Baku, July 15, AZERTAC. Norwegian rescue officials say the trailer of a tanker truck with some 16 500l of fuel got loose and crashed into a subsea tunnel wall, causing a huge explosion, according to New24. No one was seriously hurt.

The tunnel has been closed to everyone except fire fighters. Rescue spokeswoman Magni Brandsoey said the truck driver was able to get out and call a rescue center. It was not clear how the trailer got loose.

Photos posted on Norwegian media show a huge black billow of smoke in the mountainous area in western Norway.

The explosion happened around 11:00 in a 1 901m subsea tunnel linking two islands in the Sogn og Fjordane county.

A petrol tanker trailer has detached from its truck in a tunnel in Bremanger and exploded after 16,500 liters of gas were released. The driver managed to escape the inferno as the truck had already managed to detach from his load.
The incident took place at the Skate Saraum tunnel that partially goes underwater. A petrol tanker was travelling through the tunnel and the trailer became dislodged from the truck, which continued to drive down the road. The trailer then crashed and exploded, after thousands of liters of gasoline had been split.

The driver of the tanker Tore Myrestrand told a local newspaper that while travelling through the deepest part of the tunnel, the trailer detached from the truck. He saw that the detached tanker began to hit the rocky wall and that gasoline began to spill out.

He carried on driving the truck up the tunnel, and proceeded to block off the road to ensure that cars travelling in the opposite direction would be kept safe.

Quirinius Theodorus Adrichem, who witnessed the incident, said he was travelling through the tunnel when the explosion occurred. He told TV2 that he met the driver who said, “You must go out! Out! Out! Gas is leaking.”

There had been fears that the tunnel could partially collapse because of the blaze. So far there have been no evidence of somebody missing in the tunnel. Three people have been brought to hospital after inhaling burning gasoline. Several people have been evacuated from nearby houses, local media reports.

Local police say that there is so much water inside the tunnel that it is impossible to enter the area where the explosion occurred. The fire department has pulled all its crews out of the tunnel.

The tunnel connects Bremanger and Freya to the mainland and is 1,890 meters long and it runs 91 meters below sea level. The area is located around 550 kilometers north west of the capital Oslo. In 2007, the tunnel was partially closed because of a minor rockfall, but there were no casualties.


**NORWEGIAN TUNNEL MAY COLLAPSE AFTER FUEL TRUCK EXPLOSIONS**

07/15/2015

Smoke pours from the Skatestraum tunnel after a fuel truck crashed into the tunnel’s side, triggering a series of explosions inside the tunnel in Bremanger, Norway, Wednesday July 15, 2015. Sea water leaked Wednesday into a nearly 2-kilometer (1.2-mile) undersea road tunnel in western Norway, prompting fears the tunnel could collapse, police said Wednesday. (Daniel Restad / NTB Scanpix via AP)

COPENHAGEN, Denmark (AP) — Sea water leaked dangerously into an undersea tunnel in western Norway on Wednesday after a fuel truck crashed into the tunnel's side, triggering a series of explosions. The leaks prompted fears the tunnel could collapse, police said.

The accident and subsequent explosions took place around 11 a.m. in the nearly 2-kilometer (1.2-mile) Skatestraum tunnel, which links two islands in the Sogn og Fjordane region north of the city of Bergen.

Truck driver Tore Myrestrand told the Firda newspaper he had problems with the brakes in the deepest part of the tunnel, which is 91 meters (299 feet) below sea level. After the crash, he said he escaped from the truck and grabbed an emergency phone in the tunnel.

 Authorities immediately closed the tunnel to everyone except firefighters. Thick black smoke billowed out of the tunnel after the explosions and a subsequent fire caused by the tanker, which had detached from the truck.
The firefighters later were evacuated as the sea water began to leak in, police said on Twitter, adding there were fears the tunnel would collapse. Thousands of liters (gallons) of sea water slowly flooded in, reducing the smoke.

Police said six people were treated for minor smoke inhalation at a nearby hospital.


Burned-out tunnel faces long closure

July 15, 2015

It’s expected to take “a long time” before state highway officials reopen a tunnel in western Norway that was the site of dramatic explosions and fire on Wednesday. The fire ignited after a tank truck lost its trailer carrying 16,500 liters of gasoline, sending the trailer hurtling into the tunnel wall.

Six people were sent to hospital after the fire but there were no serious injuries or deaths in the accident that sent smoke billowing out of the Skatestraum Tunnel in the county of Sogn og Fjordane Wednesday afternoon. The driver of the truck was being hailed for reacting quickly, alerting emergency crews and helping other motorists get out of the tunnel before it turned into an inferno.

‘Get out, get out! ’
“I’m impressed over how fast he handled this, and how he got vehicles ahead of his truck to turn around and get out of the tunnel,” Rolf Olav Tenden of the Norwegian truck drivers association (Norges Lastebileigærforbund) told state broadcaster NRK.
Traffic was relatively light at the time and nine people at both ends of the tunnel were evacuated. One couple told NRK that truck driver Tore Myrestrand came running towards them in the tunnel yelling “Get out, get out, there’s a leak in the tank.”

They said that right after they emerged from the tunnel they could hear the first explosion. They blocked the road leading into the tunnel with their own car to prevent other motorists from entering. “Luckily, the truck driver himself came driving out a few minutes later,” Quinnus Adrichem told NRK.

**Undersea connection to the mainland**
The Skatestraum Tunnel runs under the sea between Hamna on the island of Rugsundøya and Klubben on Bremangerlandet in Sogn og Fjordane. It opened in 2002 and is 1.9 kilometers long, tying Bremangerlandet and the large island of Frøya to the mainland.

The fire resulted in extensive damage to the tunnel, which was to be further assessed on Thursday. That’s when it was considered safe to send a team of inspectors into the tunnel.

Sveinung Hovland of the state highway department (*Statens vegvesen*) told Norwegian Broadcasting (NRK) that the tunnel’s interior will need extensive refurbishing before it can reopen to traffic. “There’s a lot of work to be done, so this will take a long time,” Hovland told NRK.

Norwegian tunnel may collapse after fuel truck explosions

Truck carrying 89,709 litres of fuel causes explosion in Norway tunnel

Published 10 Jul 2013 2 days ago

The driver of a truck loaded with 89,709 litres of fuel last night hit a wall, causing a tunnel in the West of the Lofoten for few minutes.
Norwegian tunnel may collapse after fuel truck explosions

Truck carrying 99,090 litres of fuel causes explosion in Norway tunnel

Published: 13 July 2012 | Views: 0

A file photo of a tunnel incident in Norway shows a truck carrying fuel that caused an explosion.
Norwegian tunnel may collapse after fuel truck explosions

Truck carrying 35,769 liters of fuel causes explosion in Norwegian tunnel

Published: 13 Jul 2012 | Views: 910

A truck loaded with a tanker tank carrying 35,769 liters of fuel caused a explosion in a Norwegian tunnel and cracked the wall of the tunnel for loss tunnels.

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Norwegian tunnel may collapse after fuel truck explosions

Truck carrying 38,900 liters of fuel causes explosion in Norway tunnel

Published 23 Jul 2012 | Views 320

The driver of a fuel tanker truck carrying 38,900 liters of fuel lost control in Norway today (23 July) and crashed into the wall of the tunnel, killing two. The accident caused a massive explosion, which has caused widespread panic among drivers and spectators. The cause of the accident is under investigation, but it is believed to have been due to a mechanical failure in the truck.
Norwegian tunnel may collapse after fuel truck explosions

Truck carrying 10,000 liters of fuel causes explosion in Norwegian tunnel

Norwegian tunnel may collapse after fuel truck explosions

Truck carrying 10,000 liters of fuel causes explosion in Norwegian tunnel
Usikkert når Skatestraumtunnelen åpner

Det er usikkert når Skatestraumtunnelen åpner igjen, opplyser Statens vegvesen. De foretok den første inspeksjon av tunnelen tirsdag.

Av NTB


Svelgen (NTB): Det er fortsatt ikke mulig å si noe om skadeomfanget, kostnader og hvor lang tid det vil ta å reparere tunnelen, ifølge Statens vegvesen.

– Jeg håper vi kan si noe mer om dette innen få dager, opplyser fungerende avdelingsdirektør Eivind Yttri i veiavdelingen Sogn og Fjordane.
Vegvesenet har undersøkt deler av tunnelen tirsdag som første ledd i kartleggingsarbeid etter ulykken

De jobbet tirsdag med å få pumpet ut vannet som har samlet seg i oppfyllingsbassenget i tunnelen. Yttri sier at før tunnelen blir spylt ren for aske og brannrester, vil de legge ut lenser i fjorden der pumpevannet renner ut for å ha kontroll på mulig forurensing. Pumpene har ifølge Vegvesenet vært avstengt i fem dager tirsdag.

Fylkesmannen vurderer miljøtiltak etter at en rapport fra Kystverket viser funn av oljeflak i havområdet Skatestraumen, skriver Bergens Tidende. Årsaken kan være at noe av bensinen har havnet i bassenget inne i tunnelen før det har blitt pumpet ut i havet. (©NTB)

http://www.tu.no/vareveger/nyheter/2015/07/21/usikkert-nar-skatestraumtunnelen-apner

De omvang van de schade, kosten en hoe lang het zal duren om de tunnel te repareren is nog onzeker. Foto: Flora brandweer / NPRA / NTB Scanpix

Onzeker wanneer Skatestraum Tunnel opent
Het is onzeker wanneer Skatestraum Tunnel heropent, zei NPRA. Ze voerde de eerste inspectie van de tunnel dinsdag.
Door NTB
Gepubliceerd 21 juli 2015 kl. 22:45 - Bijgewerkt 21 juli 2015 kl. 10:47

Svelgen (NTB): Het is nog steeds niet mogelijk om niets over de omvang van de schade, kosten en hoe lang het zal duren om de tunnel te repareren zeggen, volgens NPRA.
- Ik hoop dat we iets meer over zeggen binnen een paar dagen, zei waarnemend adjunct-directeur Eivind Yttri in veiavdelingen Sogn og Fjordane.

NPRA heeft delen van de tunnel dinsdag onderzocht als de eerste paragraaf van het in kaart brengen van het werk na ongeval
Ze werkten dinsdag met het krijgen van gepomppt het water dat zich heeft opgehoopt in het vullen van het zwembad in de tunnel. Yttri zegt dat voor de tunnel zijn schoon van as en brandresten gespoeld, zullen ze lay-out gieken in de baai waar het water pomp loopt uit om de controle van de mogelijke besmetting. De pompen zijn gesloten op basis van de Public Roads Administration voor vijf dagen dinsdag.

Fylkesmannen overweegt milieumaatregelen na een rapport van de Algemene Rekenkamer blijkt ontdekkingen van olievlekken in de oceaan Skate maalstroom, krant Bergens Tidende. De reden kan zijn dat sommige van de benzine is terechtgekomen in het zwembad in de tunnel vervolgens in de zee gepompt. (© NTB) (© NTB)

Tunnelen åpner ikke i år

Av JØRGEN GRØNNER

Skatestraumtunnelen vil koste flere titalls millioner å reparere etter brannen i forrige uke.
Tunnelen har fått omfattende skader etter brannen. Foto: Statens vegvesen  Vi har fremdeles ikke hele bildet over hvor stort omfanget er. Allerede ser vi likevel at skadene er omfattende, og trolig blir tunnelen stengt ut året. I verste fall lenger, sier regionvegsjef Helge Eidsnes i en pressemelding.

Undersøkte skadene

Han var torsdag i Bremanger for å se på skadene etter den kraftige brannen i forrige uke. 15. juli tok en tankbilhenger med 16.500 liter fyr inne i tunnelen etter å ha truffet fjellveggen. Ingen ble skadet, men tunnelen fikk store skader.

Kostnader

De neste to ukene skal Statens vegvesen få fullstendig oversikt over skadeomfanget, og de vil legge frem en rapport i august. – Da vil det også bli lagt frem to kostnadsoverslag. Det ene på hvor mye det vil koste å bygge opp tunnelen til standarden den hadde, og den andre på hvadet vil koste å oppgradere den til 2025-nivå i tråd med de nye EU-kravene, sier Eidsnes.

http://www.ba.no/nyheter/tunnelen-apner-ikke-i-ar/s/5-8-120141
De tunnel zal dit jaar niet open
Door Jørgen groen
Skatestraum Tunnel kost tientallen miljoenen te herstellen na de brand van vorige week.

De tunnel heeft grote schade na de brand ontvangen. Foto: NPRA
We hebben nog niet het hele beeld van hoe groot de omvang is. Nu al zien we echter dat de schade is uitgebreid, en zal waarschijnlijk tunnel sloot het jaar. In het slechtste geval niet meer, zegt Helge regionvegsjef Eidsnes in een verklaring.
Onderzocht verwondingen
Hij was donderdag in Bremanger om de schade veroorzaakt door de krachtige brand vorige week te zien.
15 juli nam een tanker trailer met 16.500 liter brand in de tunnel na het raken rotswand. Niemand raakte gewond, maar de tunnel werd zwaar beschadigd.
Kosten
De komende twee weken zullen NPRA krijgen compleet overzicht van de omvang van de schade, en zij zullen een verslag in augustus.
- Dan zal er ook worden gepresenteerd twee kostenramingen. Eén van hoeveel het zal kosten om de tunnel aan de standaard had te bouwen, en de andere op wat zal kosten om te upgraden tot 2025 in lijn met de nieuwe EU-eisen, zegt Eidsnes.