

**Contract Employee Fatality at Tank A-146**

Location: <b>Wood River Refinery</b>	Date of Issue: <b>July 11, 2011</b>
Contact: <b>Cully Farhar</b>	Risk Rank: <b>IV</b>
Type of Incident: <b>Fatality (Recordability Undetermined – Awaiting Further Information)</b>	

**Incident Description:**

On Tuesday, July 5<sup>th</sup> a contract boilermaker was involved in a fatal accident while working on an asphalt tank (Tank A-146) at the Wood River Refinery. The asphalt tank was out-of-service and clean for repairs and inspection. The work was being performed from a welded bracket-type “tank-builders” scaffold (see picture). The contract employee was welding steel plate at the roof seam of the tank. Early indications, based on an eye witness account are that after working for less than an hour, the contractor called out and was moving toward a co-worker when he dropped to the scaffold deck and was observed to be unresponsive as he rolled off the scaffold. The scaffold was built per documented procedures and “green tagged” by the contractor. Neither the facility’s procedures, the contractor’s procedures nor OSHA provisions have a requirement to use fall protection while working from the scaffold because top and mid cable rails were provided.

**Key Learnings :**

- Whether a physical ailment or symptoms contributed to the incident is currently unconfirmed and will be better understood pending a Coroner’s report.
- The scaffolding meets OSHA regulatory requirements.

**Refinery Planned Immediate Actions :**

In an abundance of caution and until such time as internal ConocoPhillips and OSHA investigations are complete and until any pertinent refining standards are reviewed and/or revised, the Wood River Refinery will require 100% tie off while working on tank-builders scaffolds, including the one present at Tank A-146. The Refinery is also requiring supervisory JSA reviews before beginning any new work at elevation.

**Photos:**

