

Statistical analysis of spills from Western European cross-country oil pipelines 1971-2012

Jean-François Larivé on behalf of CONCAWE

conservation of clean air and water in europe

- The "CONCAWE" network
- Safety record
- Spillage incidents
 - Number and frequency
 - Spilled volumes
 - Ground area affected
 - Causes
 - Hole size

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The "CONCAWE" network in picture



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- CONCAWE maintains contact with 79 companies
 - About 180 separate pipeline systems
 - Divided in over 730 sections
 - Combined length: > 37,000 km
- For 2012 we received information from 71 companies
 - 156 systems
 - 680 sections
 - 36,251 km combined length
 - Combined throughput ± 700 Mm³
 - Traffic* volume ± 115 10⁹ m³.km
 - Crude: 77 10⁹ m³.km
 - Products: 38 10⁹ m³.km

*Traffic = flow rate x distance travelled

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Inventory by service and over time



The inventory has increased over the years as more operators joined (NATO, former Eastern bloc)
 "Hot" pipelines has virtually all been retired

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Diameter distribution (2012)



Crude lines tend to be larger than product lines

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Age distribution (2012)



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Nearly 60% of the inventory is over 40 years old

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- 3 injuries reported since 1971
 - Last recorded injury was in 2006
- 14 fatalities in 42 years, none involving members of the public
 - Last recorded fatality was in 1999 (1 fatality)
- 9 fires in 38 years
 - Last fire in 1999

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Spillage incidents



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Gross volume spilled



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Spilled volume recovered



About 60% of spilled volume is recovered on average

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Spillage volume distribution



 > 20% of events account for 80% of the gross spillage and 90% of the net loss

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The picture has not changed much with time

Ground area affected by spills



A relatively small spilled volume can contaminate a large area

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Causes of spills: all events



- Most spills on hot pipelines are corrosion related
 Hot lines have virtually all been shutdown
- On cold pipelines the main causes are mechanical and third party interference

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Causes of spills in cold pipelines over time



Third party interference remains the main cause

 After an increase in the last decade mechanical causes have become less prevalent in the last two years

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Causes of spills in cold pipelines



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	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2008-2012
Spillage incidents	12	5	4	7	12	40
MECHANICAL FAILURE						
Construction	2	1				3
Design and Materials	5	3	2	1	1	12
OPERATIONAL						
System						
Human				2		2
CORROSION						
External	1		1		2	4
Internal					1	1
Stress corrosion cracking						
NATURAL HAZARD						
Subsidence						
Flooding						
Other						
THIRD PARTY ACTIVITY						
Accidental	4		1	1	4	10
Intentional/Malicious				3	2	5
Incidental		1			2	3

The picture for recent years is similar to the long term trend
 The proportion of intentional or malicious damage is twice the long-term average

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Circumstances of third party spills



Most third party related spills occur during digging or trenching activities

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Failure location



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Mutual awareness of activities



In nearly 50% of cases the third party is aware of the presence of a pipeline but the pipeline company is not informed of potentially hazardous activities near the pipeline

Incidents occur even when both parties are mutually aware

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In some 12% of cases neither party is aware of the other

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Mutual awareness of activities



Parties are increasingly mutually aware of each others activities... But incidents still occur

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Gross volume spilled by cause



Operational and corrosion related causes result in lower spilled volumes

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Hole size



Mechanical and corrosion related causes tend to result in smaller holes Pinhole Less than 2 mm x 2 mm

PinholeLess than 2 mm x 2 mmFissure2 to 75 mm long x 10% max wideHole2 to 75 mm long x 10% min wideSplit75 to 1000 mm long x 10% max wideRupture>75 mm long x 10% min wide

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Gross volume spilt by hole size



Larger holes lead to bigger spills?

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P,

This information is extracted from the data YOU supply

The 2012 report is being published

The 2013 on-line survey will be open within the next few days

Please respond promptly! The objective is to issue the report before year end

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- A letter will be sent within the next few days to invite you to submit the data
 - We will use the last contact person known to us. If the contact person has changed please let us know
 - For security reasons we allow only one set of log-in credentials for each operator
 - We aim at collecting all data by end of June
- The on-line data submission system remains essentially the same with some improvements
 - Fill in traffic and in-line inspection data from overview table
 - Download own current and historical data in Excel format
- Please ensure that data is filled in as completely as possible
 - It improves the quality and credibility of the database (particularly important for actual spillage reports)
 - It avoids subsequent time consuming rounds of queries and answers

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Thank you for your attention

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