

# Fuel Hoses Create “Grapes” of Wrath

By AMS1(AW) Luis Albarracin,  
VF-101 Maintenance Department

**I**mproperly stowed fuel hoses in the catwalk always have posed a danger to everyone who works on the flight deck. There have been numerous injuries to Sailors who have tripped over these hoses, injuries including sprained fingers and pulled back muscles. Darkness compounds the danger.

Not only have Sailors been injured, but tools have fallen overboard when someone carrying them slipped on an improperly stowed hose in front of a ladder. Aircraft-repair equipment also suffers “punishment” from these fuel hoses.

Purple shirts, or “grapes,” must properly stow their fueling hoses after refueling aircraft. It just makes sense, because it’s only a matter of time before someone trips over one and falls overboard. ☹

*The author submitted this article while assigned to VF-143, embarked in USS Dwight D. Eisenhower.*

