

Woodbridge man killed in Linden industrial accident



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LINDEN – A 71-year-old Woodbridge man died Jan. 19 after apparently falling inside a bulk liquid container he was filling.

The identity of the man, a resident of the Iselin section of Woodbridge who was a private sub-contractor, has not been released by officials.

According to Linden police, just before 2 p.m. Monday police and fire personnel were notified of a fatal industrial accident on property near the corner of Park and Brunswick avenues.

A notice on the Infineum website indicates the loss of life occurred at the company's facility known as the Bayway Chemical Plant, a lubricant additive production facility, where a sub-contractor was loading a bulk liquid container.

Police said the man was found dead inside the bulk liquid container. Detectives believe the man was on top of the container when he accidentally fell.

The man was removed from the tanker by personnel from the Bayway and Linden fire departments and was pronounced dead at the scene.

At the time of the incident, the 6,000-gallon container was being filled with mineral oil, a highly refined petroleum-derived liquid, police said.

Police said the parties involved are cooperating with the investigation led by the Linden Police Detective Bureau. A separate, independent OSHA investigation is also underway.

"We extend our deepest sympathy to those who have lost a family member or friend," the Infineum website statement said.

"We would like to thank our employees, contractors and partners for their professionalism in handling this event," it continued. "We will conduct our own investigation to determine exactly what happened, why it happened, and how we can keep this from happening again."