

Tank and Petroleum Use Mishaps

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By learning about the misfortunes of others, it is STI's hope to educate the public by creating a greater awareness of the hazards with storage and use of petroleum and chemicals. Please refer to the many industry standards and to the fire and building codes for further guidance on the safe operating practices with hazardous liquids. Thanks and credit for content are given to Dangerous Goods-Hazmat Group Network.

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

GERMANY, LOWER SAXONY, LINGEN AN DER EMS

MARCH 30, 2011

TANKER EXPLODES ON A CANAL IN NORTHWESTERN GERMANY

A tanker caught fire while being loaded with highly flammable fuel on a German canal in the town of Lingen an der Ems, in the northwestern state of Lower Saxony. A series of massive explosions rocked the ship near an oil refinery on the Dortmund-Ems canal where the ship was being loaded. A significant amount of fuel leaked out, with firefighters spending hours trying to tackle the blaze. Eventually, they brought the flames under control, preventing them from spreading to fully loaded tankers nearby. All five crewmembers on the ship escaped the inferno, according to police, although one of the men suffered minor injuries.

The ship, which had around 900,000 liters (238,000 gallons) of premium gasoline on board, eventually sank next to the dock, with one section still sticking up out of the water. The gasoline also leaked onto the dock and caught fire.

The six firefighters were able to prevent the flames from spreading across the surface of water with the use of a special foam. But the mixture repeatedly re-ignited and there remains a risk of both fire and explosion. The firefighters will try to absorb the fuel over the course of the day.

Traffic on the Dortmund-Ems canal was stopped following the incident, while roads in the immediate vicinity of the refinery were closed during the night as a precaution. Nearby residents have been asked by the police to keep doors and windows closed due to the soot, although no other harmful substances have been found in the air.

The cause of the explosion is still being investigated.

<http://www.fs-world.com/Show.asp?ID=11470&Form=1>

USA, MS, WEST SPRINGFIELD

MARCH 26 2011.

PROBE DETAILS FATAL EXPLOSION

USED DISPOSABLE LIGHTER TO LOOK INSIDE A 55-GALLON DRUM OF TIRE CLEANING SOLVENT WHILST ON CELL PHONE WITH HIS CHEMICAL SUPPLIER

George Graham

Investigators have determined that the explosion that took the life of 33-year-old Daniel Martinez at Balise Honda Wednesday morning occurred when he used a disposable lighter to peer inside a 55-gallon drum of flammable cleaning solvent.

The state Fire Marshal's office released its finding Thursday afternoon.

Martinez, who lived in a house close to the rear of the facility, was employed by Real Clean Automotive Detailing, a subcontractor that performs reconditioning work at the dealership.

The Riverdale Street dealership opened for business Thursday morning and grief counselors were present to talk with grieving co-workers.

"I really don't know what to say," Mike Balise, co-owner and vice-president of Balise Motor Sales, said of the investigators finding. "It's a darn tragedy. It doesn't make me feel any better, I am in sort of disbelief that it happened that way."

Tank and Petroleum Use Mishaps

Balise said that Martinez was on a cell phone with his chemical supplier when he apparently used the lighter to determine the level of product inside the barrel.

Fire Chief William Flaherty said investigators made their determination, in part, after reviewing surveillance video from a camera inside the building.

Another man, a Balise employee, was taken to a hospital for treatment of smoke inhalation, Balise said. He was treated and released.

The presence of solvents in the building hampered firefighters' efforts to extinguish the blaze. Flaherty said it took firefighters about an hour to put out the flames.

Officials believe that, given the duration of the fire, a certain amount of cleaning product was in the barrel when it exploded, Flaherty said.

Flaherty said the force of the explosion propelled the barrel some 25 to 30 feet into the air where it hit the roof and caused it to bow out.

Balise said his company will review its supplies and procedures. "We will absolutely address these procedures and review all the processes that we have," he said.

The investigation was conducted by the West Springfield fire and police departments and state police assigned to Fire Marshal Stephen D. Coan's office and to the Hampden district attorney's office, said Jennifer Mieth, Coan's spokeswoman. The Federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration is conducting a separate investigation.

Officials with Real Clean Automotive Detailing could not be reached for comment.

According to its website, Real Clean is based in Weymouth and services 130 dealerships in seven states.
http://www.masslive.com/news/index.ssf/2011/03/explosion_that_took_life_of_da.html

USA, NORTH CAROLINA

MARCH 26 2011.

WOMAN FINDS ALGAE GROWING IN HER FUEL TANK

Anthony Garcia

It's become a popular choice in this climate of rising fuel prices. Cheri Neustadt got in the diesel game a year and a half ago when she bought her Jetta.

Cheri Neustadt says "because of the gas mileage, I also wanted to be a little bit more environmentally correct."

Cheri said everything seemed fine until about a month ago when the check engine light kept coming on. So she took the car to the VW dealership again and again and again. Mechanics ran diagnostics and lo-and-behold, they discovered algae growing in her fuel tank. Even worse, it had spread throughout her car.

Cheri says "What? How could this be? I had never heard of such a thing."

After digesting that, she was presented with this.

Cheri says "VW has told me it will be in excess of \$10,500."

What exactly does the bacteria in your fuel tank do to the car? Think of it like this: What does plaque in your veins do to your heart?

Steve Murphy has been working on these kinds of engines for 30 years. He said vehicles that sit unused for awhile are most prone.

Steve says "I would say the boaters have the most problems, construction equipment."

But cars are not immune. Steve says your best defense is using an additive each time you fuel up. Stanadayne is cheap, readily available, and it breaks down the water. No water, no algae.

Steve says "it can be costly, but typically if you catch it early enough, you start running an additive, regular filter changes, you'll take care of the problem."

For Cheri, the \$10,000 question has been, who is liable?

We contacted VW corporate, and provided them with the service center's number and Cheri's too. Their reply: We can't comment specifically on Cheri Neustadt's vehicle without knowing all the details of her case, however we always advise owners to follow the recommended maintenance schedule that comes with their Volkswagen and to service their vehicles at authorized Volkswagen dealerships or service centers.

And while our expert says just use a fuel additive, Cheri was told by a service tech at her VW dealership not to use one. So what's a driver to do?

Cheri says "all I did was what I thought was right, going to the gas station and filling up and trusting that my gas station was responsible to give me clean fuel."

<http://www.ktsm.com/news/woman-finds-algae-growing-in-her-fuel-tank>

Tank and Petroleum Use Mishaps

USA, OH, NOBLE CO, BELLE VALLEY

MARCH 27 2011.

PLANT EXPLOSION SHOOTS STORAGE TANKS HIGH IN SKY

A FIRE AT A GAS DISPOSAL PLANT CAUSES AN EXPLOSION

An explosion rocked the small community of Belle Valley Saturday morning, bringing in fire crews from around the area.

It happened at a gas disposal plant along Route 821.

Authorities said a pump station caught fire around 9:30 a.m., spreading the fire and causing two storage tanks, holding a brine mix, to shoot some 300 feet in the air.

A nearby neighbor said one storage tank crashed through his father's garage, which sits next store to the plant, while the other tank landed in the parking lot.

There were several fire crews nearby when it happened.

"It was pretty close to a lot of guys," Belle Valley Volunteer Fire Department Lieutenant Dana Bond said.

"The longer it burned the line inside the building, it burned off or was broken and was feeding some kind of gas or drip gas inside the building. The water was making the fire spread a lot," Bond said.

Bond said it took about two hours to put the flames out. Traffic on Route 821 was closed while crews hauled in water.

Bond said brine is disposed of at this plant after it is brought in from oil wells in the surrounding area. An investigation is underway.

<http://www.statejournal.com/story.cfm?func=viewstory&storyid=96648>

USA, N.J., NEWARK

MARCH 30 2011.

NEWARK REFINERY EXPLOSION, FIRE INJURES ONE

Chris De Benedetti

The situation at the Evergreen Oil refinery, where an explosion Tuesday morning caused a two-alarm fire and injured one employee, has stabilized, and Cal-Osha officials are at the scene to investigate, authorities said.

About 45 Alameda County firefighters responded to a 5:36 a.m. call reporting a blast and fire at the refinery, at Cherry Street and Smith Avenue, and they had the blaze under control within 15 minutes, fire spokeswoman Aisha Knowles said.

The injured employee broke his arm and was taken to an East Bay hospital, authorities said.

The explosion occurred when plant operators were doing a routine task and a heat exchanger malfunctioned, which released hydrocarbon and caught on fire, Knowles said.

The heat from the fire caused a fiberglass hydrochloric acid tank to rupture, Knowles said.

Hazardous material teams from Alameda County and Evergreen Oil worked together to stop any spread of the hydrochloric acid, and they captured it in a large container.

By 9 a.m., all fire units were released from the scene, including the county's hazardous materials team. Evergreen's hazardous materials team remained at the plant, as did county fire and Cal-Osha investigators, Knowles said.

Preliminary concerns about resident evacuations proved false, as there were no shelter-in-place orders to residents and no schools were closed, City Manager John Becker said.

"There was no release of any toxins or anything that would cause us to evacuate," Becker said. "Investigators are on scene right now seeing if there's any release into the storm channel."

It was the refinery's second major incident in the past 10 months. A fire started at the Evergreen Oil plant in May, and there have been multiple complaints of odors being emitted there in recent months, which prompted city officials recently to issue the plant 10 citations and fines totaling \$4,300, Becker said.

At this point, it would be pure speculation to say that Tuesday's fire was connected to those incidents, Becker said.

Neighbors living in a housing development directly across the street from the plant were awakened Tuesday morning by sirens.

Therese Walter, who has lived in her home since 1965, said that her daughter called her at 6 a.m. and that she could see smoke billowing from the refinery as soon as she looked outside.

Tank and Petroleum Use Mishaps

Walter said neighbors have complained for years about odors emanating from the refinery.

"That plant over there is bad," she said. "Many times we get a bad smell from over there, and sometimes it's so bad, it gives you a headache."

http://www.mercurynews.com/breaking-news/ci_17724343?nclink_check=1

USA, TN, CLARKSVILLE

MARCH 30 2011.

MAN INJURED IN DRUM EXPLOSION AT CLARKSVILLE HARDWARE STORE

Clarksville Fire Rescue responded Monday afternoon to an explosion at Orgain's Hardware on Riverside Drive. At about 2:50 p.m., an oil drum that was believed to be empty exploded when a worker tried to cut into it using a blowtorch, said Deputy Fire Chief John Stanley at the scene. The situation was under control within minutes, according to emergency scanner traffic, and no further fires were reported. The worker was taken ambulance for treatment for head injuries. The wounds were not thought to be life-threatening.

<http://www.theleafchronicle.com/article/20110329/NEWS01/103290357/Man-injuredexplosion-Clarksville-hardware-store?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|FRONTPAGE>

NIGERIA, KANO

MARCH 30 2011.

THESE CHILDREN LOST THEIR LIVES TO KEROSENE EXPLOSION

Kola Oyelere

The persistent scarcity of kerosene in the country has, over the years, created a lot of problems for many families and businesses. It has, in some cases, caused havoc and irreparable losses to many families across the nation. During the periods of kerosene scarcity, it had affected many salary earners income, forcing them to opt for firewood or in some cases, gas. However, it is common knowledge that the use of gas for cooking in Nigeria is common among the upper class of the society because it does not come cheap.

The family of Mallam Isyaku Bashir will never forget this year's kerosene scarcity experience, after the irreparable loss he suffered. The 40-year-old Mallam Bashir has a sad story to tell. He is one of the many of families in Nigeria who have lost their loved ones to kerosene explosions. The reason for kerosene explosions is not far to seek. Due to scarcity, many retailers resort to various dubious means to make profit and in some cases, other commodities are mixed with kerosene. According to Bashir, this was what happened in his case which resulted in the loss of three children.

On that fateful day, while struggling to make life easy for his family, he went to the market in Kano and bought kerosene to be used for cooking. Unknown to him, that same commodity would cause untold hardship and suffering to the family.

He gave the kerosene to one of his children while he decided to take a little rest outside the house, in preparation to have his meal.

Few minutes later, he was roused by shouts of fire from his house. He wondered what could have started a fire in his house. However, when the reality of the situation dawned on him, he and other people then rushed to salvage items from the fire. All positive attempts made by the good samaritans, however, proved abortive when it was discovered that the fire had already wreaked havoc on the innocent family. Three of his children lay dead when the smoke from the fire cleared.

Narrating his ordeal to the Nigerian Tribune, he said, "the incident occurred on the first of February, when I was informed that there was not enough kerosene in the house. I went out and bought the kerosene, after which I came back home and I gave the keg of kerosene to one of my children.

"All of a sudden, I heard the shouts of fire! fire! I was informed that the house was on fire," Mallam Bashir narrated, stating that even before he got to the scene of the incident, many good Samaritans had made spirited efforts to put out the fire as well as rescue any person(s) who could be trapped inside the house.

"Despite the spirited efforts of the people to rescue both lives and property, the damage had already been done as my innocent children, three in number, had been consumed by the fire. What compounded the whole effort, was that the children, out of confusion, in order to escape from the fire, rushed inside the rooms when the living room was already gutted by the inferno, instead of rushing out of the house. As a result of this pathetic situation, the rescue operation could not achieve any positive result, because while they were struggling to put out the fire in the sitting room so as to gain entrance into the room where my children rushed into.

"Before the rescue operation could get into the room, my children they had already suffocated and burnt

Tank and Petroleum Use Mishaps

nearly beyond recognition. My little boy, Muhammed, who was just four years old, died instantly, while Fatimah, seven and Abduljabar, 6, died later," he lamented.

Hajara, his wife, he said, was still on admission in the hospital while his brother, Umar and Muhammad Sanni, had been discharged.

"I learnt that the sad incident occurred when one of them was pouring kerosene into a lantern that was already lit. Unknown to him, the kerosene that I bought was adulterated and within a short period, the lantern exploded."

"With the present situation, there is nothing I can do but to accept all that happened to me as the wish of Allah, because this is a pathetic situation to me and my family," Mallam Bashir said.

He thanked all the people that rallied round him during the sad incident, especially Alhaji Ahmad Ibrahim Yakasai, who he said not only came to the hospital to condole with him, but also paid the hospital bills.

When the Nigerian Tribune spoke with the kerosene seller, one Sale, he said that he was not aware that the kerosene was adulterated. "I could not sleep throughout the night. I have been in the business for many years and this kind of ugly situation has never happened to me in life," he said.

Many people that were interviewed over the sad incident, called on the federal government to, as a matter of urgency, find a lasting solution to the kerosene scarcity, because some greedy people in the society were capitalising on it to enrich themselves, to the detriment of innocent citizens, by adulterating the product. They called on the government to come to the aid of the masses and ensure that the scarcity of products that have a direct impact on the immediate society, are made readily available, to avoid cases such as Mallam bashir's. However, Bashir, from his words, may have resigned to fate but the question is, how many more have to die before the issue of fuel scarcity becomes a thing of the past.

<http://tribune.com.ng/index.php/features/19646-these-children-lost-their-lives-to-kerosene-explosion>

USA, MA, NANTUCKET

APRIL 1 2011.

FIREFIGHTERS RESPOND TO FUEL SPILL AT COAST GUARD STATION BRANT POINT

Jason Graziadei

As much as 45 gallons of diesel fuel spilled from a home-heating unit at Coast Guard Station Brant Point Thursday afternoon, but crews were able to pump it out of the ground and clean up the site, according to senior chief T.J. Malvesti.

The fuel spill was reported just after 3:30 p.m. Thursday when a tank connected to the station's home-heating unit "burped" and back-flowed out of a vent, Malvesti said. The fuel could be seen pooling on the ground outside one of the station's buildings, and the smell was heavy in the air downwind of the spill.

"It's all cleaned up, and we were able to do it ourselves," Malvesti said Friday. "We pumped it into a 55-gallon barrel, and I would say there was between 30 to 45 gallons spilled. It was all recovered and we turned up the soil, so it's pretty much secured at this point."

Malvesti added that the state Department of Environmental Protection was notified, and a representative from the agency will be on Nantucket Monday to inspect the affected area.

<http://www.ack.net/fuelspill033111.html>

UK, NORTH FEATHERSTONE

APRIL 2 2011.

'FIRE RAINING FROM THE SKY': FLAMES TOWER OVER SUBURBAN STREET AFTER DIESEL TANK EXPLOSION

Firefighters and police forced dozens of people out of their homes last night, as a fire at a transport depot, believed to have been caused when a diesel tank exploded, towered over a suburban street.

Thirty firefighters - especially called in from the surrounding boroughs - battled with the blaze, which started in Featherstone last night at about 5pm, and two people were being treated for minor injuries.

They managed to save two houses close to the Welburn Transport depot from catching fire.

Some 62 properties within 200 metres of the blaze were evacuated - and residents have been told will not be allowed to return to their homes until later this evening at the very earliest.

And an exclusion zone has been enforced and remains in place around the area. In addition three roads have been shut off, and are expected not to be opened until tonight.

A West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service spokesman said that one person had sustained burns and another was suffering from smoke inhalation when acetylene gas cylinders exploded.

698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704

Tank and Petroleum Use Mishaps

'It was just fire raining down from the sky, the people - mainly residents in the process of evacuating - were screaming and running from the heat as the fuel began to fall. The heat was unbearable I really thought we were all going to die.'

Rachael Smith, a local resident, told the BBC: 'There were mini explosions, and big explosions.

'There were massive flames, black billowing smoke over the church, white smoke and some bangs.

'It was horrendous.'

A statement from West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service said: 'Firefighters from Featherstone, Pontefract, Castleford and Knottingley were called to the commercial garage in Church Lane at 5.17pm yesterday (31 March).

'At its height more than 30 firefighters tackled the blaze, saving nine nearby buildings (two of which backed on to the workshop).

'Two men who suffered minor injuries were taken to hospital. One suffered smoke inhalation and the other suffered flash burns.

'West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service fire investigation officers are currently working with West Yorkshire Police to establish a cause.'

Workers will have to wait until tonight - or tomorrow morning - to determine how it was started, as the cylinders have not yet cooled to a manageable level, a spokesman told MailOnline.

Station Manager Stephen Fealy, who was incident commander in the early stages of the incident, said: 'We would like to thank the evacuated residents for their co-operation in what was a very challenging incident.

'We understand it caused enormous inconvenience, but in cases like this public safety is our priority.

'Thanks to the swift response and quick-thinking of firefighters we were able to ensure the fire did not spread to nearby buildings.'

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1372322/Fire-raining-sky-Flames-tower-suburban-street-diesel-tankexplosionhtml?ito=feeds-newsxml>

USA, TX, CENTER

APRIL 2 2011.

FIRE CHIEF: TANK EXPLOSION

AIR:DIESEL FUEL MIX CAUSES CENTER FIRE

Jeff Awtrey

A diesel tank explosion caused a fire at a manufacturing plant in Center Thursday afternoon, according to the Center Fire Department.

According to Fire Chief Keith Byndom, a malfunction of a tank seal caused air to mix with diesel fuel and caused the tank to explode at the Omni plant, located at the intersection of Loop 500 and U.S. 84 South.

The plant is a relatively new business in Center, Byndom said, and his department had not had a chance to do a walk-through of the facility. However, Byndom said the plant did an excellent job of following a safety plan. The tank itself was designed to explode up, instead of out, to prevent more explosions.

"The explosion blew the top of the tank 50 yards, and that top landed about 50 yards from the tank," Byndom said.

Byndom said the fire department arrived at the scene shortly after the fire was called in, around 4:15 p.m. They immediately began pouring foam in the tank to extinguish the fire and also sprayed the tank on the outside to cool it, to keep other tanks from exploding.

"There was a lot of danger for about 20 minutes, then everything went back to normal," Byndom said. "The fire department did a great job. The guys got their quickly did everything by the book. They actually used some forklifts on the site to get a more direct attack at the tanks."

Nobody was injured in the fire. The Omni plant is a recycling plant which uses drilling mud to make useful items.

<http://www.ktre.com/Global/story.asp?S=14365529>

USA, MS, JONES CO, HEBRON

APRIL 2 2011.

9 FIRE DEPARTMENTS WORK BLAZE AT CRUDE OIL TANK FARM

Officials are investigating the cause of a fire that heavily damaged a crude oil tank farm early Thursday morning in Jones County.

Firefighters from nine departments battled the blaze at the tank farm owned by Tellus Operating Group.

Tank and Petroleum Use Mishaps

The Mississippi Oil and Gas Board, Tellus Operating Group and the Jones County Sheriff's Department are investigating the incident.

"A preliminary investigation did not reveal any deficiencies in any of the equipment leading to the site, although we will continue to work to determine what may have led to the fire," said John Parker, chairman of the Mississippi Oil and Gas Board, who responded to the fire.

The fire was reported just before 4 a.m. at the site on Fannie Ellzey Road, off Sand Hill Church Road.

Upon arrival, firefighters found two oil and salt water storage tanks on fire with five others in the same complex threatened. Firefighters established a water shuttle to the site using fire department vacuum tankers that were filling from nearby ponds along with conventional fire tankers.

Firefighters worked to cool the five exposed tanks, which had flames showing from the tops of their venting mechanisms, and to keep flames from spreading from the two tanks that were a blaze.

Tellus personnel arrived on the scene almost immediately and successfully shut off the entire facility, preventing additional crude oil from being pumped to the tanks from production wells.

As fire conditions worsened following a tank rupture, Collins Fire Department was called to the scene with a special firefighting trailer equipped with firefighting foam used especially for fossil fuel-based fires.

The fire was brought under control and extinguished around 8 a.m.

Jones County Emergency Management Agency Executive Director Don McKinnon said no residents were impacted by the fire because of the site's remote location.

No injuries were reported to any emergency responders or company personnel at the site.

One fire truck suffered minor damage when its alternator failed causing the electronically controlled transmission to lock out as the truck was moving into position near the burning tank farm.

Firefighters were forced to abandon the truck, which was later protected by other firefighters who sprayed water and foam from a handline deployed from another fire engine.

The truck had to be towed from the scene for repairs and replacement of several plastic lens covers, which melted due to the heat.

<http://www.hattiesburgamerican.com/article/20110401/NEWS01/104010329/1002/9-fire-departments-work-blaze-crude-oiltank-farm>

USA, WASHINGTON D.C

APRIL 2 2011.

ONE YEAR AFTER CATASTROPHIC ACCIDENT AT THE TESORO REFINERY THE CSB CONTINUES ITS INVESTIGATION INTO THE APRIL 2010 ACCIDENT

Marking the one year anniversary of the tragic accident at the Tesoro Refinery in Anacortes, Washington, the U.S. Chemical Safety Board (CSB) released a video safety message in which Chairperson Rafael Moure-Eraso urges refinery companies to "make the investments necessary to ensure safe operations," concluding, "Companies that continue to invest in safety and recognize its importance will reap benefits far into the future."

The video highlights the CSB's ongoing investigation into the April 2, 2010, accident that killed seven workers. At the time of the incident a heat exchanger was being brought online when the nearly forty-year-old piece of equipment catastrophically failed, spewing highly flammable hydrogen and naphtha which ignited and exploded.

In the safety message CSB Chairman Moure-Eraso notes, "The Tesoro accident is only one of several fatal incidents that occurred in the oil and gas production and refining sector in 2010 alone. Serious incidents at refineries continue to occur with alarming frequency."

The CSB's safety message notes leading insurance industry statistics indicating that the US refining sector has more than three times the rate of property losses of refineries overseas.

Dr. Moure-Eraso urges companies to take action to prevent accidents, including:

- Implement a robust mechanical integrity programs with an emphasis on thorough inspections of critical equipment
- Monitor process safety performance using appropriate leading and lagging indicators to measure process safety before major accidents occur
- Maintain an open and trusting safety culture where near-misses and loss of containment incidents are reported and investigated

The CSB is an independent federal agency charged with investigating serious chemical accidents. The agency's board members are appointed by the president and confirmed by the Senate. CSB investigations look into all aspects of chemical accidents, including physical causes such as equipment failure as well as inadequacies in regulations, industry

Tank and Petroleum Use Mishaps

standards, and safety management systems.

The Board does not issue citations or fines but does make safety recommendations to plants, industry organizations, labor groups, and regulatory agencies such as OSHA and EPA. CSB's final report including can be viewed at www.csb.gov

USA, TX, PORT ARTHUR

APRIL 2 2011.

NAME RELEASED OF KMTEX FIRE & EXPLOSION VICTIM

The Jefferson County Sheriff's Office has released the name of the man who was killed in a flash fire and explosion at a chemical processing plant, and KFDM News has obtained video showing the explosion as it happened.

Johnny Williams, 58, of Groves, died in the Thursday afternoon blast at the KMTEX processing plant, 2450 South Gulfway, Port Arthur. He was a welder for DME Enterprises at the plant.

Three other people were hurt. Two were taken by medical helicopters to UTMB in Galveston. One suffered two broken femurs and burns. The other, John Wright, is a pipefitter and suffered a broken jaw. Wright's nephew told KFDM News his uncle is in a medically induced coma. Wright suffered a shattered jawbone and his jaw is wired shut. He has a fractured arm, a number of cuts, scrapes and scratches all across his body. He's expected to make a full recovery.

An Acadian Ambulance transported a third victim to Christus Hospital St. Elizabeth. He had a concussion.

The flash fire and explosion were reported at about 2 p.m. Thursday at the plant near the Intracoastal Canal Bridge to Sabine Pass. South Gulfway Drive at the bridge was closed following the explosion to allow medical helicopters to land but reopened within about two hours.

According to the Sheriff's Office, witnesses say a worker was welding on a pipeline containing coal tar solvent when the flash fire and explosion took place.

The Jefferson County Sheriff's Office, along with Port Arthur Police, Fire and EMS, responded to the explosion.

Port Arthur Fire monitored the air quality at the scene to make sure there was no threat to the public.

According to the plant's website, it's a specialist in the custom processing of petrochemicals, speciality chemicals, oleochemicals, agricultural chemicals, and food grade chemicals. Our services include terminal storage and expert project management in materials handling, distillation, filtration, molecular sieve, and reaction chemistry.

Stay with KFDM for the latest information.

JEFFERSON COUNTY - (Thursday) - One person is dead and three hurt following a flash fire and explosion at the KMTEX chemical processing plant, 2450 S. Gulfway Drive in Port Arthur, according to information provided to KFDM News by Deputy Rod Carroll with the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office and the Port Arthur Fire Department.

The flash fire and explosion were reported at about 2 p.m. Thursday at the plant near the Intracoastal Canal Bridge to Sabine Pass. South Gulfway Drive at the bridge was closed following the explosion to allow medical helicopters to land but reopened within about two hours.

One person was killed inside the plant.

Deputy Carroll told KFDM two people who were injured were transported by medical helicopters, one from Hermann Hospital and one from Southeast Texas Air Rescue, to UTMB in Galveston. One suffered from head injuries and the second from fractures to the lower extremities as well as burns.

An Acadian Ambulance took a third injured victim who was suffering from a concussion to Christus Hospital St. Mary.

According to the Sheriff's Office, witnesses say a worker was welding on a pipeline containing coal tar solvent when the flash fire and explosion took place.

The Jefferson County Sheriff's Office, along with Port Arthur Police, Fire and EMS, responded to the explosion.

Port Arthur Fire monitored the air quality at the scene to make sure there was no threat to the public.

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Stay with KFDM for the latest information.

<http://www.kfdm.com/articles/-42222-.html>

Tank and Petroleum Use Mishaps

USA, TX, LUBBOCK CO

APRIL 2 2011.

EARLY MORNING OIL FIELD EXPLOSION NEAR SHALLOWATER LEADS TO EVACUATION

An explosion in an oilfield near Shallowater early this morning led to the evacuation of one home as more than two dozen firefighters battled the large blaze for more than two hours. West Carlisle Fire Chief Tim Smith said a heater treater, the device that removes water from crude oil pumped by the pumpjack, exploded at about 2 a.m. near FM 2641, just east of CR 1400. A second heater treater and surrounding grass also caught fire. About 25 firefighters with the West Carlisle and Shallowater volunteer fire departments were on scene until about 4:30 a.m. Smith said officials evacuated one residence that was downwind from the smoke just as a safety precaution - not because they thought the home was actually in danger of catching fire. Officials didn't believe the area to be at further risk this morning. Smith noted explosions of heater treaters to be extremely rare, adding that they are actually very safe. In his 25 years with the department, he's only seen one other incident of a heater treater catching on fire. —For some reason — we don't know why — it malfunctioned and caught on fire,|| Smith said. He described the loss of the heater treaters his morning as a significant loss for the owner — at least a couple hundred thousand dollars.

<http://lubbockonline.com/filed-online/2011-04-01/early-morning-oil-field-explosion-near-shallowater-leads-evacuation>

MEXICO, VERACRUZ

APRIL 3 2011.

MEXICO ALCOHOL DISTILLERY BLAST KILLS 3, INJURES 3

An explosion and fire has hit a Mexican factory that distills raw alcohol, killing three people and injuring three others. Firefighters battle a fire at an alcohol factory after an explosion near the city of Orizaba, Mexico, Saturday April 2, 2011. According to local police and civil protection, four people died due to the explosion. Firefighters battle a fire at an alcohol factory after an explosion near the city of Orizaba, Mexico, Saturday April 2, 2011. According to local police and civil protection, four people died due to the explosion. (AP Photo/Juan Jose Enriquez) The civil defense agency in the Gulf coast state of Veracruz says the dead from Saturday's blast have not been identified and it is unclear whether they were plant workers or neighbors of the facility near the city of Orizaba. About 600 people have been evacuated from homes in the general vicinity of the plant. The company's website says it produces ethanol for medical and other purposes. It is not clear what triggered the blast.

<http://www.ajc.com/news/nation-world/mexico-alcohol-distillery-blast-895925.html>

USA, ILL, MADISON

APRIL 12 2011.

3 INJURED IN EXPLOSION AT MADISON ETHANOL PLANT

Three people were being treated for injuries after a flash fire at an ethanol plant in Madison, authorities said. The plant, run by Abengoa Bioenergy of Illinois, is near Route 3 in the 300 block of Bissell Avenue, a fire official said. It is the site of the old Army depot. The report of an explosion came out at about 9 a.m., according to Madison Fire Chief Jeff Bridick. Men were working near a container in a maintenance shed when the container exploded. The fire had burned itself out by the time firefighters arrived, Bridick said. The three injured workers included one with serious burns to the lower extremities. He was taken to St. John's Mercy Medical Center. The others received more minor burns to the head and neck. They were taken to a hospital in Illinois. Bridick declined to give their names. No one from the plant or at Abengoa's corporate office in Chesterfield was available for comment. Bridick declined to give more details about the explosion pending an investigation by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration. "Right now the cause of the fire and explosion is under investigation," he said.

http://www.stltoday.com/news/local/crime-and-courts/article_fe897646-6447-11e0-930c-001a4bcf6878.html

NEW ZEALAND, AUCKLAND

APRIL 13 2011.

FUEL TANK ABLAZE AT KOPIUKU COAL MINE

Belinda McCammon

Fire Out: The diesel tank caught fire during refuelling at Glencoal Mine in Kopuku. A northern fire communications spokesman said firefighters were now beginning clean-up activities, and would begin leaving the scene gradually. The diesel tank caught fire during refuelling, at Glencoal Mine in Kopuku. The spokesman said they originally thought the fire involved 30,000 litres of fuel, but it was later discovered it was closer to 50,000. He said there had been no injuries during the fire, and no risk to life. The surrounding buildings had been protected by foam and water and

698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704

Tank and Petroleum Use Mishaps

there was consequently no damage to them. About 40 firefighters were involved to battling the flames.
<http://www.stuff.co.nz/national/4878067/Fuel-tank-ablaze-at-Kopuku-coal-mine>

USA, ME, FAIRFIELD

APRIL 13 2011.

FAIRFIELD OIL SPILL CONTAINED AFTER TANK LEAKED

Scott Monroe

About 200 gallons of heating oil spilled from an outdoor tank at a residence Sunday night, but local firefighters were able to stop it from spreading.

Officials with the Maine Department of Environmental Protection responded to the spill and contracted with the Clean Harbors firm to clean it up.

Fairfield Fire Chief Duane Bickford said the spill occurred because the fuel tank's oil filter broke off when the ground beneath it shifted and sunk on one end. The Department of Environmental Protection also said accumulating snow was a factor, falling onto the tank's piping.

Bickford said the incident is a good reminder for the general public.

"This should get other people to look around their tanks," Bickford said. "It was sitting on cinder blocks. The filter itself should be covered to protect from snow falling off the roof, and the tank should sit on a cement pad or secure patio blocks."

Fairfield firefighters responded to the spill at a mobile home on Hardwood Lane just after 7:20 p.m. Sunday and left the scene about four hours later.

About 200 gallons of oil had leaked from the 275-gallon tank, according to Samantha DePoy-Warren, a spokeswoman for the Department of Environmental Protection .

Bickford said some oil had leaked across the front lawn, down a slope, and a small amount had dispersed into a culvert in a nearby ditch. Firefighters contained the oil with absorbent pads, while blocking the culvert in the driveway to stop the flowing water from carrying the oil away.

Clean Harbors returned Monday with a large truck-sized vacuum to suck out oil and contaminated gravel underneath the mobile home, DePoy-Warren said.

"One well is at risk of a contamination, but this may be prevented due to a high water table at this time," DePoy-Warren said.

http://www.onlinesentinel.com/news/oil-spill-contained-after-tank-leaked_2011-04-11.html

USA, IA, CHEROKEE

APRIL 13 2011.

CFD BATTLES BLAZE THAT DESTROYS BUSINESS

FIRE CREWS WORK OVER NIGHT TO KEEP FIRE UNDER CONTROL

Mike Leckband

The Cherokee Fire and Rescue responded to a fire at Filter Recycling, Inc. located at 5167 Old River Road. The fire was reported about 12:45 a.m. and fire crews quickly responded. Fire crews from five departments around Cherokee County were called out to battle the overnight blaze at the plant that recycles oil filters from cars. Fire officials think the fire broke out in the facility's office and spread from there. Nobody was reported hurt from the blaze, but there were several explosions at the recycling plant. Doug Gochenour of Cherokee Fire and Rescue stated, "There's been explosions because there is oil, diesel fuel, jet fuel and propane tanks and everything inside of this building. So it's been kind of interesting." Crews from Aurelia, Cleghorn, Meriden and Larabee were called in to help the Cherokee fire department battle the blaze. The cause of the blaze has yet to be determine but the State Fire Marshal was expected to be on the scene sometime on Tuesday to see if there was anything left to help in the investigation. The fire crews were still on the scene some twelve hours later.

<http://www.chronicletimes.com/story/1718077.html>

Tank and Petroleum Use Mishaps

USA, PA, CHESTER TWP

APRIL 17 2011.

GEAUGA COUNTY: GAS WELL LEAK RENEWS SAFETY CONCERNS

Paul Thomas

A gas well spewed an estimated 80 to 90 gallons of crude oil, brine and natural gas into the air after a gas pipe sheared at a coupling Wednesday morning. According to a Chester Township fire incident report, a witness reported that the well had been "shooting yellow stuff...for over an hour" before the fire department was notified of the problem. The mixture coated an area 80 feet wide by 400 feet long on a property near Mayfield Road before fire crews turned off the valves at the well. An estimated 10 gallons of oil was also found floating on a private pond. A spokesman for the Ohio EPA said most of the cleanup has been completed and no significant longterm environmental impacts are expected. The spill was contained to the well property. However, the incident has renewed concerns about gas well oversight for Chester Township trustee Judy Caputo. Caputo said there are 220 gas wells in the township. And there approximately 64,000 gas wells across the state for 30 inspectors to keep tabs on. "The reality here in Chester Township is that all of the residents here are on well water," Caputo said. "Anything plumbing oil, brine and gas 20 to 25 feet in the air is disturbing." The well that leaked Wednesday began production in 2007. It has been inspected seven times by the state. But the last inspection occurred more than 20 months ago.

<http://www.wkyc.com/news/article/185952/15/Geauga-County-Gas-well-leak-renews-safety-concerns>

USA, KY, LOUISVILLE

APRIL 19 2011.

ETHANOL LEAK SENDS EMERGENCY CREWS SCRAMBLING TO KEEP RESIDENTS SAFE

Christi Reynard and Matt McCutcheon

It may have been a perfect night to sleep with the windows open, but early Monday morning, residents living along Kramers Lane near the Rubbertown and Shively area were urged to close those windows and stay inside after an Ethanol spill at 4920 Kramers Lane. One of the two 24-hour monitoring crews noticed the leak during their safety rounds.

A blend of 97% ethanol, 3% gasoline was misting out of a 8,000 gallon tank around 3:30 Monday morning. The Lake Dreamland Fire Department responded with other emergency and environmental crews.

"The facility personnel are estimating somewhere between 4,000 - 5,000 gallons that they lost," said Lake Dreamland Fire Department Asst. Chief Jody Meiman.

They first tackled the situation by spraying foam around the area to trap the odor, which can be dangerous in large quantities. A piece of wood was used to stop the leak, while the remaining ethanol blend was placed into another tank at the facility.

"It's a bulk distribution facility; we have nine above ground storage tanks that serve wholesale and retail customers in the Louisville area," said John Neal with Marathon.

With all that fuel on site - combined with the leaking container - crews scrambled to find the best way to attack the problem, first of all spraying a chemical down to create a blanket.

"The layer of foam suppresses any type of vapors and it lowers your explosive limits," Meiman said.

Crews then jammed a piece of wood into the hole to plug it while the fuel drained into another tank. While all of that was taking place, crews sounded five emergency sirens, activating a "Shelter In Place" warning so that people would know it was advised to stay inside and close windows.

The wind direction and speed was a concern, which also prompted that warning.

"The fire department didn't know if they'd be able to stop the leak, you don't know much the tank contains, and it's always wise I think when you may have a container that's full and you don't know to take that precautionary measure," MetroSafe Executive Doug Hamilton.

While it may have been a startling sound, it was one welcomed by neighbors.

"We heard the sirens this morning so we got up and turned the TV on and we got dressed and waited until we heard it was all clear," resident Mary Murphy said.

Where the wind could blow the fumes was the big concern officials had for area residents.

"Ethanol is a inhalation hazard in high concentrations and can cause respiratory problems," Hamilton said.

Just before 6 a.m., that warning was lifted. No injuries were reported, and it isn't clear how much Ethanol was released.

The facility, one of two that service Marathon gas stations in the area, contains nine large storage tanks.

The cause of the leak - now estimated to have been about 4,000 to 5,000 gallons - is being investigated, and

Tank and Petroleum Use Mishaps

environmental crews and emergency responders were still at the scene hours after the leak was first reported.

The following roads were closed until around 8 a.m. - Kramers Lane, Bubbling Over Drive, and Campground Road, but have since re-opened.

<http://www.wave3.com/story/14463950/ethanol-spill>

UK, NEWBURY

APRIL 19 2011.

DIESEL FUEL SPILLS AT STATE POLICE BARRACKS

Dave Rogers

More than 100 gallons of diesel fuel spilled out of a 500-gallon tank and covered the parking lot at the state police barracks behind Scotland Road with the flammable liquid. Newbury fire Chief William Pearson said the fuel, used to power the barracks' generator, leaked out of a broken line connecting the tank to the building starting around 11:45 a.m. The leak prompted a Tier 1 Hazmat response, bringing not only Newbury fire units but technicians from the Department of Environmental Protection, who were charged with cleaning the spill. Tier 1 is considered the least serious environmental accident. As Newbury firefighters remained on scene to make sure the fuel didn't ignite, a Massachusetts Department of Transportation truck spread sand across the parking lot to absorb as much of the fuel as possible and keep it from spreading to vegetated areas. Diesel fumes could be smelled all around and inside the building. "It's a lot of fuel," Pearson said. Pearson said he didn't expect any difficulties removing the diesel fuel by the end of the afternoon.

<http://www.newburyportnews.com/local/x69803678/Diesel-fuel-spills-at-state-police-barracks>

AUSTRALIA, VICTORIA, MURCHISON

APRIL 15 2011.

FUEL BLAST SPARKS SAFETY WARNING

A Murchison woman, who almost died when her car exploded, has pleaded for people to take care when transporting fuel. Sonia Jones's car burst into flames near Meekatharra last year when she lit a cigarette in the front seat. She was unaware her partner had placed two jerry cans of fuel on the back seat. Ms Jones says the fumes ignited instantly. "I actually exploded in the car. I was trapped in the car surrounded by flames and on fire," she said. "I looked at my hands and wondered am I dead or am I alive. "I could feel myself wanting to kind of go to sleep. Then I heard my boss Jo scream and I shuddered and I believe to this day that Jo saved my life." Ms Jones suffered third degree burns and had to undergo months of treatment. The Fire and Emergency Services Authority's John Newman says people should avoid carrying fuel cans inside their cars. "The very best way to carry it is in an auxiliary fuel tank that's been designed for the purpose or in commercially available external jerry can holders," he said. "If you find you need to carry it, and we would discourage it, if you are carrying it in the vehicle, as soon as your main tank gets down to a sufficient level, to empty that can, we recommend you empty it into your fuel tank."

[http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2011/04/14/3191408.htm?site=northwestwa§ion=news&date=\(none\)](http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2011/04/14/3191408.htm?site=northwestwa§ion=news&date=(none))

USA, MI, STOCKBRIDGE

APRIL 15 2011.

GASOLINE LEAK DETECTED NEAR STOCKBRIDGE

Gasoline is leaking from an unknown source northwest of Stockbridge, however it is coming from the same area where there are gasoline storage tanks owned by the Wolverine Pipe Line Company and other companies.

The leak is located in the area of Mt. Pleasant road. It is not known how much gasoline has leaked or if there has been any contamination of the water system.

The owner of the property smelled gas a few days ago and again Wednesday. This time he called the Enbridge/Wolverine Pipeline hotline after his wife investigated.

"She hopped off her quad and went down to the creek," said Marvindawn Speer. "She saw the gas coming from the soil into the creek."

A statement from Wolverine Pipe Line Company says that between 6 and 7 o'clock Wednesday evening the company received the call from Speer. Wolverine sent crews to investigate, and found some petroleum-based substance coming from the bank of the drain.

The Ingham County Drain Commission describes the substance as gasoline.

"It's coming out like a faucet," said Drain Commissioner Pat Lindemann. "Not like a firehose, but it's enough to be concerned about."

Tank and Petroleum Use Mishaps

Wolverine used absorbent booms and pads to capture the substance. They say their crew has stopped the petroleum from entering the country drain. Wolverine Pipe Line Company workers, as well as the county drain commission and DEQ are still searching for the source.

Wolverine president Alan Sawyer was at the site Thursday and spoke to News 10.

"We want to protect the groundwater," he said. "We want to protect the safety of the public and not make this bigger than it is and try and resolve it."

"It could be a major problem or it could be a small problem," said Lindemann. "Anytime gas gets into the water, it's a problem."

As of Thursday night, testers had not found any gas in nearby wells.

Below is Wolverine Pipe Company's entire press statement and the update it sent News 10 at 10:37 p.m. Thursday:
Statement

White Oak, Township, Michigan

3:30 p.m. EST

Between 6:00 p.m.-7:00 pm last night, Wolverine Pipe Line Company (WPL) received a call from a farmer in White Oak Township after smelling gasoline in the Bauer Drain. Wolverine immediately sent crews to investigate. Absorbent booms and pads were deployed to capture any substance and protect the environment. The crews found a minimum amount of a petroleum-based substance coming from the bank of the Bauer Drain.

At this point, the source of the substance is unknown but Wolverine is responding in a proactive fashion to help determine the source location and protect the public. Wolverine is working with the Ingham County Drain Commissioner, Ingham County Health Department, Ingham County Emergency Management, the Michigan Department of Environment Quality (MDEQ) and the EPA.

The location is near the Stockbridge petroleum storage facilities. WPL operates four storage tanks in the area. Gasoline, diesel, and blendstock products are stored in the 100,000 - 180,000 barrel tanks.

Wolverine reported the incident to the National Response Center (NRC) hotline, Michigan Pollution Emergency Alerting System (PEAS) and 9-1-1 last night. At this point, Wolverine crews have stopped product from entering the county drain and crews are deploying additional boom and continuing to determine the source. Wolverine is bringing additional equipment to the site to help determine the origin of the product. Wolverine is treating this situation as a top priority and will continue to assist the agencies to determine the source and to protect the environment.

10:37 p.m. EST

2 Geo-Probes (core drilling machines) arrived late Thursday afternoon and began drilling holes around the Stockbridge tank farm. The drilling continued throughout the evening and will commence again early Friday morning. Wolverine Pipe Line is testing to find the flow of material.

Absorbent booms and pads have captured all gasoline that has been discovered. Wolverine Pipe Line Company is working with Superior Environmental and Ingham County Health Department to test wells in the immediate vicinity (within one mile) of the Stockbridge tank farm. Please call 269.217.5158 to arrange to have your well tested at no cost. Bottled water is also available to residents in the immediate vicinity (within one mile) of the Stockbridge tank farm. Please call 269.217.5158 to receive bottled water.

<http://www.wilx.com/news/headlines/119853474.html>

USA, DE, DELMARVA

APRIL 16 2011.

2 GAS STATION OWNERS FINED FOR STORAGE TANK VIOLATIONS

Two gas station owners have been ordered to pay fines to DNREC for storage tank violations.

JB & CAL, which owns a Citgo station in Claymont, was ordered to pay a penalty of more than \$36,000 plus an additional \$5,400 in cost recovery to DNREC for failing to prove routine tank inspections for its gas and kerosene tanks dating back to 2009. If the violations are fixed within two months, the penalty will be suspended.

Merit Oil, which owns a Hess station in Wilmington, was fined \$31,500 plus \$4,700 in cost recovery for violating the state's storage tank and air quality rules. DNREC says that in 2009, the station owners failed to show documentation of how it would pay for cleaning up oil leaks, and later that year, changed gas pumps without updating the vapor recovery system, as required by law. Merit has 30 days to request a hearing on the order.

DNREC issues \$36,250 penalty order to JB & CAL Inc. for underground storage tank violations

Tank and Petroleum Use Mishaps

DOVER (April 15, 2011) – Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control Secretary Collin O'Mara has issued a Notice of Conciliation Proceedings, Administrative Penalty Assessment, and Secretary's Order to JB & CAL Inc. for violations of Delaware's underground storage tank regulations. The order includes a cash penalty of \$36,250 and an additional \$5,437 as cost recovery reimbursement for DNREC's expenses associated with its investigation.

DNREC's Tank Management Branch conducted a compliance inspection of the underground storage tank systems at the Village Market Citgo gas station in Claymont owned by JB & CAL, Inc., on March 18, 2009. At the time of the inspection, JB & CAL Inc. failed to demonstrate that it had conducted required internal inspections of lined tanks; certified their automatic tank gauge as required; conducted routine inspections as required; and also failed to demonstrate that it had financial responsibility documentation to pay for the cleanup or third-party damages associated with a potential release from their underground storage tanks.

JB & CAL Inc. corrected three of the four violations but remains out of compliance with the tank liner inspection requirement for its kerosene tank. The Tank Management Branch issued a delivery prohibition tag to the kerosene tank on August 16, 2010. The kerosene tank must be maintained per DNREC regulations, properly closed in place, or removed within 60 days of receipt of this order. If JB & CAL conducts this work within in the required timeframe, DNREC will suspend payment of the \$36,250 penalty.

DNREC Issues \$31,500 penalty order to Merit Oil of Delaware for storage tank and air quality violations

DOVER (April 15, 2011) – Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control Secretary Collin O'Mara has issued a Notice of Administrative Penalty Assessment and Secretary's Order to Merit Oil of Delaware, Inc. for violations of the state's underground storage tank and air quality rules and regulations. The order includes a cash penalty of \$31,500 and an additional \$4,725 as cost recovery reimbursement for DNREC's expenses associated with its investigation.

DNREC's Tank Management Branch conducted a compliance inspection of underground storage tank systems at a Hess gas station on Kirkwood Highway owned by Merit Oil of Delaware on April 8, 2009. At the time of the inspection, Merit Oil of Delaware failed to demonstrate it had proper financial responsibility documentation to pay for the cleanup or third-party damages associated with a potential release from the company's underground storage tanks.

Merit Oil of Delaware, remained out of compliance for a year before submitting the required financial responsibility information in March 2010. Also, on August 27, 2009, during a routine stop at the gas station, the Tank Management Branch observed that permitted gas pumps had been replaced without Merit Oil modifying its vapor recovery system permit as required by law. DNREC issued a Notice of Violation letter on January 20, 2010. It was several months before Merit Oil of Delaware submitted the necessary permit applications and to correct this problem underground piping had to be reconfigured and thoroughly tested to ensure that they met Delaware's leak detection requirements. On November 23, 2010, DNREC issued the permits.

Merit Oil of Delaware Inc. has 30 days to request a public hearing.

<http://www.wgmd.com/?p=22414>

USA, MO, POLK COUNTY

APRIL 16 2011.

OILY RESIDUE IN TOWN BRANCH FROM OLD OIL STORAGE TANK

Charlotte Marsch

An oily residue that was discovered Wednesday afternoon flowing into Town Branch in Bolivar came from residue left in an empty, unused oil tank, according to Larry Archer, division information officer for the Missouri Department of Natural Resources.

"The residue was from a previous life as an automotive shop," he said. "There was a light sheen on the water."

Jason Parsons, owner of Jason's Glass Shop on East Maupin Street, where the residue originated, said Thursday afternoon that an oil storage tank in the basement had not been used in 18 years. It had been pumped dry after its last use.

The problem came when the basement flooded and the bottom of the tank rusted, he said. When he realized the basement was flooded Wednesday afternoon, he started running the sump pump.

"The tank was empty, but apparently there was some residue on the sides," he said. "I'm doing everything DNR wants me to do. We are containing it and disposing of it properly."

Parsons said he was not aware of the situation until Thursday morning, and he and his employees started

Tank and Petroleum Use Mishaps

helping with the cleanup. He hired Sunbelt Environmental Services to finish the cleanup.

“Then we’re going to get rid of the tank,” he said.

Steve Welch, whose property borders Town Branch on the north and a drainage ditch on the east, was mowing his lawn at that intersection at about 4 p.m. Wednesday when he smelled the oil. When he realized it was in the water, he called E-911.

The residue flowed north from Maupin Street down a ditch that drains into Town Branch.

Bolivar Fire Department installed an underflow dam downstream Wednesday evening to contain the spill, according to Assistant Chief Shane Duncan.

Because petroleum-based products float on top of water, pipes were placed beneath the water to allow the unaffected water to continue flowing through the creek while the dam stopped further flow of the oil.

Archer said the dam had been effective in containing the oil to a small portion of the stream.

“Once cleanup is completed, there shouldn’t be any long-term issues,” he said.

Leaks from petroleum storage tanks — especially older, unused tanks — are everyday occurrences in Missouri, Archer said, though they more commonly are from underground tanks.

“Once tanks are no longer being used properly, they should be removed,” he said.

http://bolivarmonews.com/news/article_0ffcc92a-66f8-11e0-ba34-001cc4c002e0.html

USA, N.J, BERGEN CO, MAYWOOD

APRIL 20 2011.

MAYWOOD OFFICIALS WORK TO CONTAIN OIL LEAK

Monsy Alvarado

Borough officials on Tuesday were working to contain an oil leak from an underground storage tank, which they say has reached a local brook.

Borough Administrator Thomas Richards said he doesn’t know how much oil escaped and how far it has traveled, but said the source is a 1,000-gallon heating oil tank located in a private parking lot behind businesses on West Pleasant Avenue. He said the oil tank cap had fallen off, allowing rain water to enter the underground container and the oil to ooze out into a nearby storm water drain. He said rainfall that had seeped into the ground surrounding the container also contributed to the oil leak.

“The overflow was going into the storm line,” he said.

Town officials were notified of the leak this weekend, and the owner was ordered to remove all of the oil in the tank.

“Landlord was told to pump it out on Saturday,” Richards said as he stood near the storm drain which is surrounded by absorbent pads. “Apparently it refilled again on Monday.”

Monday night, Rochelle Park police received a call from a resident who was standing along the banks of the Saddle River who reported a smell of fuel, said Township Committeeman Frank Valenzuela. He said police and members from the Bergen County Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Team then began to investigate, which led them to Maywood.

“Due to all the rain, it had [dissolved] quite a bit, but they were able to track it back,” Valenzuela said. .

Bergen County’s HAZMAT, Maywood, Rochelle Park and Lodi officials were called, and all descended on the parking lot Monday night, Richards and Valenzuela said.

Valenzuela said township officials reported that a sheen of oil had been spotted along a creek that goes through Maywood and Rochelle Park, and eventually spills into the Saddle River.

“It may have made the river, it wasn’t seen,” he said.

On Tuesday, absorbent pads could be spotted in the creek near the Maywood Center for Health and Rehabilitation on West Magnolia Avenue.

An employee at the county’s HAZMAT office referred calls to a county spokesperson, who did not immediately return a call.

The owner of the parking lot where the underground tank is located, Joseph Gassib, did not immediately return a call on Tuesday. Richards and Mayor Timothy Eustace said Gassib has already obtained a permit to remove the underground tank, which hasn’t been used for more than 15 years. Richards said that is when the owners likely converted their heat source from oil to gas.

Valenzuela said the State Department of Environmental Protection was notified.

http://www.northjersey.com/news/041911_Maywood_officials_work_to_contain_oil_leak.html

Tank and Petroleum Use Mishaps

UK, WALES, CEREDIGION

APRIL 21 2011.

FIREFIGHTERS ESCAPE BLAST AS BLAZE KILLS LIVESTOCK

TANK RUPTURES, SPILLING HUNDREDS OF LITRES OF BURNING FUEL

Sam Malone

Firefighters had a lucky escape after a fuel tank containing around 750 litres of diesel exploded while they tackled a blazing barn which killed nine sheep and eight lambs.

Crews were called at 8.22pm yesterday to a large barn containing significant quantities of hay, livestock and general farm equipment in Llanarth, near New Quay in Ceredigion, which was engulfed by flames.

The Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service said crews from New Quay, Aberaeron, Lampeter, Llandysul, Newcastle Emlyn and Aberystwyth were involved, with specialist vehicles from Llanelli and Tumble.

Soon after their arrival, the fire spread to three diesel tanks causing one to rupture and spill hundreds of litres of burning fuel onto the farm yard.

The fuel surrounded one of the fire engines which was parked around 20 metres causing irreparable damage.

A Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service spokesman said: "Firefighters saved two of the tanks but due to the severity of the fire one tank ruptured causing approximately 750 litres of burning fuel to spill onto the farm yard which ran downhill engulfing one of the fire appliances which was parked approximately 20 meters away.

"Due to the swift actions of the firefighters no one was injured and firefighters continued to fight the blaze in the barn preventing further spread to nearby properties and farm equipment."

She added the cause of the fire, which was brought under control around 1.20am, will now be investigated.

Officers from Dyfed-Powys Police were involved in diverting traffic away from the area.

<http://www.walesonline.co.uk/news/wales-news/2011/04/20/firefighters-escape-blast-as-blaze-kills-livestock-91466-28552549/#ixzz1KeF9gVjz>

USA, OK, TURNLEY

APRIL 21 2011.

BROKEN HOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR OIL TANK FIRE

Investigators say a broken hose is responsible for a fire at an oil tank near 76th Street North and Highway 75 Wednesday afternoon. It happened at about 2:30 p.m. Authorities tell NewsChannel 8 one of the oil tanks was being worked on when a hose broke, spewing oil onto a pump. The heat from the pump started a fire and within minutes, the tank was engulfed. An ambulance was dispatched to the scene, but the worker was not injured. The fire was contained and crews were still on scene at 4:15 p.m. working to keep any hot spots from re-igniting.

<http://www.ktul.com/story/14484168/large-fire-burning-near-turley>

USA. MI, INGHAM, CO, WHITE OAK TWP

APRIL 22 2011.

126,000 GALLONS OF GASOLINE SPILLED IN STOCKBRIDGE LEAK

Louise Knott Ahern

The amount of gasoline that seeped into the ground during a pipeline leak discovered last week was enough to fill up more than 8,000 average-sized cars. Officials from Marathon Pipeline, LLC, the company that owns the leaking pipe, said today that it had determined the amount of lost gasoline to be 126,000 gallons. Only 6,000 gallons of that have been collected so far, said Robert Calmus, spokesman for Marathon Pipeline, which is based out of Ohio. The company still does not know how long the pipe was leaking, Calmus said. Because the pipe ... was underground, we don't know at this time the length of the time that took place," Calmus said. The leak was discovered April 13 by a farmer whose property in the 2400 block of Mount Pleasant Road is adjacent to a four-tank gasoline storage facility owned by Wolverine Pipeline Co. north of Stockbridge. Marathon owns one of the tanks, as well as the pipeline leading to it. The farmer had been smelling gasoline for a couple of days before noticing something strange leaking into a drainage ditch on his property, said Sgt. Robert Ott, Ingham County's emergency management program coordinator. Marathon said the leak was caused by a faulty gasket on the pipeline used to pump gas into the 180,000-barrel tank. Cleanup crews have been testing wells in the area, and have so far detected no contamination, Ott said. However, Marathon has offered free well testing and bottled water to anyone living in the area around the leak if they have concerns about the safety of their drinking water.

<http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/article/20110420/NEWS01/304200010/126-000-gallons-gasoline-spilled-Stockbridgeleak?odyssey=nav|head>

Tank and Petroleum Use Mishaps

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CREWS CLEAN UP FROM GAS LEAK AT PORT TAMPA

José Patiño Girona

Officials are investigating a gasoline leak found last week at the Chevron Petroleum Terminal in Port Tampa that has affected groundwater and soil in the area.

The leak appears to have been caused by someone who broke into the Chevron terminal, 5500 W. Commerce St., and vandalized the piping on a valve.

An estimated 210 tons of gasoline-contaminated soil has been excavated, and 120 gallons of water contaminated with gasoline has been recovered, said Michael McDaniel, an environmental supervisor with the Hillsborough County Environmental Protection Commission.

The contaminated soil has been placed in huge trash bins; it will be tested, then safely disposed of, McDaniel said.

"Anytime you have a discharge into the environment, it's significant," McDaniel said. "It isn't something you take lightly."

Contractors are on the scene continuing to excavate the soil, recover contaminated groundwater and conduct tests. The contaminated groundwater isn't a drinking water supply, McDaniel said.

The gasoline leak was found April 11 by workers at a neighboring petroleum terminal.

Investigators don't know when the valve was damaged and when the gasoline began to spill.

They do know someone got into the Chevron terminal because a lock on a fence was broken, McDaniel said.

"We don't know who did it; we don't know the motive," McDaniel said.

The damaged valve was immediately repaired and isn't leaking, he said.

Chevron doesn't know how much fuel was lost, McDaniel said.

However, the gas company will receive another shipment at the end of the week that will help the company determine how much gasoline was lost, he said.

Officials at Chevron could not be reached for comment on Monday.

<http://www2.tbo.com/content/2011/apr/19/MENEWSO4-crews-clean-up-from-gas-leak-at-port-tamp/news-breaking/>