

## **Ethanol Blends and Water Weights and Measures Requirements**

*Back in 2008 when E10 received a boost in use because of the high price of gas and plenty of alcohol being available the **Advisor** ran the following article. With refiners and producers trying to comply with the renewable energy act, the topic of water in UST's is again becoming an issue.*

If you have an ethanol blended fuel in your storage tanks or if you are thinking about placing an ethanol blend in your tank system, storage tank requirements enforced by the Weights and Measures Division of the Kansas Department of Agriculture can help you avoid problems with product phase separation.

### **Product Phase Separation**

Storage tanks should be monitored for water regularly. Water in a storage tank that comes in contact with an ethanol blended fuel can cause a phase separation of the fuel. Water will absorb the alcohol and separate the alcohol from the gasoline causing a phase separation of fuel in the storage tank. If this happens, problems can be passed on to consumers.

### **Amount of Water in Storage Tanks**

No water phase greater than 1/4 inches as determined by an appropriate paste is allowed to accumulate in any storage tank utilized in the storage of gasoline alcohol blends, aviation gasoline and aviation turbine fuel. All gasoline alcohol blended fuel must be sold using a 10 micron filter or smaller at the dispenser.

Water shall not exceed 1 inch in depth when measured with water indicating paste in any tank utilized in the storage of biodiesel, diesel, gasoline-ether blends and kerosene sold at retail, these fuels must be sold using a 30 micron filter or smaller at the dispenser.

Weights and Measures also reminds tank owners that adherence to requirements for product being dropped in the wrong tank.

### **Fill Connection Labeling**

The fill connection for any petroleum product storage tank or vessel supplying engine fuel devices shall be permanently, plainly and visibly marked as to the product contained. The fill connection shall also indicate if the fuel is an ethanol blend.

If the fill connection device is marked by means of a color code, the color code shall be conspicuously displayed at the place of business.

### **Volume of Product Information**

Each retail location shall maintain on file a calibration chart or other means of determining the volume of each regulated product in each storage tank and the total capacity of each storage tank. This information shall be supplied immediately upon request.

If tank owners have any questions regarding phase separation or labeling, they may contact the Kansas Department of Agriculture, Weights and Measures Division, at 785-862-2415.

## **Spring Means, Inspect, Check, Repair**

With the temperature warming up in Kansas now is a good time for tank operators to get outside to inspect your UST system. We recommend the following:

1. If you have an ATG is it on? Make sure you have a passing tank test for January and February and have it filed.
2. Make sure the inventory control reports are filled out and passes the EPA leak check. If it doesn't, review your data making sure it is accurate.

3. If you have impressed current, make sure the rectifier is on and is showing an amp reading above 0.
4. Scheduled these annual test if you haven't already done them.
  - Line leak detector
  - Lines (if not done electronically or you use SIR)
  - CP test are to be done every 3 years. Is yours due?
5. Check dispenser to see that hoses are not cracked, nozzle and breakaways are not damaged and in working order.
6. Check under the dispenser for leaks. If you change the fuel filter make sure you catch all the run off in a bucket and you have an absorbent pillow or pad to catch any leaks or spills.
7. Clean and check spill bucket for cracks and damage that may have been done by snow plow.
8. Make sure fill ports are marked with the type of fuel in tank.
9. Open line leak detector sump to remove any soil or water if covering the line leak detector. Check for leaks.
10. Make sure tank vents are straight and have the correct tops to keep water out. (If in designated area for air quality check the pressure cap).
11. Walk the area around facility looking for staining on standing water. Be aware of strong fuel smells.

If any equipment attached to the UST system is broken or if you found a leak call an UST licensed repair company to fix or replace.

## Operator Training

Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) requires all UST operators to be certified as level A/B operators within 30 days of taking over operation of a UST facility.

**Trained in 2007, 2008, 2009 MUST RENEW BY DECEMBER 31, 2014.** If you took the class in 2010 or 2011 you will need to be recertified by December 31, 2015. If you were trained in 2012 or after you must renew within four years of the *EXACT DATE* you were trained.

Below is a list of dates and location of the classes scheduled through June, You will find the full 2014 class schedule and registration on our website at <http://tankmgmt.net/ustoptraining.html>.

April 9, FULL	Salina BiCentennial Center 800 The Midway Salina, KS	Room 203
April 10, FULL	Fort Hays State University 600 Park Street Memorial Union Hays, KS	Trails Room 217
May 6,	Ramada Hotel & Conference Center 1400 N. Lorraine Ambassador Room Hutchinson, KS	
May 7, New Site	Capitol Plaza 1717 SW Topeka Blvd. Topeka, KS	Emerald 1 Room
May 8, FULL	DoubleTree Hotel 10100 College Boulevard Overland Park, KS	
June 3,	Salina BiCentennial Center 800 The Midway Salina, KS	Room 203
June 4, FULL	Dodge City Community College 2501 North 14th Dodge City, KS	Board Room
June 5, New Site	Best Western Wichita North - Regency III 915 East 53rd Street North Wichita, KS	

## Clerks and Attendants Must Be Trained

Information on level C training for all clerks and attendants may be found in the manual or on the CD received by A/B operators. A Level C certificate is available at [tankmgmt.net](http://tankmgmt.net). Click on the "UST Operator Training" button on the left side of the home page then scroll down under the left side menu to yellow box labeled "Level C Training Certificate" and click there. **All UST Level C personnel must be trained before they may begin working at the facility.**

### 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.

Tank Management Services, inc. (TMS) has provided the written information in this newsletter for educational purposes to assist UST owners and operators in complying with current UST regulations and to assist them in reducing losses associated with releases from UST's. The information is an outline and may not be complete. Owners and operators are responsible to insure that they are in compliance with all applicable laws. The Kansas Department of Health and Environment can provide detailed information on compliance. The application or use of the information provided is the responsibility of the individual user.