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## **In Novosibirsk, a director and an engineer of a gas filling station detained in terms of investigation of a probe into a fire**



The Novosibirsk Regional Investigative Department of the Investigative Committee of Russia continues investigation of a probe under Paragraph C of Part 2 of Article 238 of the Criminal Code of Russia into a fire that occurred at a gas filling station in Oktyabrsky district of Novosibirsk.

The investigation established that on June 14 a gas mixture ignition occurred at the gas filling station. The fire extinguishing work was complicated by the clapping of gas cylinders and containers with fuel. The combustion area was 1200 square meters. A fire fighting headquarters was deployed to coordinate forces and equipment at the scene. The permission for investigative actions was obtained on the night of June 15 after the fire was extinguished and the investigators of the investigative team of the regional investigative department together with forensic investigators proceeded to inspection of the scene. At present the inspection continues with participation of specialists from EMERCOM and Rostekhnadzor.

At present the investigators have obtained information that on June 14 the gas station was operated by a 66-year-old refueller and 28-year-old cashier. At about 5:00 PM a gas carrier driven by a 48-year-old driver arrived to the gas filling station for unloading fuel. After that, the driver and the

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refueller started loading and unloading the liquefied gas from the brought container into the container located at the gas filling station. The gas mixture ignited during the works. The gas filling station workers and the carrier driver started evacuation of citizens to a safe distance. After that all gas mixture at the station caught fire, affecting the gas filling station workers, citizens working in organizations located in close proximity to the scene and citizens that were watching the incident from a close distance. All the injured were timely and fully provided with required medical care, some of them still are receiving treatment in hospitals.

At present, a 57-year-old director and a 37-year-old engineer of the gas filling station that failed to take adequate measures to ensure compliance with safety requirements during works for loading and unloading of the liquefied gas have been detained. The investigators will motion the court for their pre-trial custody.

During the scene inspection the investigators and forensic investigators found and seized documents required for review of the financial and economic activities of the organization and assessment of its compliance with labor safety rules and safety requirements; other objects and items of interest for investigation of the probe have been also seized. Fire technical and medical forensic examinations have been appointed.

The progress of investigation is under supervision of the Central Office of the Investigative Committee of Russia.

*15 June 2021*

*Page address: <https://en.sledcom.ru/news/item/1582610>*