

**Fire Department**  
755 Marshall Street  
Redwood City, CA 94063



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## **ALARM ACTIVITY REPORT**

DATE OF INCIDENT: January, 17, 2005  
ADDRESS OF ALARM: 1050 Veterans Blvd  
NATURE: Liquid Oxygen tank leak  
TIME: 6:53 PM  
UNDER CONTROL: 10:22 PM  
UNITS ON SCENE: Three Alarms  
11 Engine Companies  
4 Truck Companies  
7 Battalion Chiefs  
INJURIES: None reported  
CAUSE: De-icing tank operations caused a pipe leak at the tank location  
STRUCTURE DAMAGE: \$ 0  
CONTENTS Loss: \$ Unknown

**SYNOPSIS OF ALARM:** Redwood City Firefighters along with Menlo Park Fire Protection District, Foster City Fire Department, South County Fire Authority, Woodside Fire Protection District and American Medical Response responded to a report of a liquid oxygen tank leak at Kaiser Hospital. Upon arrival they found a 6,000 gallon tank leaking with a vapor cloud surrounding the area. We immediately secured a perimeter in the immediate area, evacuated nearby buildings and shut off ignition sources within the vapor cloud area. It was determined through the engineering department of Kaiser Hospital that the tank was less than half full. With the assistance of the San Mateo County Hazardous Materials team and County Health Supervisors it was determined that we needed to let the tank contents escape until we could make entry and shut off the valve. At approximately 9:50 PM the valve was shut off and the gas leak stopped. It was determined that the liquid gas did not directly contact the surrounding asphalt so repair work could begin immediately. If the liquid had been in contact with the asphalt, an explosion hazard would have been present.

During the incident ambulance service was diverted to other neighboring locations due to the location of the emergency entrance being adjacent to the leaking tank. The emergency room did remain open to walk in patients through the main entrance on Veterans Blvd. There was no hospital evacuation as they were told to shelter in place. All fire companies were released and the incident terminated at 10:00 PM.

The cause is under investigation by Kaiser personnel.

REPORTING OFFICER: Battalion Chief Steve Krause