



DRIVE*test*

DRIVEtest LLC

1216 Uniroyal Drive, Laredo, Texas 78045-9405

News Release

Media Contacts:

Michael E. Fay

Tel: (330) 762-7441

Fax: (330) 762-7447

Karin Seelige-Steinhoff

Tel: +49-7031-90-79367

Fax: +49-7031-90-79312

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Statement to News Media

RE: Fuel Spill at DRIVEtest

LAREDO, Texas, Sept. 14, 2001 – An accidental fuel spill occurred this afternoon at the DRIVEtest LLC during a routine filling of a 1,000- gallon tank. The fuel is used for test vehicles at the automotive proving ground in north Laredo.

An estimated 350 gallons were spilled, some of which splashed on a DRIVEtest employee. Standard wash-down procedures were immediately administered to ensure the safety of the employee, who was subsequently transported to a nearby hospital. He was examined and released.

Local fire department and hazardous materials teams were called to the scene to assist in cleanup operations.

For safety and security measures, all operations at the testing complex were temporarily suspended until further notice.

DRIVEtest LLC is an independent vehicle testing company, specializing in power-train durability on new cars and light trucks. Currently, there are about 12 employees at the facility including engineers, technicians, mechanics, clerical staff and test drivers.

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