Fires at Outside Storage Tanks Fact Sheet

During the five-year period from 2007-2011, U.S. fire departments responded to an estimated annual average of 301 fires at outside storage tanks. These fires cause an annual average of one civilian injury and $3 million in direct property damage.

- Storms were identified as factors contributing to 33% of the outdoor and other fires, and cutting or welding too close to a combustible was cited as a contributing factor in 12% of these fires.
- Mechanical failure or malfunction was a factor contributing to another seven percent of the outdoor or other fires.

Source: *Fires at Outside Storage Tanks*, Richard Campbell, August 2014
NFPA, 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169 [www.nfpa.org](http://www.nfpa.org)
Fire Analysis & Research Division, [osds@nfpa.org](mailto:osds@nfpa.org)