

Explosion at Rocket Engine Plant in Samara Claims 2 Lives

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A firefighting vehicle by the Sverdlov Defense Plant in the town of Dzerzhinsk, Nizhny Novgorod region
Roman Vladimirov / TASS

Two workers have been killed in a gas explosion at a rocket engine factory in central Russia only hours after a blast at an arms-making plant claimed at least three lives.

The Samara Investigative Committee said two workers at the Kuznetsov Design Bureau [died](#) during an explosion while cleaning an oxygen tank on Friday.

Investigators said they are still working to determine the circumstances that led to the explosion.

An emergency response source [told](#) Interfax a third body was later uncovered at the scene.

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The explosion may have occurred because workers did not take adequate precautions for liquid oxygen, an anonymous regional technical oversight service source [told](#) the news agency.

The Kuznetsov factory is co-owned between the United Engine Corporation, state-owned defense conglomerate Rostec and the Federal Property Management Agency.

Earlier on Friday, at least three people were reportedly killed in an explosion at a weapons-making factory in Nizhny Novgorod region, some 400 kilometers east of Moscow.

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