

News

Driver, conductor die scooping fuel in tanker

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ABA—TWO persons,
suspected to be the
driver and conductor of a
tanker conveying
Petroleum Motor Spirit,
PMS, have died in Aba,
Abia State

Vanguard gathered that the bodies were evacuated by men of Ndiegoro Police Division in the premises of the State Fire Service along Constitution Crescent, Aba.

Sources told *Vanguard* that the duo went inside
the tanker to scoop the
leftover of the product they
discharged at a filling
station in the city and were
choked to death when the
cover closed in on them.

An official of the Fire Service, who refused to have his name in print, told *Vanguard* that they later recovered two 50-litre jerry cans, which the deceased were suspected to be using to scoop the residue inside the tanker.

According to him, the
driver and the conductor
are suspected to have died
as a result of the fuel
vapour, which they
inhaled while inside the
tank.

The fireman said: "We suspect that they might
have died as a result of the
vapour they inhaled while
trying to scoop the
remaining fuel inside the
tanker after they
discharged the tanker's
content at the designated
filling station.

"The bodies of the driver and the conductor, when they were brought out, had started decomposing and increasing in size, which is an indication that they may have died inside the tanker over two days ago and it is like they have always done this kind of thing before the incident."

Contacted, spokesman of Abia State Police Command, DSP Ezekiel Onyeke, confirmed the incident.

He said the corpses of the victims had been deposited in an undisclosed morgue in the city, while the truck had been towed away to Ndiegoro Police Division.