

**Louisiana Department of Environmental
Office of the Secretary
Emergency Response Record**

Official Notification: Log No. s98-2419
From: LSP/L. Crane **Date of Spill:** 7/24/98
Telephone: 925-6113 **Time of Spill:** 0818
By: Tommie Johnson **Parish:** Orleans
Date: 7/24/98 **Time:** 0932
Incident Location: Nashville Wharf on-Mississippi River, New Orleans

Materials Involved: Ammonia

Description of Incident (list injuries, if any): No injuries; pipe on refrigeration unit broke releasing ammonia vapors in warehouse on dock.

Pollution of: Land Air Water

Generator of Material: New Orleans Cold Storage **EPA ID#** _____
Address: Nashville Wharf, New Orleans

Representative: Rickey Calligan **Telephone #** 895-4820

Transporter of Material: _____ **EPA ID#** _____
Address: _____

Representative: _____ **Telephone #** _____

Disposer of Material: _____ **EPA ID#** _____
Address: _____

Representative: _____ **Telephone #** _____

Time of Arrival at Scene: 1011

Incident Handled by Telephone: _____ **Date:** _____ **Time:** _____

Investigator's Comments and Assessment of Clean-up Protocol:

Responded to location which was New Orleans Cold Storage on Nashville dock where a 1/4-inch pipe containing ammonia gas broke and released vapors in warehouse. New Orleans fire Department and Hazardous Materials Unit Chief Don Birou, John Hellmers, Ernie Williams and LSP Trooper Ray Meyers were on scene and water was sprayed to absorb any fumes released in immediate area; there was no off-site and/or impact on community. New Orleans Cold Storage personnel Jimmy Bienvenu and Rickey Calligan contracted Garner Environmental who sub-contracted Nalty Environmental to remediate situation. Using SCBA the situation was corrected when Steve Mutz, Walter Diamond, and Chad Alleman of Nalty arrived. No further action required by Emergency Response.

CC: Enforcement Air Solid Water LSP Other _____

Responder: *Luke J. Piranio*
Luke J. Piranio

Approved By: *Ross E. Williams*
Ross E. Williams
Program Manager
Emergency Response

Reviewed By: *Jeffrey P. Meyers*
Jeffrey P. Meyers
Coordinator

Johnson, Tommie

S 98-2419

From: lcrane@dpsmail.dps.state.la.us
Sent: Friday, July 24, 1998 9:15 AM
To: tommiej@deq.state.la.us
Subject: Louisiana State Police Hazardous Material Incident # 98-3150

Luke

THIS INFORMATION IS FOR EMERGENCY RESPONSE PURPOSES
AND NOT FOR PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITHOUT PRIOR STATE POLICE APPROVAL

CALLER INFORMATION

PARISH: Orleans **NOTIFIED:** 07/24/98 8:53
NAME: Dispatcher 20 **OCCURRED:** 07/24/98 8:18
EMPLOYER: N.O. Fire Dept. **SECURED:**
PHONE #: 504-483-2550 **DISCOVERED:**

RECEIVED

JUL 28 1998

INCIDENT LOCATION

ADDRESS: Nashville River Wharf, located at Nashville and the Miss. River
CITY: New Orleans

**SOUTHEAST REGIONAL
OFFICE**

COMPANY NAME: Nashville River Wharf

CHEMICAL 1: Ammonia Solution, [With > 44% Ammonia] **QTY:** unk
STATE: Gas **CLASS:** Nonflammable Gas **ID:** 2073 **EHS:** Yes

RELEASE EFFECTS: FIRE: No INJURIES: ,

DETAILS

incident was called in by James phone: 504-895-4826 (don't know where he works) ; ruptured pipe in the cold storage room, located on the wharf/ haz mat on scene/

NATIONAL RESPONSE CENTER - STATE*FAX

** GOVERNMENT USE ONLY ** GOVERNMENT USE ONLY ** GOVERNMENT USE ONLY **
DO NOT RELEASE this information to the public without permission
from the National Response Center (G-OPF), U. S. Coast Guard
Headquarters, Washington DC 20593-0001 (202)267-2675.

From: National Response Center
USCG HQ Washington, D. C.
1-800-424-8802

To: LA DEPT OF ENV QUAL
Incident Report # 447396

INCIDENT DESCRIPTION

*Report taken by CIV REDDY at 13:26 on 24-JUL-98
Incident Type: FIXED
Incident Cause: OPERATOR ERROR
Affected Area: ATMOSPHERE
The incident occurred on 24-JUL-98 at 08:18 local time.
Affected Medium: AIR

SUSPECTED RESPONSIBLE PARTY

Name: UNKNOWN
Organization: NEW ORLEAN COAL STORAGE
Address: NASHVILLE AVE WHARF
NEW ORLEANS, LA 70115
Day Phone: (504)8954826
Type of Organization: PRIVATE ENTERPRISE

INCIDENT LOCATION

NASHVILLE AVE WHARF County: ORLEANS
NEW ORLEANS, LA

RELEASED MATERIAL(S)

CHRIS Code: AMA Official Material Name: AMMONIA, ANHYDROUS
Also Known As:
Qty Released: 0 UNK(S) Qty in Water: 0 NON(S)

SOURCE/CAUSE OF INCIDENT

1/4 INCH PIPE FOR RELRIGERATION / EMPLOYEE WAS TRYING TO REPAIR VALVE
LINE AND IT BROKE / RELEASED AMMONIA INTO ATMOSPHERE

DAMAGE

Injuries: Fatalities: Evacuations: Damages: Air Close: Road Close:
30 N Y

REMEDIAL ACTIONS

VAPORS ARE BEING HELD DOWN WITH WATER FOG / CALLER TOOK A READING FROM
150 MILES AWAY WITH DRAGER TUBE / READING 1 PPM / RELEASE ONGOING

NOTIFICATIONS BY CALLER

NOTIFICATIONS BY NRC

U. S. EPA VI (214)6852222
FBI LOUISIANNA (504)5928122
LA DEPT OF ENV DUAL (504)3421234
MSO NEW ORLEANS (504)5896261
NOAA 1ST CLASS BB RPTS FOR LA (206)5266344
LA STATE POLICE (504)9256595

NATIONAL RESPONSE CENTER - STATE*FAX

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

EMPLOYEE'S WERE MOVE FROM ONE WING TO ANOTHER BUILDING/TEMP: 87F CLOUD
COVER: PARTLY CLOUDY/ROAD CLOSED FOR ABOUT 4 HRS/NOT MAJOR ROAD
*** END INCIDENT REPORT # 447396 ***

PLEASE VISIT OUR WEB SITE
<http://www.nrc.uscg.mil>

NOCS

NOCS
GROUP

RICKEY CALLIGAN
WAREHOUSE MANAGER

nashville ave. wharf
new orleans, la. 70115, u.s.a.

(504) 895-4820
1-800-782-2853



New Orleans Fire Department Hazardous Materials Response Team

Don BIROU
MIKE JOSEPH

Joel Holmes
Firefighter/HazMat Tech.
Serving 1992 Since

1441 St. Peter St.
New Orleans, LA 70116

Ofc. 504 524-1376
Mob. 504 858-7005
Pag. 504 221-3335

kayjoe@bellsouth.net

481-5294
FAX 425-5525



LOUISIANA STATE POLICE

RAY MEYERS
TPR. [REDACTED]

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

TRUP #8 471-2785

P.O. BOX 66614
BATON ROUGE, LA. 70896

Office: (504) 925-6113 ext. 208
Pager: (504) [REDACTED] 826-6313
Hotline: (504) 925-6595 / 6325
MOBILE 722-1403



TO PROTECT AND TO SERVE

MICHAEL S. SAWYER
LIEUTENANT
HARBOR POLICE DEPARTMENT
PORT OF NEW ORLEANS

#1 THIRD STREET WHARF
NEW ORLEANS, LA 70130

(504) 891-7585
FAX (504) 528-3374

Chemical Database - Response Information Data Sheet

Preferred Name: AMMONIA

Regulatory Name: AMMONIA

AMMONIA (ANHYDROUS)

Chemical Source: NOEPA NOAA #:4860

NFPA Codes F: 1 - Must be preheated to burn
 H: 3 - Extremely hazardous - use full protection
 R: 0 - Normally stable
 S:

General Description

Anhydrous ammonia is a clear colorless gas with a characteristic odor. It is used as a fertilizer, as a refrigerant, and in the manufacture of other chemicals. Although it is classed as a nonflammable gas, it will burn within certain vapor concentration limits, and the fire hazard will increase in the presence of oil or other combustible materials. Its "combustibility" is definitely not a common problem in the event of leakage. It is shipped as a liquid under pressure. Contact with the liquid can cause frostbite. It is soluble in water forming a corrosive liquid. Although ammonia is lighter than air, the vapors from a leak initially hug the ground. It weighs 6 lbs/gallon. Long term exposure to low concentrations or short term exposure to high concentrations can result in adverse health effects from inhalation. ((c) AAR, 1991)

Fire Hazard

Mixing of ammonia with several chemicals can cause severe fire hazards and/or explosions. Ammonia in container may explode in heat of fire.

Incompatible with many materials including silver and gold salts, halogens, alkali metals, nitrogen trichloride, potassium chlorate, chromyl chloride, oxygen halides, acid vapors, azides, ethylene oxide, picric acid and many other chemicals. Mixing with other chemicals and water. Hazardous polymerization may not occur.

(EPA, 1990)

Fire Fighting

Wear positive pressure breathing apparatus and full protective clothing.

Small fires: dry chemical or carbon dioxide. Large fires: water spray, fog or foam. Apply water gently to the surface. Do not get water inside container. Move container from fire area if you can do it without risk. Stay away from ends of tanks. Cool containers that are exposed to flames with water from the side until well after fire is out. Isolate area until gas has dispersed. (EPA, 1990)

Protective Clothing

For emergency situations, wear a positive pressure, pressure-demand, full facepiece

Chemical Database - Response Information Data Sheet

Preferred Name: AMMONIA

self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) or pressure-demand supplied air respirator with escape SCBA and a fully-encapsulating, chemical resistant suit. ((c)EPA, 1990)

MATERIAL RATINGS

BARRICADE

FABRIC 1-3 hours

BUTYL

FABRIC > 3 hours

GLOVES > 3 hours

BUTYL/NEOP

FABRIC > 3 hours

CHECKMATE

FABRIC > 3 hours

CHEMREL

FABRIC < 1 hour

CHEMREL MAX

FABRIC > 3 hours

CPE

FABRIC 1-3 hours

CPF III

FABRIC < 1 hour

FEP TEFLON

FACESHIELD > 3 hours

INTERCEPTOR

FABRIC > 3 hours

NAT RUB

FABRIC < 1 hour

Chemical Database - Response Information Data Sheet

Preferred Name: AMMONIA

NEOP

FABRIC 1-3 hours
GLOVES > 3 hours
BOOTS > 3 hours

NEOP/BUTYL

GLOVES > 3 hours

NIT+POLYURETHANE+PVC

BOOTS > 3 hours

NITRILE

GLOVES > 3 hours

PE

FABRIC < 1 hour

POLYURETHANE

FABRIC < 1 hour

PTFE TEFLON

FABRIC < 1 hour

PVC

FABRIC < 1 hour

RESPONDER

FABRIC > 3 hours

SARANEX23P

FABRIC < 1 hour

VITON

FABRIC < 1 hour

VITON/NEOP

FABRIC > 3 hours

Non-Fire Response

Keep material out of water sources and sewers. Attempt to stop leak if without undue personnel hazard. Use water spray to knock-down vapors. Vapor knockdown water is corrosive or toxic and should be diked for containment. Land spill: Dig a pit, pond,

Chemical Database - Response Information Data Sheet

Preferred Name: AMMONIA

lagoon, holding area to contain liquid or solid material. Dike surface flow using soil, sand bags, foamed polyurethane, or foamed concrete. Absorb bulk liquid with fly ash or cement powder. Neutralize with vinegar or other dilute acid. Water spill: Neutralize with dilute acid. Use mechanical dredges or lifts to remove immobilized masses of pollutants and precipitates. ((c) AAR, 1991)

Health Hazard

Vapors cause irritation of eyes and respiratory tract. Liquid will burn skin and eyes. Poisonous; may be fatal if inhaled. Contact may cause burns to skin and eyes. Contact with liquid may cause frostbite. (EPA, 1990)

Properties

Flash Point: Not Applicable. Not flammable under conditions likely to be encountered. (USCG, 1991)

Lower Exp Limit: 16 % (EPA, 1990)

Upper Exp Limit: 25 % (EPA, 1990)

Auto Igtn Temp: 1204 F (USCG, 1991)

Melting Point: -107.9 F (EPA, 1990)

Vapor Pressure: 400 mm at -49.72 F (EPA, 1990)

Vapor Density (air = 1): 0.6 (EPA, 1990)

Specific Gravity, Liquid: 0.6818 at -28.03 F (EPA, 1990)

Boiling Point: -28.03 F at 760 mm (EPA, 1990)

Molecular Weight: 17.03 (EPA, 1990)

IDLH: 300 ppm (NIOSH, 1994)

TLV TWA: 25 ppm ((c)ACGIH, 1991)

TLV STEL: 35 ppm ((c)ACGIH, 1991)

First Aid

Warning: Ammonia is extremely corrosive to the skin, eyes, and mucous membranes. Contact with the liquified gas may cause frostbite. Caution is advised.

Signs and Symptoms of Acute Ammonia Exposure: Inhalation of ammonia may cause irritation and burns of the respiratory tract, laryngitis, dyspnea (shortness of breath), stridor (high-pitched respirations), and chest pain. Pulmonary edema and pneumonia may also result from inhalation. A pink frothy sputum, convulsions, and coma are often seen following exposure to high concentrations. When ammonia is ingested, nausea and vomiting may result; oral, esophageal, and stomach burns are common. If ammonia has contacted the eyes, irritation, pain, conjunctivitis (red, inflamed eyes), lacrimation (tearing), and corneal erosion may occur. Loss of vision

Chemical Database - Response Information Data Sheet

Preferred Name: AMMONIA

is possible. Dermal exposure may result in severe burns and pain.

Emergency Life-Support Procedures: Acute exposure to ammonia may require decontamination and life support for the victims. Emergency personnel should wear protective clothing appropriate to the type and degree of contamination. Air-purifying or supplied-air respiratory equipment should also be worn, as necessary.

Inhalation Exposure:

1. Move victims to fresh air. Emergency personnel should avoid self-exposure to ammonia.
2. Evaluate vital signs including pulse and respiratory rate, and note any trauma. If no pulse is detected, provide CPR. If not breathing, provide artificial respiration. If breathing is labored, administer oxygen or other respiratory support.
3. Obtain authorization and/or further instructions from the local hospital for administration of an antidote or performance of other invasive procedures.
4. Transport to a health care facility.

Dermal/Eye Exposure:

1. Remove victims from exposure. Emergency personnel should avoid self-exposure to ammonia.
 2. Evaluate vital signs including pulse and respiratory rate, and note any trauma. If no pulse is detected, provide CPR. If not breathing, provide artificial respiration. If breathing is labored, administer oxygen or other respiratory support.
- Warning: Do not attempt to neutralize with an acid wash; excessive liberation of heat may result.
3. If eye exposure has occurred, eyes must IMMEDIATELY be flushed with lukewarm water for at least 15 minutes.
 4. Remove contaminated clothing as soon as possible.
 5. Wash exposed skin areas THOROUGHLY with soap and water.
 6. Obtain authorization and/or further instructions from the local hospital for administration of an antidote or performance of other invasive procedures.
 7. Transport to a health care facility.

Ingestion Exposure:

1. Evaluate vital signs including pulse and respiratory rate, and note any trauma. If no pulse is detected, provide CPR. If not breathing, provide artificial respiration. If breathing is labored, administer oxygen or other respiratory support.
2. DO NOT induce vomiting or attempt to neutralize!
3. Obtain authorization and/or further instructions from the local hospital for administration of an antidote or performance of other invasive procedures.
4. Activated charcoal does not strongly bind ammonia, and therefore is of little or no value.
5. Give the victims water or milk: children up to 1 year old, 125 mL (4 oz or 1/2 cup); children 1 to 12 years old, 200 mL (6 oz or 3/4 cup); adults, 250 mL (8 oz or 1 cup). Water or milk should be given only if victims are conscious and alert.
6. Transport to a health care facility. (EPA, 1990)

Chemical Database - Response Information Data Sheet

Preferred Name: AMMONIA AQUEOUS

Regulatory Name: AMMONIUM HYDROXIDE

Chemical Source: NOEPA **NOAA #:** 2434

NFPA Codes **F:**
 H:
 R:
 S:

General Description

Fire Hazard

Some of these materials may burn, but none of them ignites readily. Flammable/poisonous gases may accumulate in tanks and hopper cars. Some of these materials may ignite combustibles (wood, paper, oil, etc.). (DOT, 1993)

Fire Fighting

Some of these materials may react violently with water. **SMALL FIRES:** Dry chemical, CO₂, water spray or regular foam. **LARGE FIRES:** Water spray, fog or regular foam. Move container from fire area if you can do it without risk. Apply cooling water to sides of containers that are exposed to flames until well after fire is out. Stay away from ends of tanks. (DOT, 1993)

Protective Clothing

MATERIAL RATINGS

BUTYL

GLOVES > 3 hours

CHECKMATE

FABRIC > 3 hours

INTERCEPTOR

FABRIC > 3 hours

NAT RUB

GLOVES > 3 hours

NAT RUB+NEOP

GLOVES > 3 hours

NEOP

Chemical Database - Response Information Data Sheet

Preferred Name: AMMONIA AQUEOUS

GLOVES	> 3 hours
NEOP/BUTYL	
GLOVES	> 3 hours
NEOP/NAT RUB	
GLOVES	> 3 hours
NITRILE	
GLOVES	> 3 hours
NITRILE+PVC	
GLOVES	> 3 hours
POLYURETHANE	
GLOVES	> 3 hours
PTFE TEFLON	
FABRIC	1-3 hours
PVC	
FABRIC	< 1 hour
GLOVES	< 1 hour

Non-Fire Response

Do not touch or walk through spilled material; stop leak if you can do it without risk. **SMALL SPILLS:** Take up with sand or other noncombustible absorbent material and place into containers for later disposal. **SMALL DRY SPILLS:** With clean shovel place material into clean, dry container and cover loosely; move containers from spill area. **LARGE SPILLS:** Dike far ahead of liquid spill for later disposal. (DOT, 1993)

Health Hazard

Contact causes burns to skin and eyes. If inhaled, may be harmful. Fire may produce irritating or poisonous gases. Runoff from fire control or dilution water may cause pollution. (DOT, 1993)

Properties

TLV TWA: 25 ppm For Ammonia ((c)ACGIH, 1991)

TLV STEL: 35 ppm For Ammonia ((c)ACGIH, 1991)

First Aid

Move victim to fresh air; call emergency medical care. In case of contact with material, immediately flush skin or eyes with running water for at least 15 minutes. Remove and isolate contaminated clothing and shoes at the site. Keep victim quiet and maintain normal body temperature. (DOT, 1993)