

# TERMINAL PIT 3

OIL TERMINAL EXPLOSION CLEAN-UP



## Project Description

USA Environment, LP was contracted to provide decontamination and selective demolition after an explosion at a primary oil terminal manifold in Pasadena, TX. The explosion was at a terminal that supplies the two largest pipelines in the United States, the Colonial and the Explorer. USA provided all engineered shoring and remedial activities to successfully complete the project.

The explosion and subsequent fire required the pipes, valves, and pumps to be shut down in a state of emergency. Products left in the manifold included gasoline and jet fuels.



USA Environment designed a step-by-step decontamination plan in conjunction with an engineered shoring system to safely perform the necessary decontamination and demolition in the still-working terminal. The pit itself was 60' x 60' x 20' deep and work was restricted to only a 70' wide perimeter around the pit.

Because of the highly flammable products left in the manifold system, all piping had to be demolished using cold, water-cutting hand tools and pneumatic tools along with heavy equipment like cranes and large drill trucks.



**Completed:** February 2009