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Three killed in Akwa Ibom tanker explosion

 By **Our Reporter** | Published 15/12/2009 | [News](#) | Unrated

• Governor to compensate victims

Three people died at the weekend when a trailer loaded with fuel exploded on the Ikot Ekpene Road, Uyo, the Akwa Ibom State capital.

Besides, 18 people sustained different degrees of burns.

Three shops were razed and goods worth over N300million destroyed.

A source said the accident occurred because the driver could not make a U-turn on the road.

"The trailer hit an electric pole in front of some shops, causing a spark that led to a fire which engulfed the area", he said.

Governor Godswill Akpabio who was at the scene commiserated with the victims and their families.

Akpabio, who described the incident "as a disaster of high magnitude and pathetic", blamed the driver.

He promised to compensate the victims.

The government, he said, will pick up the hospital bills of the injured.

Akpabio directed the Ministry of Works and Transport to ensure the continuation of the re-surfacing of the road.

The Ministry of Environment to clear the debris to allow for free flow of traffic along the road.

Akpabio later visited Lifecare Clinic at Udosen Uko Street, Uyo and St. Luke's General Hospital, Anua where he offered financial assistance to some of the victims.

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