



TANK MANAGEMENT SERVICES, INC.

# advisor

Volume 20 Number 2

2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2011

## WHAT DO YOU DO ABOUT UST RELEASES?

Warning signals indicate that your UST may be leaking and creating problems for the environment and your business. You can minimize these problems by paying careful attention to early warning signals and reacting to them quickly before major problems develop. You should suspect a leak when you discover the following warning signals:

# **Unusual operating conditions** (such as erratic behavior of the dispensing pump). Check first to see if this problem results from equipment failure that can be repaired.

# **Results from leak detection monitoring and testing that indicate a leak.** What at first appears to be a leak may be the result of faulty equipment that is part of your UST system or its leak detection. Double check this equipment carefully for failures. You need to call your regulatory authority and report suspected leaks. Then find out quickly if these **suspected leaks** are **actual leaks** using the following investigative steps:

- Conduct tightness testing of the entire UST system.
- Check the site for additional information on the presence and source of contamination. If these system tests and site checks confirm a leaking UST, do the following:

**You must respond quickly to any evidence of leaked petroleum that appears at or near your site.** For example, neighbors might tell you they smell petroleum vapors in their basements or taste petroleum in their drinking water. If evidence of this type is discovered, you must report this discovery **immediately** to the regulatory authority and take the investigative steps and follow-up actions noted above.

**Contact your regulatory authority for specific time frames, necessary steps, and guidance in doing site assessments and Corrective Action Plans.**

Your response to **confirmed** releases comes in two stages: **short-term** and **long-term**.

### **Short-Term Actions**

# Take immediate action to stop and contain the release.

# Report the release to the regulatory authority within 24 hours. However, petroleum spills and overfills of less than 25 gallons do not have to be reported if you immediately contain and clean up these releases.

# Make sure the release poses no immediate hazard to human health and safety by removing explosive vapors and fire hazards. Your fire department should be able to help or advise you with this task. You must also make sure you handle contaminated soil properly so that it poses no hazard (for example, from vapors or direct contact).

# Remove petroleum from the UST system to prevent further release into the environment.

# Find out how far the petroleum has moved and begin to recover the leaked petroleum (such as product floating on the water table). Report your progress and any information you have collected to the regulatory authority no later than 20 days after confirming a release.

# Investigate to determine if the release has damaged or might damage the environment. This investigation must determine the extent of contamination both in soils and groundwater. You must report to the regulatory authority what you have learned from an investigation of your site according to the schedule established by the



regulatory authority. At the same time, you must also submit a report explaining how you plan to clean up the site. Additional site studies may be required.

### **Long-Term Actions**

Based on the information you have provided, the regulatory authority will decide if you must take further action at your site. You may need to take two more actions:

# Develop and submit a Corrective Action Plan that shows how you will meet requirements established for your site by the regulatory authority.

# Make sure you implement the steps approved by the regulatory authority for your site.

### **Tank Talks 2011**

TMS will host Tank Talks again this year, going to 8 different cities across Kansas in November to talk about tank issues. If you have a suggestion for tank topics that would be of interest to you and other operators, please call David Engelken at 785-233-1414 or send an e-mail to [david@tankmgmt.com](mailto:david@tankmgmt.com)

### **Update on E 15**

PEI reports the White House's Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has approved the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) E15 misfueling label rule and has returned it to EPA. Approval by OMB is the final step in the misfueling mitigation rulemaking process. Some announcement—perhaps in the form of a press release once the EPA Administrator signs the rule—could occur within the next several weeks. The industry would have to wait a few weeks longer if EPA times its announcement to coincide with the publication of its rule in the *Federal Register*.

What the pump label will say and how it will look (size, color, warnings, etc.) is still unknown at this time. It's important to note that several additional things have to happen before E15 can be sold to the public. One large and time-consuming step is the registration and certification of the fuel to meet ASTM D4806-10 standards. Sources close

to the process expect that this might take until the end of 2011 to complete.

### **Operator Training**

August 1, 2012, the deadline for UST Operator Training, is fast approaching. To register now while there are plenty of classes available, go to [tankmgmt.net](http://tankmgmt.net); click on **Operator Training**.

August 16, Salina BiCentennial Center  
Room 203  
800 The Midway  
Salina, Kansas

August 17, Ramada Hotel & Conference Center  
Apollo 1 Ballroom  
1400 N. Lorraine  
Hutchinson, Kansas

September 21, Hotel at Old Town Conference Center  
Keen Kutter A Room  
210 N Mosley  
Wichita, Kansas

September 22, Doubletree Hotel  
Seattle 1 Room  
10100 College Boulevard  
Overland Park, Kansas

October, 12 Salina BiCentennial Center  
Room 203  
800 The Midway  
Salina, Kansas

More dates available on our website: [tankmgmt.net](http://tankmgmt.net)

#### **WHAT IS TANK MANAGEMENT SERVICES?**

TMS provides loss control and risk management assistance to UST owners who have third party liability insurance through Great American Custom as part of the Kansas Underground Storage Tank Liability Plan.

TMS can provide you with information on USTs—leak detection methods, and Federal and State regulations. Call TMS toll free at 800-530-5683 during normal Central Time Zone office hours (8-5). In the Topeka area, please call 233-1414. On the web go to [tankmgmt.net](http://tankmgmt.net). David Engelken is available to answer your questions. *This Service is free.*

To have the advisor E-mailed to you go to [tankmgmt.net](http://tankmgmt.net) click on Advisor.