

MEDIA RELEASE

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SAFETY TRAINING COMPANY FINED \$140,000 FOR GAS EXPLOSION INJURIES

Statement by Executive Director Laurene Hull

Red Alert Australia, the second safety and emergency training company involved in the 2009 gas explosion at a Berrimah training centre was fined \$140,000 for breaching the Workplace Health and Safety Act this morning in the Darwin Magistrates Court. The explosion resulted in injuries to five trainee firefighters.

The NT WorkSafe investigation into the gas explosion found Red Alert Australia failed their general statutory duty of care to the five injured trainee firefighters, charges which were contested by the training company.

Magistrate Hugh Bradley found Red Alert Australia guilty of breaching Section 55 of the Workplace Health and Safety Act in relation to the gas explosion on Thursday 15 December 2011 but delayed his sentencing until today.

Red Alert Australia was also ordered to pay \$10,000 in court costs and a \$200 victim levy.

WA-based Industrial Foundation for Accident Prevention (IFAP), the other safety and emergency training company, pleaded guilty in the Darwin Magistrates Court on 26 August 2011, for their part in the gas explosion. IFAP was fined \$121,000 by Magistrate Tania Fong-Lim for breaching Section 55 of the Workplace Health and Safety Act and Regulation 38(1) of the Workplace Health and Safety Regulations.

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