

Investigation Report
Struck by Equipment
June 7, 2015

The contents of this report

This document reports Occupational Health and Safety's investigation of a fatal accident that occurred on June 7, 2015. It begins with a short summary of what happened. The rest of the report covers this same information in much greater detail.

Incident summary

The incident took place on June 7, 2015, at approximately 11:00 a.m. at a Centex's (1740 16th Avenue N.W., Calgary, Alberta) location.

On the date of incident, two individuals arrived at the lot operating a stolen diesel pickup. The two individuals filled the vehicle with fuel and fled the gas station without paying for the fuel. The gas attendant gave chase and pursued the vehicle on foot to a nearby parking lot. The chase ended when the driver of the truck drove the vehicle overtop of the gas attendant resulting in fatal injury.

Background information

650273 Alberta Limited operating as Centex Petroleum (Centex) is the owner of the facilities: store, fuelling islands, propane, etc., located at 1740 16th Avenue N.W., Calgary, Alberta. The location is one of eight corporate stores Centex owns.

On May, 2015, Centex engaged 1878274 Alberta Limited (187AB) to operate the 1740 16th Avenue N.W., Calgary store.

The gas attendant was an employee of 187 AB.

The facility is a typical gas station with pumps located on the south and west side of the lot. The store dispenses food and grocery products and is equipped with surveillance cameras, internal and external, providing staff with unobstructed views of the pumps and store.

The gas attendant was 35 years old and married with a young child on the date of incident. The gas attendant possessed a BSc. in Chemical Engineering from Sharif University of Technology, Tehran, Iran in 2013. The gas attendant's work experience in Canada commenced on or around February 2015 to March 2015 as a sales associate with Free Stone Produce Inc. and on or around June 4, 2015 with 187AB.

Equipment and materials

The equipment involved in this incident was a Wayne fuelling system which connected the fuel pump (Figure 1) with the store's cash system. Pump 10 was the incident pump, and this is the location where the operator of the stolen vehicle positioned the vehicle and obtained fuel.



Figure 1. Photo of the pump authorized by the gas attendant, and the fuel dispenser involved in the theft. Picture on the right is a cropped image of the label indicating this pump was designated by Centex as prepay or pay at the pump only.

Sequence of events

June 1, 2015, the gas attendant commenced work on behalf of 187 AB at the incident location of 1740 16th Avenue N.W., Calgary.

On the date of the incident, the gas attendant had completed serving customers when two individuals arrived on the lot operating a stolen diesel pickup.

The adult driver drove the vehicle up to pump 10 which was located on the west side of the store. The youth passenger exited from the passenger side of the vehicle and proceeded to lift the nozzle of pump 10, designated as prepay or pay at the pump. The gas attendant remotely authorized a transaction thereby activating the pump without having received payment.

Upon receipt of fuel, the youth reentered the vehicle at which time the adult driver drove away from the pump without paying for the fuel. The gas attendant chased the vehicle on foot to a nearby parking lot.

The gas attendant was able to catch up to the vehicle as it had been slowed by parking lot traffic. The gas attendant stood in front of the vehicle, demanded the driver stop and then positioned her body on the vehicle's hood. The operator of the vehicle accelerated from the parking lot onto the road way where the driving and speed dislodged the attendant. The vehicle was then seen to drive over the gas attendant as the gas attendant lay on the ground.

The gas attendant was transported to hospital suffering serious life threatening injuries.

On June 9, 2015, the gas attendant was pronounced deceased due to injuries sustained in the incident.

Completion

A review for enforcement action was completed on December 16, 2015, and it was determined that the file would be referred to Alberta Justice for review. The entire file was sent to Alberta Justice on January 19, 2016. On June 1, 2017, Alberta Justice determined the file did not warrant charges.

This file was closed on March 6, 2018.

Final Report

Signatures

ORIGINAL REPORT SIGNED

January 10, 2018

Lead Investigator

Date

ORIGINAL REPORT SIGNED

January 10, 2018

Manager

Date

ORIGINAL REPORT SIGNED

January 10, 2018

Director

Date