SP ENERGY NETWORKS

PUBLIC SAFETY – VEHICLE SECURITY

Press reports have highlighted the recent tragic event of a seven year old boy who died after suffering 85% burns due to an incident involving petrol. The boy had been playing with friends in the street outside his home in Aberdeen when he was engulfed in flames.

Police are investigating reports that the petroleum fuel came from a canister left in an unlocked works vehicle.

Various SPEN vehicles carry fuel in containers to operate tools and machinery, others may contain LPG or other hazardous substances.

Recent audits undertaken on our contractors have identified petrol being stored in non-approved containers such as recycled screen wash bottles.

This tragedy highlights the importance of vehicle security, particularly whilst parked in public locations. We are legally responsible for the safety of the public from hazardous substances or the work equipment we use, even if it is removed unlawfully.

Approved Petrol Container available from Logistics Code 30982477

Approved Diesel Container available from Logistics Code 30982478

Recommendations and action points

- Always store hazardous substances securely, lock containers where possible.
- Don’t carry excessive fuel, only a sufficient volume to carry out workload, store only in an approved container.
- Lock vehicles if you need to leave unattended, it is an offence to leave an unsecured vehicle running whilst unattended (unattended means the driver not within the vehicle).
- Be vigilant in public locations where children are likely to be in the vicinity.