said Mahall. Eventually the chemical agents stored at PCD will be demolished, but for now the drill was practice in case something does happen. During the drill pets were also kept in mind. "They can be left and in a dangerous situation where you're worried about your safety it is the right thing to do, to leave your animals, to leave your personal belongings, and to worry about your own personal safety first," said Joe Stafford, Director of Animal Law Enforcement for the Humane Society Pike's Peak Region. "Once its deemed safe we can go in and get your animals out." The [American Red Cross](#) was also there, exercising possible evacuations if there was a chemical leak. U.S Army officials say the probability of a major catastrophe is low, but you're better safe than sorry.

 **Other Newssites** [For more information on the drill and what is kept at the Pueblo Chemical Depot](#)

<http://www.fox21news.com/news/story.aspx?id=1041339>

USA, MT, GREAT FALLS, MAY 9 2014. RAIL CAR FUMES CLOSE ROAD >> MINOR CHEMICAL LEAK IS REPORTED ON THE TRACKS NEAR GOLF COURSE



Crews begin inspecting a rail car with a suspected chemical leak near the Hickory Swing golf course in Great Falls.

A Great Falls Fire/Rescue hazmat crew responded Wednesday afternoon to a minor chemical fume leak in a rail car parked on BNSF tracks north of the Hickory Swing Golf Course. After closing a section of American Avenue between the golf course entrance and 14th Street, GFFR crews determined the leak posed no public health or environmental risk. Burlington Northern Santa Fe crews working in the area reported a suspicious odor coming from a mostly empty tank car being returned to Calumet Refinery at about 1 p.m. Friday, a city news release said. GFFR Fire Marshal Dirk Johnson said the car was thought to contain between 200 and 1,000 gallons of sodium hydrosulfite solution, which is potentially flammable and a health concern if it comes into direct human contact.

The three BNSF employees who reported the odor were examined on the scene and determined to be uninjured, Johnson said. Inspecting the car shortly after 3 p.m., the GFFR hazmat team determined that a top vent meant to keep chemical fumes from escaping from the tank car was leaking, allowing a small amount of vapor to escape and dissipate into the surrounding air. "It's no threat to the public or the environment," he said. He said that crews would likely try to place a cover over the rail car before repairs can be made, meaning it will be left in place for the time being. Dexter Busby, director of government and regulatory affairs for Calumet, said Calumet personnel responded as a courtesy and the rail car was owned by a third-party customer. Traffic was blocked from accessing the area where the leak occurred for roughly four and a half hours.

http://www.greatfallstribune.com/article/20140507/NEWS01/305070011/Possible-chemical-leak-reported-near-Hickory-Springs-golf-course-Great-Falls?nclick_check=1



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USA, N.Y, ONEIDA CO, MAY 9 2014. TANKER TRUCK DRIVER CHARGED WITH DUI, DRUG POSSESSION

A tanker truck driver transporting a load of fuel through Oneida was arrested and charged with DUI and drug possession Wednesday afternoon. Oneida Chief of Police Darryl Laxton stopped the truck, driven by Michael J. Currans, after dispatchers received a tip that a tanker truck driving on U.S. Hwy. 27 south and nearing Oneida was driving erratically.

<http://www.ihoneida.com/2014/05/tanker-truck-driver-charged-with-dui-drug-possession/>

USA, CO, TELLURIDE, MAY 9 2014. TANKER TRUCK SPILLS OIL IN SAN MIGUEL COUNTY

A tanker truck rolled over in western San Miguel County on Wednesday, spilling about 8,000 gallons of oil. Sheriff [Bill Masters](#) says the accident happened on Colorado Highway 141 on Slickrock Hill. He said the driver, identified as [Bob Westrom](#), was seriously injured. Masters says the tanker apparently lost its brakes and went off the roadway, rolling over and spilling the oil. Masters says the owner of the truck will be responsible for the cleanup.

<http://www.seattlepi.com/news/science/article/Tanker-truck-spills-oil-in-San-Miguel-County-5460658.php>

ZIMBABWE, MT DARWIN, MAY 9 2014. PETROL VENDOR FATALLY BURNT

A 30-year-old Mt Darwin woman was burnt to death on Monday after a 20-litre container with petrol she was keeping in her kitchen hut caught fire while she was cooking food on a paraffin stove. Mashonaland Central Assistant provincial police spokesperson Assistant Inspector Petros Masikati yesterday confirmed the incident. He identified the woman as Regerera Kanyera of Madzengerere Business Centre under Chief Dotito. "We received a report following the death of Kanyera a suspected petrol vendor who was burnt beyond recognition after a 20-litre petrol container she had kept in her kitchen hut caught fire while she was cooking," he said. On the day in question at around 10am, Kanyera went to Mt Darwin Business Centre and bought 20-litres of petrol which she intended to resale to her customers. She returned home and kept the container inside her kitchen hut and the petrol suddenly caught fire, and she was trapped inside the hut. A neighbour identified as Percenia Kakupu (22) heard Kanyera screaming for help prompting her to rush to the scene and investigate. She tried to rescue Kanyera to no avail as the roof of the hut had collapsed on her.

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201405080357.html>

USA, S.C, OCONEE CO, MAY 9 2014. RADIOACTIVE WATER SPILLS AT OCONEE NUKE STATION

eric connor



The Oconee Nuclear Station has experienced a spill of radioactive water. Regulators say the incident was minor and no threat to the public's drinking water.

A spill of radioactive water at the Oconee Nuclear Station has prompted concerns among environmentalists about the condition of aging nuclear plants — though government regulators and the plant's operator say the incident was minor and posed no threat to the public's drinking water. Duke Energy told The Greenville News on Thursday that the company is conducting "an aggressive ongoing investigation" to determine the source of the seepage that occurred a day earlier. Duke reported the leak in an area where water was being transferred between two chemical ponds on the site of the station's three reactors, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission said in a notice issued Thursday. The spill held the potential of seeping into groundwater, though the

leak was confined to the site, the NRC said. Tritium is a weakly active hydrogen isotope found both naturally and in the production of nuclear power, and Oconee periodically releases diluted amounts of tritium into the waterway just below the Lake Keowee dam, which ultimately flows into Lake Hartwell. The dose of tritium measured in Wednesday's spill — which Duke would only say involved more than 100 gallons of water — was "less than a quarter" of the amount of radioactive material allowed under the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's guidelines for safe drinking water, the NRC said. However, while the dose was low, the incident raises questions about the age of reactors like those at the 40-year-old station and whether infrastructure is adequate, said Tom Clements, director of the Savannah River Site Watch nuclear watchdog group. "As reactors age, they face more operational and safety problems due to constant exposure to radiation and high temperature and pressure," Clements said. "Of greater concern than a single tritium spill is the question of why tritium is leaking from the reactors and what Duke is doing to halt all such leakage from piping on the site." This isn't the first time concerns have been



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raised over tritium releases at Duke nuclear sites. In February 2010, the company reported a tritium leak after detecting the substance in two adjacent monitoring wells on the site that aren't a source of drinking water, the company said. Last year, Duke reported two separate leaks at its Catawba Nuclear Station north of Rock Hill. "Chronic tritium leaks, that Duke apparently cannot find and repair, may be an indication that piping is degrading, a situation that may worsen over time if not addressed," Clements said. The company has a comprehensive groundwater monitoring plan that employs 66 monitoring wells across the site for early detection, along with inspection and maintenance programs, Duke spokeswoman B.J. Gatten said. "It was part of this early detection work that enabled an employee to recognize and quickly react to the ground seepage related to this NRC notification," Gatten said. "We know the system where the seepage occurred and are identifying the exact location on the system. That is what we are investigating now." The leak wasn't at a significant enough level to trigger notification required by the government, NRC spokesman Roger Hannah said. The company's report was part of an industrywide protocol, Hannah said. The NRC has been satisfied with Duke's response, he said. "Our resident inspectors will ask some questions and try to determine if it's something that is a potential problem down the road or a one-time thing," Hannah said. "At this point, other than the routine resident inspector follow up, we don't plan to do anything else."

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/environment/2014/05/08/radioactive-water-spills-oconee-nuke-station/8848685/>

USA, OH, MORGAN CO, MAY 9 2014. MORGAN COUNTY OIL SPILL RESULTS IN 4 HOME EVACUATIONS

mike bowersock

A leak at a well near Beverly, in Morgan County, forced people from their homes earlier this week. The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency is investigating what went wrong. Even after families were temporarily forced from their homes, many say they still greatly support the wells and drilling. It's called black gold, and there is a lot of it in the farm fields and hills of Morgan County. There is also a lot of natural gas in the area. Earlier this week in Center Township there was an oil leak that spilled into a local creek. Forty barrels of the oil substance was contained and cleaned up by the EPA. The Morgan County EMA says the spill was not the result of fracking. The company, PDC Energy, was quick to respond to the leak. There were evacuations because of the leak, but the evacuation only applied to four homes. Rick Shivers, who has four wells on his farm, says fracking has become part of Morgan County country life. "For want of a better term it's a poor part of the state. When I was in the county commissioner's office back in 04 through 08, we had the distinction of being the poorest lowest populated, highest unemployment counties in the state. And I think most people in areas like Morgan and Noble and Monroe Counties look at this as an opportunity to finally not be poor," said Shivers. "To the east of us and to the north of us the drilling has been fast and furious. And it has changed people's lives dramatically." Oil companies want the oil in the ground, and landowners want the money.

<http://www.nbc4i.com/story/25459753/oil-spill-in-morgan-county>

USA, GA, SAVANNAH, MAY 9 2014. PROPANE TANK EXPLOSION CAUSES FIRE; ONE INJURED

ashli lincoln

 **Watch the Video:** [Propane Tank Explosion Causes Fire](#)

Savannah Fire & Emergency Services firefighters remain on the scene of a large fire in the parking lot of a west Savannah warehouse. Firefighters were dispatched to American Packing and Crating, 122 Norwest Ct., around 4:15 p.m. after an employee notified other warehouse personnel that a propane tank was on fire in the facility's parking lot. Warehouse management told Savannah fire investigators that the employee was filling a propane tank for a forklift when the fire erupted at the propane tanks. The employee suffered what emergency medical personnel described as minor burns to one arm. He was transported to Memorial University Medical Center for treatment of his injuries. The fire spread quickly from the propane tanks to nearby wood pallets and then to several tractor truck trailers that contained plastic merchandise such as outdoor lawn furniture. Firefighters extinguished the flames from the propane tanks and continued to apply water to keep the tanks cool and prevent a rupture to either tank. Firefighters also fought the blaze in the trailers from several positions on the ground and from aerial apparatus. At one point, a small fire erupted on the roof of the warehouse. It was quickly extinguished and firefighters took advantage of their rooftop position to augment the operation to douse the flames. All visible flames were extinguished by 7:30 p.m. (approximately three hours after fire operations began at the site). The operation entailed a second alarm to ensure adequate personnel and resources were on scene to fight the blaze and to allow on-scene commanders to establish a rotation that allowed firefighters to rest and rehab. Pooler Fire Department also provided personnel and resources through mutual aid with Savannah Fire. Savannah Fire investigators say it's very clear where the fire started, however they will continue their



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investigation in an attempt to determine the ignition source for the blaze. Savannah firefighters will remain at the scene throughout the evening to ensure there are no flare-ups in the remaining debris.

<http://wjcl.com/2014/05/07/propane-tank-explosion-causes-fire-one-injured/>

USA, FLA, TAMPA, MAY 9 2014. YOUNGSTOWN FIREWORKS COMPANY COOPERATES WITH SUSPECTED MURDER-SUICIDE INVESTIGATION

Watch the Video's:

- [Four Dead in Fire at Home Owned by James Blake](#)
- [Investigators: Dad Bought Fireworks, Gas Before Avila Blaze](#)



An executive with a Youngstown based fireworks company says a Florida man found dead inside of a burned home bought more than a dozen items from a store a few days ago. William Weimer, vice president of Phantom Fireworks, said Thursday that Darrin Campbell purchased the fireworks Sunday. Campbell's father-in-law says Campbell, his wife and their two children were found dead Wednesday in a home they were renting in an exclusive Tampa neighborhood from former tennis star James Blake. Neighbors told police they heard explosions coming from the home. Police think the fire was intentionally set and that an accelerant was used, but they haven't said who started the fire or why. 21 News has obtained surveillance video from Phantom showing what

Weimer says is Campbell buying six packages of firecrackers and about that many packs of aerial fireworks. He says the fireworks could have started a fire but it would have spread slowly.

Related Stories

- [Fireworks in burned home where 4 found dead](#)
- [Report: Dad bought fireworks before Avila blaze](#)
- [Family shot before fire at Blake home](#)
- [Report: Husband killed in Avila fire bought fireworks](#)
- [Youngstown fireworks company cooperates with suspected murder-suicide investigation](#)

<http://www.wfmj.com/story/25468266/youngstown-fireworks-company-cooperates-with-suspected-murder-suicide-investigation>

USA, OH, COLUMBUS, MAY 9 2014. CLEANUP CONTINUES FOR DRILLING LEAK NEAR MARIETTA

mark gillispie

A Colorado-based energy company was cleaning up hundreds of gallons of oily fluid that leaked into a nearby creek while it was drilling an oil and gas well in southeast Ohio. An oil-based lubricant known as "mud" spewed from a well head Sunday during drilling for a hydraulic-fracturing well near Beverly, Ohio, just west of Marietta. About 1,600 gallons leaked from the drill site into a creek that is a tributary of the Muskingum River, said [Heather Lauer](#), a spokeswoman for the [Ohio Environmental Protection Agency](#). The spill thus far has been confined to that creek, Lauer said. The agency is overseeing the cleanup work, which is being performed by a contractor for Denver-based [PDC Energy](#) Inc., the site's owner. [Michael Edwards](#), of PDC Energy, said Thursday that workers noticed high pressure at the drill site but could not contain the subsequent leak because of an equipment failure at the well head. PDC Energy has 15 active wells in Ohio and permits for 18 more. There are two other prospective wells on the same pad where Sunday's leak occurred. The Morgan County Sheriff's Department and fire departments were called soon after the leak occurred, Edwards said. Several residents accepted the company's offer to temporarily move away from the well site, he said. Contractors were using containment dams to prevent the drilling liquid from drifting further. He said the company is working with the state and federal officials on the cleanup. The [Ohio Department of Natural Resources](#) oversees gas and oil drilling permits in the state and will investigate the accident. [Bethany McCorkle](#), a department spokeswoman, said the company had drilled vertically about 8,600 feet and had turned the drill horizontally about 1,200 feet when the drilling liquid gushed to the surface. PDC Energy has not had any other reported spills in Ohio. It did have a spill of fracking water at an oil and gas well near Fort Collins, Colorado, in February 2013. Fracking fluids contain a number of toxic chemicals. Edwards said the company had not yet begun fracking at the well where Sunday's leak occurred. "The well has been secured and we're doing repairs as we speak," Edwards said. "At some point, we expect to complete those wells with hydraulic fracturing."

<http://www.seattlapi.com/business/energy/article/Cleanup-continues-for-drilling-leak-near-Marietta-5462371.php>



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USA, AL, CLEBURNE CO, HEFLIN, MAY 9 2014. CLEBURNE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS PROCEED WITH FUEL-LEAK CLEANUP

The Cleburne County Commission is moving forward with the cleanup of a suspected fuel leak from a county building. In a called meeting Thursday commissioners hired PPM Environmental Consultants out of Irondale to begin the work. Commissioners discussed details of a plan to remove contaminants from the water and soil near what they believe to be spilled fuel from a county-owned fuel tank. The county was notified in late March by a property owner that a film was coating the surface of a creek that runs beside his Heflin lot on Alabama 46. A house served by a water line near the creek also tested positive for some water contamination, and the county moved quickly to shut off water going to that home and to five other homes connected to the water line. Under the direction of the Alabama Department of Environmental Management, the county dug several trenches, installed absorption booms and tested the water. The city of Heflin replaced the line with a temporary line and put the families who requested it into hotels in Oxford. County officials believe the leak may be coming from the county equipment shed on Haley Road, and has since turned off those fuel tanks. The total cost of the cleanup won't be known until the scope of the contamination is clear, commissioners said Thursday, but it will cost \$70,000 to install equipment to clean the creek water and about \$2,500 each month to lease that equipment. The county will also have to pay about \$35,000 to investigate the problem, said county engineer Shannon Robbins. The commission has already spent just over \$50,000 in the cleanup effort, paying to test other homes on the water line and for a temporary water line. The county hopes to recoup some of that cost through the Alabama Tank Trust Fund, which collects a per-gallon fee to help fund remediation and cleanup efforts. To do that, the county must move quickly, said Matt Ebbert, a geologist at PPM who attended Thursday's meeting. The quicker the response, the more likely the state will pay for some of that expense, he said. The county last month requested help on the matter from Mike Doran of Southeast Environmental Compliance. Doran told commissioners Thursday that an electrically-powered oxidizer and a carbon filtration system would clean the water of contaminants. He recommended the county begin that cleanup work as quickly as possible. Ebbert said the minimum run for a system like this is two years, but he's seen systems like this run for many more years. "If I had to guess, I'd say four to eight years," Ebbert said, basing that estimate on what little data he has now as to the size and scope of the leak. If the county is approved to receive money from the trust fund, that money would pay for the system, Ebbert said. The equipment could be brought to the creek within the next two or three weeks, he said. Commissioners tabled a resolution at the meeting that would have replaced fuel lines to those tanks and brought the tanks back online. Another option discussed was to use fuel credit cards at local gas stations. It would cost between \$20,000 and \$30,000 to get the fuel tanks back in working order, Robbins said, but he estimated that supplying its own fuel to county vehicles saves taxpayers about \$5,000 a month. "I can't think of another state or county office that doesn't have their own fuel system," Robbins said. "It saves money...and over time it's the best option." Commissioner Laura Cobb asked if it would be worth it to risk future contamination by using those fuel tanks. "We've got homes around this property," Cobb said. At Cobb's request, commissioners tabled the matter until the next meeting on May 19. No matter what the commissioners decide, Ebbert said, the fuel tanks need to be drained as quickly as possible to stay in compliance with ADEM; moreover, said Doran, the buried fuel lines themselves will have to be removed regardless of what happens to the tank. "If these lines are the source for what has been detected, then obviously there some substantial benefit at getting them removed as soon as possible," Doran said. The valves on the tanks were closed as soon as the leak was detected, Doran said, cutting off fuel to the lines. Robbins said the fuel tanks are checked regularly, and the level hasn't dropped, so he believes no fuel has leaked since the problem was found.

http://annistonstar.com/view/full_story/25078529/article-Cleburne-County-commissioners-proceed-with-fuel-leak-cleanup?instance=1st_left

SAUDI ARABIA, ABHA, MAY 10 2014. FIREWORKS INJURE GIRLS

nadia al-fawaz

Some girls in Khamis Mushait sustained injuries from fireworks while they were attending a graduation ceremony, Civil Defense spokesman in Asir Col. Mohammad Al-Asi said. "The girls were attending a graduation ceremony being held in one of the wedding halls in the city where fireworks were also being used in the celebrations," Al-Asi said. Civil defense teams were dispatched to the location and the site was sealed. The Civil Defense and Red Crescent teams removed the injured to nearby hospitals. "There were five girls who were injured of whom one is in critical condition; three had minor burns while one sustained a simple injury," he added. Preliminary investigations showed that the injuries resulted from fireworks inside the hall in contravention of safety rules. The case was referred to the police for further investigation.

<http://www.arabnews.com/news/568556>



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USA, CA, CAMARILLO, MAY 10 2014. FUEL TANKER OVERTURNS IN VENTURA COUNTY

The Ventura County Fire Department says a fuel tanker truck has overturned on a road in Camarillo near U.S. 101. The accident occurred shortly before 7 a.m. Friday on Pleasant Valley Road and a small leak was reported. A KABC-TV helicopter shows the tanker lying on its right side adjacent to a parking lot.

<http://www.kswt.com/story/25474722/fuel-tanker-overturms-in-ventura-county>

USA, TX, KARNES CO, MAY 10 2014. TANK EXPLODES IN KARNES COUNTY >> NO INJURIES REPORTED; LIGHTNING BLAMED IN BLAST

van darden

Watch the Video's:

- [Tank Explodes in Karnes County](#)
- [Tank Explosions, Severe Weather Force Highway Shutdown in Karnes County](#)

Photo's [10] [Tank Explosions, Severe Weather Force Highway Shutdown in Karnes County](#)



The two tank explosions were reported at Supreme Vacuum Services around 1:30 p.m., shortly after both tanks were struck by lightning, the sheriff's office. A tank exploded in Karnes County on Friday afternoon, shutting down U.S. Highway 181 at Highway 123. A lightning strike is being blamed for the explosion, but there are no reports of any injuries. Two oil companies share the yard where the tank is located. Everyone is accounted for at one of the oil companies in the yard, and it's believed everyone is accounted for at the other company.

<http://www.ksat.com/news/tanker-explodes-in-karnes-county/25901794>

USA, WASHINGTON DC, MAY 10 2014. FAA PROPOSES FINES FOR HAZMAT VIOLATIONS

FAA has proposed fines against two companies for allegedly violating federal hazardous materials (hazmat) regulations. The agency proposed a \$91,000 civil penalty against VT Milcom, Inc. of Virginia Beach, Va., for allegedly shipping two, one-gallon metal containers of paint on a FedEx aircraft from Virginia Beach to Jacksonville, N.C. Workers at FedEx's sorting facility in New Bern, N.C. discovered that leaking paint had soaked through the shipping boxes. In the second case, FAA proposed a \$63,000 civil penalty against Skinfix, Inc., of Halifax, Nova Scotia, for allegedly shipping a quart of ethyl alcohol on a UPS aircraft from Bedford, Nova Scotia, to Chatsworth, Calif. Workers at the UPS package sorting facility in Louisville, Ky., discovered that some of the alcohol had leaked through the shipping box. In both cases, investigators determined the shipments were not accompanied by documents to indicate the hazardous nature of the contents. Nor were the shipments marked, labeled or packed in accordance with the regulations.

http://www.aviationnews.net/?do=headline&news_ID=231879

USA, AZ, TUCSON, MAY 10 2014. PROPANE TANK, ACETYLENE TANK CAUSE OF NORTHWEST AREA FIRE

j.d. fitzgerald

Photo's [10] [Camino De La Tierra Fire](#)



Firefighters from Northwest Fire District extinguish the remaining hot spots at a fire that occurred off of Camino De La Tierra Road, South of Orange Grove Road.

Northwest firefighters responded to the 5400 block of North Camino De La Tierra just before 11 a.m. after receiving numerous 9-1-1 calls about some type of fire. Callers were unsure of what was burning as most callers were unable to see the actual building from the roadway in which they were traveling on when they called 9-1-1. Crews arrived to find a 20 X 40 foot metal framed workshop well involved in fire. The workshop contained significant amounts of flammable liquids and pressurized gas cylinders. First arriving firefighters and deputies with the Pima County Sheriff's Department quickly evacuated three mobile homes



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to the north of the fire building as flames were growing in size and spreading rapidly. The homes evacuated were along Jusnic Circle which is just off Camino De LA Tierra. Initial arriving crews also placed hose lines in operation to keep the fire from spreading to the residence of the workshop owner. This home was in close proximity to the fire building. Firefighters were able to stop the fire from reaching the interior of the home; however the exterior of the home did suffer minor heat and fire damage. All of the belonging and family keepsakes of the coupe were unaffected. Firefighter also found that several of the pressurized gas cylinders had ignited after the pressure relief devices opened as a result of the heat. A propane tank and Acetylene tank both had internal temperatures that rose above safe limits causing the pressure relief devices to open. This is a safety device that allows a pressurized gas cylinder to relieve excessive pressure when exposed to high temperatures and or fire. The escaping gas did ignite and firefighters were able to bring the flames under control. An evacuation distance of 100 feet in all directions was maintained while the tanks were venting and on fire. The fire was brought under control within 17 minutes of the arrival of the first engine company. 26 firefighters staffing several pieces of apparatus responded to the scene. Fire cause investigators were unable to determine the cause of the fire due to the significant amount of damage. Damage estimates were put at \$5,000.00

http://explorernews.com/news/article_25a9a21c-d6e8-11e3-8e49-0019bb2963f4.html

USA, CA, LONG BEACH, MAY 10 2014. GAS STATION HERO: QUICK THINKING SAVES THE DAY

phil shuman

 **Watch the Video** [Gas Station Hero: Quick Thinking Saves the Day](#)

Officer Mike Wooldridge and his trusty K9 companion Bosco were on their way to a training session at the Long Beach Police Academy about 7:30 this morning when he noticed people waving at him from the corner of Bellflower and Del Amo in Lakewood. It seems a car was on fire, as it sat next to the gas pumps at the ARCO station. "I saw the flames coming out of the car, I figured it wasn't good to have that next to the gas pumps". He was of course calm cool and collected as most first responders are as he relayed this story to me about 6 hours later. He checked to make sure no one was left in the car that was burning, and used his police car to push it away from the pumps. Employee Marinel Peruchio had run out with a fire extinguisher (after smartly remembering to push the emergency cut off switch stopping fuel flow to the pumps) but the flames were too big. She ran back in, called 911, by that time the Fire Dept. was on the way and in about a minute the car fire was out, the danger had passed, and Wooldridge was back on his way to train with Bosco.



It was a moment in time that could've resulted in a disaster, but it didn't because of his quick thinking. A woman passing by with her son, Mary Erickson, was so impressed she emailed us at Fox 11 the photo and told us about Wooldridge, and that's how we ended up doing this story. She said "I just thought he deserved a pat on the back for what he did. It was so brave." Wooldridge, typically humble, told me "We don't do it

for the glory we do it to help people. That's what I was thinking. I didn't want the gas station to explode."

<http://www.myfoxla.com/story/25470733/gas-station-hero-quick-thinking-saves-the-day>

INDIA, NEW DELHI, MAY 10 2014. GAS BLAST INJURES 3 ON INDIAN NAVY FRIGATE

A minor gas explosion in the boiler room of an Indian navy frigate on Friday injured two civilian workers and one sailor in Mumbai's naval dockyard, an official said, the latest accident to hit India's navy. The blast was caused by a gas leak from a welding gun that was being used during repair work on the INS Ganga frigate, said Capt. D.K. Sharma, a navy spokesman. He said two civilian workers and a sailor received minor burns and were taken to a hospital for treatment. The sailor was allowed to go home after being treated. A gas leak on an Indian navy destroyer being built at the Mumbai dockyard killed a navy commander in March, and a fire on a navy submarine killed two officers in February. The navy chief, Adm. D.K. Joshi, resigned to take responsibility for those accidents and other incidents that have plagued the navy in recent years. Last August, another of the navy's Russian-made diesel-powered submarines, the INS Sindhurakshak, caught fire after an explosion and sank at its home port in Mumbai, killing all 18 sailors on board. In December, the INS Talwar, a Russian-built stealth frigate, slammed into a trawler off India's west coast, sinking the boat and tossing 27 fishermen into the sea. All of the fishermen were rescued.

<http://www.fireengineering.com/ap-news/2014/05/09/gas-blast-injures-3-on-indian-navy-frigate.html>



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AUSTRALIA, QUEENSLAND, BRANDON, MAY 10 2014. FUEL TANKER ROLLS, WILL CLOSE BRUCE HIGHWAY FOR MOST OF THE DAY

A large tanker truck carrying thousands of litres of petrol has rolled on the Bruce Highway south of Townsville this morning. Emergency crews received a call about 5am to attend an incident in the suburb of Brandon, where a truck carrying five compartments was blocking both lanes of the highway. The highway is expected to be closed for six hours. It is believed the first compartment alone is carrying 9000L of fuel but fire crews are yet to establish how much has been spilled. The driver of the truck was taken to Ayr Hospital with minor injuries. Traffic is being diverted down Hoey Road as three fire crews work to contain the spill.

<http://www.heraldsun.com.au/news/national/fuel-tanker-rolls-will-close-bruce-highway-for-most-of-the-day/story-fnii5v70-1226909776238>

CANADA, ALBA, BALZAC, MAY 10 2014. OIL TANKER SPILL HAMPERS FRIDAY COMMUTE ON HIGHWAY 2

Matt Durnan



Traffic in the southbound lanes of Highway 2 was slowed to a crawl on May 2 after a tanker truck overturned and leaked oil onto the road. A two-vehicle collision involving an Acura and a tanker truck occurred in the southbound lanes of Highway 2 near Balzac at around 1 p.m. after the driver of the Acura made an unsafe lane change, according to Cpl. Darrin Turnbull of the Airdrie Integrated Traffic Unit (ITU).

"The driver of the Acura attempted to cut in between the tanker and another vehicle and he misjudged the distance," said Turnbull. "It was raining at the time so roads were slick and visibility was reduced." The back end of the Acura collided with the front of the tanker, causing the car to careen into the centre median that divides the north and southbound lanes. After hitting the median, the car bounced back into traffic and caused the driver of the tanker to swerve to

avoid a collision, which resulted in the tanker tipping on its side and puncturing a hole in the tank, spilling oil onto the road. Alberta Environment was called to the scene to assist with the cleanup to ensure the road was safe, but traffic was slowed significantly while clean-up was taking place. Alberta Highway Services put sand over the oil to reduce the risk of other vehicles slipping and causing further collisions. Traffic was reduced to one lane on Highway 2 while cleanup crews were on scene, with one lane re-opening an hour after the collision and a second an hour later. "Alberta Environment was still on the scene at around 6 p.m. cleaning up oil that had spilled onto the median," said Turnbull. "They had to keep the left lane closed while they were cleaning up." Both the driver of the Acura and tanker truck were wearing seatbelts at the time of the collision and no injuries were reported. "Thankfully no one was hurt in this collision," said Turnbull. "When you're talking about a collision between a small car and a truck, things could've been a lot worse." The driver of the Acura, a 20-year-old man from Canmore has been charged with making an unsafe lane change.

<http://www.airdriecityview.com/article/20140508/ACV0801/305089950/-1/ACV08/oil-tanker-spill-hampers-friday-commute-on-highway-2>

AUSTRALIA, NEW SOUTH WALES, SYDNEY, MAY 10 2014. KURNELL CONVERSION ON TRACK: CALTEX



Caltex says the conversion of Kurnell refinery into a fuel import terminal is on time and budget.

Fuel refiner and supplier Caltex's \$270 million conversion of its Kurnell oil refinery in Sydney into a major import terminal is on time and on budget. Kurnell is due to close as a refinery and open as Australia's largest fuel import terminal in the fourth quarter of this year. "The conversion of the Kurnell refinery to a leading import terminal remains on time and on budget, with the refinery on track to cease operations in the final quarter of this year," Caltex chief executive Julian Segal told shareholders at the company's annual general meeting on Thursday. After the closure of the Kurnell refinery is complete, the amount of

crude oil imported by Caltex will halve - Caltex still operates the Lytton refinery in Brisbane - and imports of refined fuels will increase. The refinery closure was expected to result in the loss of 330 jobs, with several hundred more contract jobs on the



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line. To strengthen the fuel supply chain after the conversion of Kurnell, Caltex has established an Ampol-branded office in Singapore. The role of Ampol Singapore, which is wholly owned by Caltex Australia, is to source refined fuels and related shipping to Australia. On behalf of Caltex, Ampol has entered into a deal with Chevron to help procure and supply imported refined fuels. Mr Segal said that in the first three months of 2014, Caltex had made an unaudited profit of \$121 million, down from \$190 million in the first quarter of 2013. Using the company's preferred measure - replacement cost of sales operating profit - unaudited profit was \$96 million, down from \$146 million in the prior corresponding period. In the first quarter, Caltex's marketing and distribution business continued to grow despite the sale of Caltex's bitumen business in 2013. Higher sales of jet fuel and premium grades of petrol and diesel offset a long-term decline in demand for unleaded petrol.

<https://au.news.yahoo.com/thewest/business/a/23338372/kurnell-conversion-on-track-caltex/>

AUSTRALIA, SOUTH AUSTRALIA, MT GAMBIER, MAY 10 2014. CALTEX TAKEOVER DEAL TO FUEL SERVO SALES

[Map: Mt Gambier 5290](#)



A number of Mount Gambier's service stations will be sold as part of Caltex Australia's proposed acquisition of the Scott's Group fuel division. However, the company would not comment on how local jobs would be affected. Earlier this year, Caltex entered into an agreement worth \$95 million to acquire the fuel division of Scott's Group. Under the deal, the Shell service station on Bay Road and the BP on Commercial Street West will be sold. The Thruway on Jubilee Highway West has also been earmarked for sale. A Caltex spokesman

says it will be up to the new owners if they retain staff. He also confirmed the Crouch Street 24-hour site would become Caltex branded and keep its current opening times. The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission is reviewing the deal and is expected to release its findings at the end of the month.

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2014-05-09/caltex-takeover-deal-to-fuel-servo-sales/5442114>

USA, N.C, LEXINGTON, MAY 10 2014. N.C. FIREFIGHTERS SAVE ETHANOL TANKER FROM EXPLODING

darrick ignasiak

The Central Fire Department quickly responded and extinguished the fire to the rear tires of the tanker carrying 7,800 gallons of ethanol. Central and other assisting fire departments responded to the fire just before 8 p.m. and an explosion was prevented by firefighters. "They got it out before it (caused) any damage to the tank, but it did burn the air lines off the truck," Chief Mike Moore of the Central Fire Department said, adding no injuries occurred in the incident. Robbie Binkley, a Central firefighter, said the neighborhood was lucky the ethanol didn't explode. "It probably would have taken out a few houses close by," he said. Binkley said there was some kind of mechanical failure for the brakes of the tanker to lock up. He credited the quick response of the Central Fire Department to stopping an explosion. Binkley said the driver was lucky but was "scared to death." A total of 7,800 gallons of ethanol would be transferred to another tanker, Binkley confirmed. "It's going to take several hours," he said. "Fair Grove (Fire Department) had one and it took them about 13 hours to do it. We are hoping not to do that." Binkley said tankers routinely load up ethanol from southern Davidson County and he believes transports it to Greensboro. He said tankers routinely transport ethanol each day down Beck's Church Road. "We hear they do it because of a shortcut to the highway," Binkley said, referring to why the tankers transport ethanol from Healing Springs to its route of Interstate 85. Binkley said it's concerning for the ethanol being transported down Beck's Church Road because it's too populated. "That stuff shouldn't be in (residential areas)." There were no evacuations due to the incident, Binkley said. An explosion would have been "awful" for the houses and people in the area, the firefighter reiterated. Maj. Alton Hanes of Davidson County Emergency Services is the emergency management coordinator for the county. He said his office had recently received complaints from residents in the area regarding the tankers. Hanes said there are no regulations to prevent tankers from traveling on a road, such as Beck's Church Road. One resident recently complained of the issue to The Dispatch. "I have had some recent calls in regard to this," Hanes said. "We are working on addressing those issues, however, there are no rules or regulations to restrict travel on this road." Hanes said he's trying to "mitigate" the issue with the company that's supplying the ethanol to the tankers. The major said the problem is that there are multiple trucking companies hauling the ethanol. "So the facility is not responsible for the transport of it," Hanes said. The Davidson County Sheriff's Office, Davidson County Emergency Management, Davidson County EMS, Davidson County Fire Marshal's Office, N.C. Department of Transportation, as well as the Central, Holly Grove, South Lexington and Linwood fire departments responded to the scene.

<http://www.firehouse.com/news/11447819/central-ky-firefighters-keep-tanker-from-blowing>



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USA, CO, MILLIKEN, MAY 10 2014. 6 TANKERS DERAIL IN MILLIKEN

 **Watch the Video** [6 Tankers Derail in Milliken](#)



Six tanker cars have derailed in Milliken, according to officials in the area. Five of the cars turned over on their side. One of the cars transporting crude oil leaked. The oil leaked into a nearby ditch, but it was cleaned up by HAZMAT crews. Weld County Sheriff's Office says the train came off the track in the area of County Road 39 and County Road 394. There are no reports of injuries. The incident is not affecting traffic. No waterways are threatened, and no vehicles are involved. Wade Duncan, project manager and estimator for Belfor Environmental, says the cause of the derailment is still under investigation.

<http://www.9news.com/story/news/local/2014/05/09/milliken-train-derailment/8899541/>

CANADA, ALTA, EDMONTON, MAY 12 2014. HAZMAT CREWS TESTING AIR QUALITY AS CREWS BATTLE NORTHWEST EDMONTON INDUSTRIAL BLAZE

caley ramsay

 **Watch the Video** [Crews Battle Industrial Blaze](#)



Hazmat crews have been called in to test the air quality as firefighters battle a blaze at a northwest Edmonton industrial site. Fire crews were called to Supreme Plating, an electroplating shop in the area of 127 Ave. and 127 St., around 1:15 p.m. Saturday. Heavy, dark grey smoke was billowing from the roof of the building when fire crews arrived. Shortly after, a second alarm was called. Because of the chemicals inside the building, there were some small explosions. "There's some liquid nickel and copper in there to be aware of," said Deputy Chief Barry Lamb, with Edmonton Fire Rescue. "So we backed out and we've got an exterior attack going right now." Hazmat crews have been called in to test the air quality, and Lamb is asking nearby residents to stay inside for the time being.

"We're asking people, if the smoke's coming towards you, let's stay inside for now. And if it's more serious we'll advise, but for now we're okay." One track of the nearby CN Rail lines was shut down due to the possibility of the northern wall of the building collapsing. In total, about 13 trucks and 45 firefighters were called in to battle the blaze. Traffic has been shut down along 127 St., between Yellowhead and 127 Ave., as crews remain on scene. At this time it's not known what caused the fire.

 **Related Stories** [Hazmat Crews Testing Air Quality after a Blaze in Northwest Edmonton](#)

<http://globalnews.ca/news/1323574/hazmat-crews-testing-air-quality-as-crews-battle-northwest-edmonton-industrial-blaze/>

AUSTRALIA, VICTORIA, SCORESBY, MAY 11 2014. HEROES RESCUE WOMAN FROM FLAMES AFTER CAR EXPLOSION AT SERVICE STATION ON EASTLINK

liam quinn & kate mcmaison



The exploded car at BP Service Centre on EastLink.

A team of unlikely heroes including a tradie and some fast-thinking fast food workers are being praised by emergency services after they literally saved a 19-year-old woman's skin. Burnt and screaming after her car turned into a fireball, the woman was kept alive and calm by the employees from BP Service Centre in Scoresby, who dragged her into a truck rest stop and put her under a cold shower. The P-plate driver had been trying to jump-start her Mazda hatchback at the service centre on a corner of EastLink and Ferntree Gully Rd about 3.25pm on Saturday when the car suddenly exploded. A tradesman, believed to be in his 40s, had been helping her restart her car. He rushed her



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into the service centre and yelled for help. A KFC manager, the tradie, McDonald's employees including Laura Kain and Tahlia Webb, and another bystander all rushed to the rescue. They helped the woman into a shower and drenched her burns under cold water. The woman was later taken to The Alfred hospital in a serious condition suffering from severe burns. She was in a serious but stable condition overnight. Ambulance and police officers on the scene praised the heroic workers for potentially saving the woman's life. Ms Webb and Ms Kain were still in shock over the accident and played down their heroism. "It all happened really fast. We just did what we thought would help," Ms Kain said. "The ambulances were here really quickly." Ms Webb added: "We were helping get her under the shower and pouring water on her until the ambulance got here." An Ambulance Victoria spokesman said that putting the woman into the shower may have saved her life. A police officer at the scene added: "It is incredible the workers thought to do that and help so quickly." Fire crews will investigate the accident but it is suspected that a gas or fumes may have leaked from the car before it exploded. Witnesses said the woman had tried to light a cigarette moments before the fireball. McDonald's shift supervisor Malini McFarlane said everyone "just did what we thought could help". "I'm proud of the team for acting quickly," Ms McFarlane said. KFC spokesman Ashley Hughes said the company was "immensely proud" of the restaurant staff who rushed to the woman's aid. "Their quick thinking and actions are to be commended and have hopefully contributed to the individual's recovery," he said.

<http://www.heraldsun.com.au/news/victoria/heroes-rescue-woman-from-flames-after-car-explosion-at-service-station-on-eastlink/story-fni0fit3-1226912874500>

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO, CLAXTON BAY, MAY 11 2014. 3 INJURED IN EXPLOSION ABOARD VESSEL ...TWO REMAIN CRITICAL

carolyn kissoon

Two of the three men severely injured in an explosion on board a vessel docked near the Trinidad Cement Ltd (TCL) loading bay in Claxton Bay remain in critical condition as an investigation continues into how the incident happened. Videsh Mohess, 42, and John Lambert, 48, were transferred from the San Fernando General Hospital to the Intensive Care Unit at Southern Medical Clinic in San Fernando on Friday night. The third person, Trevor Henry, remains in stable condition at Augustus Long Hospital, Pointe-a-Pierre. The three employees of Trinidad Contractors Ltd were welding on the supply vessel, MV Comanche Arrow, when the explosion occurred on Friday afternoon. Taran Sagrarsingh, the company's marine manager, said Mohess and Lambert were in critical condition. He said Mohess suffered burns to 90 per cent of his body and doctors were working on stabilising him. Sagrarsingh said doctors have not yet advised on whether the men should be flown overseas for medical treatment. But the company was prepared to act should the all clear be given, he said. "The two have been transferred to Southern Medical where they are currently being observed. Doctors are trying to stabilise Videsh Mohess who suffered 90 per cent burns, John Lambert is also in ICU. The doctors have not advised us yet on flying them abroad. We are still waiting on the all clear to make arrangements," he said. Sagrarsingh said an external investigation was launched into what caused the explosion. "They came this morning to do their investigations. They will come back tomorrow to conclude their investigations and then we will be able to proceed," he said. He said fire officers also returned to the scene yesterday to continue investigations. "As of now we don't know what caused the fire," he said. The three men, along with seven other employees, were conducting repairs on board the vessel when the incident occurred. Sagrarsingh said several sections of the vessel were destroyed. He said the boat's replacement value was US\$2 million.

<http://www.trinidadexpress.com/news/3-injured-in-explosion-aboard-vessel-258780271.html>

USA, IN, ANDERSON, MAY 11 2014. WORKER DISCOVERS MAGNESIUM FIRE AT ANDERSON FACTORY



Anderson fire crews had a busy Saturday morning after a fire broke out at Advanced Magnesium Alloys Corporation (AMACOR). The fire was discovered by an employee just after 8AM. It was located in a pit on site. Since factory employees are trained in fire emergencies, they initially fought the fire with salt. HazMat crews were called to the scene to test air samples, which tested at safe levels. At 11AM, the fire was contained. Crews remained on scene to continue to smother flames.

<http://fox59.com/2014/05/10/worker-discovers-magnesium-fire-at-anderson-factory/#axzz31N2csv35>



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USA, HI, HONOLULU, MAY 11 2014. FIREFIGHTERS RESCUE MAN FROM HOT CEMENT TANKER

Firefighters rescued a man stuck in a hot cement tanker on Friday at Campbell Industrial Park. The man was working inside the tanker at a business at 91-245 Oihana St. when he alerted coworkers that he couldn't climb the ladder to exit the tanker, said Honolulu Fire Department inspector David Jenkins. Firefighters arrived about 11:40 a.m. and found the man barely conscious as temperatures surpassed 100 degrees inside the tanker, Jenkins said. Firefighters lowered an oxygen mask to the man, and two firefighters entered the tanker and strapped the man into a harness. Firefighters pulled the man out by 12:17 p.m. He didn't have any injuries, but was transferred to paramedics and taken to the hospital, Jenkins said.

http://www.staradvertiser.com/news/breaking/20140509_Firefighters_rescue_man_from_hot_cement_tanker.html

NETHERLANDS ANTILLES, ST. MAARTEN, PHILIPSBURG, MAY 11 2014. OIL SPILL REPORTED NEAR RESORT

Environmentalists in the Dutch Caribbean island of St. Maarten are investigating an oil spill that occurred last Friday near a popular tourist area. The non profit St Maarten Nature Foundation said the spill was reported near the Simpson Bay area. It is unclear what caused the spill or how much oil was released. The foundation said it alerted government officials and will patrol and send divers to the area to determine the extent of the damage. Several high-end resorts and the island's international airport are located on Simpson Bay.

<http://jamaica-gleaner.com/gleaner/20140511/int/int6.html>

USA, WA, WHIDBEY, MAY 11 2014. DEEP SEA OWNER FINED FOR SPILL

jessie stensland



Rory Westmoreland appears in Island County District Court on a derelict vessel charge.

The state Department of Ecology levied a \$301,000 fine against the man whose crab boat caught fire and sank in Penn Cove in 2012, causing an oil spill that temporarily shut down nearby Penn Cove Shellfish. It's just the latest bad news for Rory Westmoreland, a 51-year-old scrap-metal dealer with a history of running afoul of environmental rules, according to the Department of Ecology. Westmoreland is facing a misdemeanor charge in Island County District Court for allegedly abandoning the 128-foot Deep Sea crab boat. Friday, he pleaded not guilty in King County Superior Court to charges by the Attorney General's Office that he abandoned about 40 barrels of hazardous waste in a property from which he was evicted in 2012, the Attorney General's Office reported. The state charged Rory Westmoreland with one count of violating the hazardous waste management act, a felony, and another gross-misdemeanor count of unlawful dumping of solid waste without a permit. Dick Walker, a member of the spills response team, characterized the \$301,000 fine as "very large for the Department of Ecology." He said Westmoreland was fined for three reasons: for

failing to report an oil spill, for failing to clean up an oil spill and for the oil spill itself. The fire response, oil spill response and the salvage of the boat from the floor of Penn Cove was performed by a team of public agencies, as well as the Coast Guard. State agencies, including the Department of Ecology and the Department of Natural Resources, spent more than \$2.8 million on the incident. Walker said the Department of Ecology recovered \$1.56 million in spill response expenses from the National Pollution Fund Center; he said the federal government is going to go after Westmoreland to recoup the money. On the night of May 12, 2012, the Deep Sea caught fire — in what was later determined to be arson — while illegally anchored on state-owned aquatic lands, according to the Department of Ecology. Westmoreland had the boat towed to Penn Cove in December of 2011; Walker said Westmoreland wouldn't say what his plans were for the boat, though officials suspect that he planned to scrap it. Firefighters attacked the fire that night and the next day, but it rolled on its port side and sank in the evening of May 13. Approximately 5,555 gallons of oil were released, according to the Department of Ecology. Diving contractors hired by the U.S. Coast Guard removed 3,100 gallons of oil from the sunken vessel. The boat was raised and towed to King County, where it was eventually cut up into scrap metal. Westmoreland is scheduled to go to trial in Island County District Court Sept. 11 on the derelict vessel charge.

<http://www.whidbeynewstimes.com/news/258702231.html>



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USA, TX, SAN ANTONIO, MAY 11 2014. OVERTURNED TANKER CLOSSES CONNECTOR RAMP ON SOUTH SIDE

drew joseph



An overturned oil tanker is causing traffic problems on the city's South Side that are expected to last through Sunday night, according to the [Texas Department of Transportation](http://www.txdot.gov). The tanker rolled over Sunday morning on the ramp connecting northbound Interstate 37 and westbound Loop 410, officials said. The connector ramp will remain closed through Sunday night as crews clean up the wreck, TxDOT said. The connector ramp from northbound I-37 to eastbound Loop 410 is open.

<http://www.mysanantonio.com/news/local/article/Overturned-tanker-closes-connector-ramp-on-South-5469845.php>

USA, WYO, RAWLINGS, MAY 11 2014. SINCLAIR OFFICIALS ON REFINERY WORKING CONDITIONS: 'WE'VE MADE MISTAKES'

benjamin storrow



The Sinclair refinery near Rawlins is shown in this 2010 file photo.

Sinclair Oil Corp. executives are vowing to improve workplace safety at the company's refinery east of Rawlins, acknowledging unsafe conditions have long plagued the facility. Those statements were the strongest to date by executives of the Salt Lake City-based firm regarding workplace safety at its refinery in Sinclair. The plant has been fined frequently by state regulators in recent years for violating safety standards, including a \$459,000 fine for 22 workplace safety violations in October and a proposed \$201,000 fine announced last month in relation to a September fire. "We've made mistakes.

We've owned up to that," said Clint Ensign, Sinclair's vice president of government relations, during a Wednesday meeting with the Star-Tribune editorial board. "We have to do better, and it has to be demonstrated over the future." The company has hired personnel to improve the company's safety performance. Susan Sharp, a former British Petroleum executive charged with overseeing safety at that company, now leads a Sinclair team of 65 dedicated to improving safety at the company's two refineries in Wyoming. The firm is engaging in monthly compliance inspections with officials from the Wyoming Occupational Health and Safety Administration. Quality standards have been put in place to ensure the safety of some 700 independent contractors working at the company's refineries in Sinclair and Evansville. And the company has committed to a "stop work" policy, enabling employees to halt work during potentially unsafe situations without fear of losing their jobs or having their pay reduced. Still, challenges remain. John Ysebaert, one of the state's top safety regulators, said many of the processes and equipment at the Sinclair refinery are dated. He cited the September fire as an example. The blaze was caused by a carbon steel valve. The company could have prevented the fire if it had installed the stainless steel valves that are required, he said. Ysebaert, asked if the Sinclair refinery is a safe place to work, paused before answering. "That's a tough question," he said. "We've seen improvements there. There is still work to be done. I think Sinclair would agree with us on that." He nonetheless said the state has observed a marked difference in the company's approach to safety in recent months. Executives from the company met recently with Wyoming officials to acknowledge the problems at the refinery and commit to addressing them. Compliance inspectors visiting the plant have also witnessed a change in tone from both employees and managers. Both are more focused on safety now, he said. "That is very meaningful. At times, a compliance officer can be tough to convince, especially when they see a series of incidents," Ysebaert said. "They've seen that commitment by employer and employee." Workplace safety advocates said they were encouraged by Sinclair Oil's commitment to improve its safety record. The heavy fines levied by the state have been successful in attracting the company's attention and changing its behavior, said Dan Neal, executive director at Equality State Policy Center. He called the company's vow to improve "music to our ears." "The spotlight is on Sinclair right now," Neal said. "What we want to see is companies do what is right when the spotlight is on them. But then can they get this culture established so we can see improvements in the next five years to protect their workers? It sounds like great steps the company is taking." The safety track records at the company's Sinclair and Evansville facilities are dramatically different. The Sinclair refinery is a more complex operation than its Evansville counterpart, Sharp said. "Complexity is the



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enemy of safety," she said. Evansville is further along in what she termed its "safety journey," Sharp conceded, adding that she is not satisfied with the company's safety performance in Sinclair. While improvement will take time, she expressed optimism the company would succeed in creating a culture of safety. "The strongest thing is that we have leadership in the company that says 'This is the way we do business,'" Sharp said.

http://trib.com/business/energy/sinclair-officials-on-refinery-working-conditions-we-ve-made-mistakes/article_be07d678-a538-57d5-b88e-8cb2643bbddf.html

USA, FLA, MIAMI, MAY 12 2014. HIGH-TECH THIEVES SIPHONING DIESEL FUEL FROM SOUTH FLORIDA GAS STATIONS

patrick riley



Video surveillance shows the black Ford truck, the lookout car, parked at a Mobil gas station in Kendall on Oct. 15, 2013.

A slew of diesel fuel thefts in Miami-Dade County has gas station owners lamenting financial losses and industry professionals concerned about the public's safety. "This is common practice down here in South Florida," said John Peach, vice president of operations for Victory Petroleum. The company owns and operates more than 100 gas stations, primarily in Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach, and has had dozens of diesel fuel thefts amounting to more than \$10,000 in losses, Peach said. The fashion in which the thefts unfold is right out of an action movie. Thieves typically park their car on top of the tank field and then get to underground storage tanks by removing a false floorboard at the bottom of their vehicle, Peach said. The modified cars are often minivans and SUVs that usually have tanks in the back. "They break the lid open, stick a siphon into the tank and turn on the small motor," Peach said. "In 10 minutes they steal a couple thousand dollars in gas. It's extremely frustrating." According to Peach, the thieves sell the stolen diesel fuel on the black market. "It's a thriving business; they sell it well under market value," Peach said. But the financial hit to the company isn't the only concern. "If there's a little spark, not only does the car blow up, but innocent bystanders would get hurt," Peach said. However, the danger to the public is not limited to the pump, he said. "It is very scary to think that there are cars out there with hundreds of gallons of diesel in their trunk." Jeff Lenard of the National Association of Convenience Stores, an international trade association representing more than 2,200 retail and 1,600 supplier company members, shares the worry. "The problem is that it is pretty difficult to do and even more dangerous," Lenard said. "You need to have a fairly sophisticated process to capture vapor. If you know of anyone who is doing that, you need to turn them in because it's incredibly unsafe." Lenard suspects that the thieves sell the diesel to "somebody who is looking to fuel a fleet of diesel-powered vehicles." He said there's a possibility that particles could enter the fuel, which could lead to further complications. So, how are gas stations handling the problem? By asking their employees to stay alert. "What stores could do is be more attentive if someone parks there for an extensive amount of time," Lenard said. It's a strategy with which Peach is all too familiar. Video surveillance from two of their Mobil-branded gas stations, one in Cutler Bay and one at 137th and 88th Street in Kendall, shows a silver Nissan Sedan parking on top of the tank field while a black Ford truck acts as the lookout car. "We have now caught the same two people at three different locations in the past couple months," Peach said. "We actually have a very clear picture of the lookout guy." According to Peach, the lookout person enters the gas station's convenience store, usually while on his cellphone talking to his partner in the Nissan, to monitor the store's employees. They also wait to hear if any alarms from the underground storage tanks go off, Peach said. The two suspects that have been seen on camera most frequently are responsible for at least six cases of fuel thefts over the course of the past seven months, according to Peach. Since October, the duo has targeted gas stations in Doral, Kendall, Cutler Bay, Lake Worth and Miami Gardens, and have netted 750 gallons of diesel fuel. "We are seeing more reports in fuel thefts," said Ned Bowman, executive director of the Florida Petroleum Marketers and Convenience Store Association. "There has definitely been a noticeable rise." Although it's something that happens all over the country, South Florida sees it more often, said John Fleming of the Florida Retail Federation, a 6,000-member strong nonprofit trade organization. Proximity to transportation corridors, such as ports and major highways, is a big reason why South Florida is a center of organized retail crime, Fleming said. "It's a hub for distribution and shipping, almost like a central clearinghouse." Both Fleming and Bowman suspect fuel thefts are the work of an organized retail ring. "These are not stupid people," Peach said. "This is borderline white-collar racketeering." Fleming said that property crime sometime gets overlooked by police, but also concedes that the regional nature of the crimes makes it difficult for law



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enforcement to pursue suspects. "Connecting the dots is very difficult if you have a group operating regionally," Fleming said. Mom-and-pop gas stations are especially vulnerable, Fleming said. "The larger companies have a lot more resources and also have access to better technology," he said. "The mom-and-pops don't always have the funds."

<http://www.miamiherald.com/2014/05/11/4111369/high-tech-thieves-siphoning-fuel.html>

NIGERIA, LAGOS, MAY 12 2014. ONE INJURED, AS DIESEL TANKER CATCHES FIRE IN IBADAN

Three vehicles were burnt while a man sustained high degree of burns when a tanker carrying diesel spilled its content on the Ibadan end of the Lagos/Ibadan Expressway on Sunday, causing a huge inferno around the area. The incident caused gridlock on the road, as people abandoned their vehicles and ran for safety. An eyewitness informed the Nigerian Tribune that the tank of the lorry, which contained diesel, suddenly detached from the vehicle spilling the content on the road. One of the eyewitnesses, who identified himself as August Idowu, said: "The tanker was coming from Lagos towards Ibadan. Something went wrong suddenly and the vehicle split into two. The tank fell and the whole road was full of diesel. Almost immediately, fire emanated from the effect of the contact between the tar and the iron used to construct the tank. The fire travelled fast with the diesel and three other vehicles got burnt." Assistant Commandant, Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC) in charge of Oluyole, Ibadan South-West and Ona Ara council areas, Sanya Adeoye, confirmed the number of cars that were burnt. He also added that the injured person had been taken to the University College Hospital, Ibadan, by the emergency team of the FRSC.

<http://tribune.com.ng/news/news-headlines/item/5010-one-injured-as-diesel-tanker-catches-fire-in-ibadan>

USA, MD, FREDERICK CO, MAY 12 2014. AGENCY INVESTIGATES MORE THAN 40 UNDERGROUND PETROLEUM STORAGE SITES

kelsi loos

Gas stations keep people moving on the road, but when the fuel they sell is improperly contained, they can present a hazard to the environment and people living nearby. The Maryland Department of the Environment is investigating more than 40 underground petroleum remediation cases in Frederick County, according to a partial online listing of cases from the agency. About a third of those cases are at gas stations. MDE inspects underground storage tanks at least every three years because leaking oil and other petroleum products can cause serious problems for the environment and human health. Some chemicals in petroleum can cause cancer if they get into the groundwater and people consume them, according to Shannon Moore, manager of the Frederick County Office of Sustainability and Environmental Resources. Some chemicals are more dangerous than others, and some can travel more quickly in the soil. The chemicals that can enter the water table quickly can be more difficult to contain. "They all behave a little differently," Moore said. Older gas stations can pose more of a hazard because of the age of their underground storage tanks. "Some of the old gas stations definitely have leakage," Moore said. Some in the gas station business acknowledge the importance of complying with oil containment regulations but say it can be an expensive process. Gary Simpson, a creditor for Fuel Worx's closed Valero station in Walkersville, said it will take about \$10,000 to update the underground storage tanks and get the site up to code to reopen. "Honestly, (regulations are) very expensive and it's a bureaucracy, and they do provide a lot of costs to small business owners," Simpson said. "There is no question that there needs to be some regulation in place, the question is are they overburdensome." The MDE collected \$5.88 million in penalties across all of its enforcement programs and took 2,300 enforcement actions in 2013, according to its latest annual report. It inspected 1,062 underground storage tanks sites in Maryland, and 6 percent of the sites were found to have significant violations. A previous owner of Fuel Worx's property was fined nearly \$4,000 for underground storage tank-related violations, according to records from the MDE obtained through a Public Information Act request. Inspection records showed that the Valero did not have sufficient spill prevention measures in place, did not have proper rust protection on a tank of heating oil and lacked spill detection equipment in 2011. The tank of heating oil has since been removed. Despite the tank's deficiencies, a soil test by a private company showed there was no contamination at the site, Simpson said. Gas stations are not the only petroleum hazards. Schools, transportation hubs and anywhere else fuel is stored can be the site of a leak. In 2006, an underground oil tank at Rock Creek School in Frederick leaked about 1,100 gallons of oil. Some school officials were concerned about vapors but assured parents that there were no health risks to students after the leak was discovered. Nearly half of the open oil remediation investigation locations are related to transportation in some way. Trucking, auto retail and repair businesses and gas stations make up 45 percent of the cases.

Less than a quarter of the investigations were of residences.

http://www.fredericknewspost.com/news/environment/agency-investigates-more-than-underground-petroleum-storage-sites/article_1a756323-6b43-54cc-8e30-5f04dce2a4fa.html



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