

## Would You Want to Save \$13,125.00?

\$13,125.00 is a lot of money; of course you would want to be able to save that amount. But maybe this article should be entitled "How Not to Lose \$13,125.00!"

Over the last several months TMS has had three different occasions to hear about money being lost in three different ways.

The first occasion was at the National Tanks Conference where a main topic of interest was identifying leaks and resources available to find them. One speaker from a northern mountain state expressed his opinion that tanks older than 1985 should at the least have a pressure test done annually. He had formed this opinion after a 1970's era tank leaked and caused most of a small town to be evacuated. This cost tens of thousands of dollars and weeks to determine what action needed to be taken. The speaker believed that it was the age of the tank that was responsible for the large leak. What he failed to say until the end of the presentation was that the operator of the facility was ignoring the ATG that had been in alarm mode for over two months.

The second occasion was when an EPA inspector was training a trainer and explaining line leak detectors, how they worked, and how to test them. The inspector pointed out that a mechanical line leak detector turns off when a hose is activated and tests when the line is off. He also pointed out that it does not test until the line is stopped and the fuel is still, meaning that if the product is moving in the line it won't test and therefore won't shut down if there is a large leak.

The third occasion was when the TMS office was alerted to a fuel theft ring and how it had been detected that fuel was being stolen. In this instance the owner was doing his inventory control daily, checking the over/shorts, and comparing sales and deliveries. The trend showed he was losing large number of gallons. A video surveillance was set up and the thief was caught. The owner calculated he had lost 3,500 gallons of diesel at a cost of \$13,125.00!

In the first instance after the leak was detected all the data from the only gas station in town was checked and they found a loss trend that had started six months before the leak was discovered. This loss was more than \$13,125.00.

In the second instance it is hard to calculate what a loss might cost. But the inspector stated that companies need to know

what to look for to prevent leaks or at least catch them early. Inventory control done daily is the first step.

Fuel costs keep rising; the cost of cleaning up a leak is expensive. Time is spent dealing with the regulatory agencies and then there are the possible fines and fees. *The daily review of inventory control is quite cheap!!*

Again, wouldn't you want to not lose \$13,125.00 or even more? All it takes is doing the following calculation daily: **Opening stick plus deliveries minus sales equals book minus end stick equals over/short.** Doing this daily calculation and then adding the over/shorts for a cumulative number (keep a running cumulative number) is how you do your monthly check. *The EPA leak check is 1% of 30 days of sales plus 130.*

## Emergency Shut Off

To reduce the chance of a spark that may ignite leaking fuel the fuel emergency shut off **must** shut the power off to the dispensers, fuel pump and any electricity in the fueling area.

During recent UST inspections TMS found that some locations were using the FUEL STOP button as an emergency shut off. This button was not designed as an emergency shut off; it was designed to prevent over filling and help prevent unattended fueling.

Please train all level C employees to use the actual emergency shut off switch. If this switch is not at the cashier's counter, please show all employees where to locate the marked corresponding breaker in the breaker box.

## Tank Talk Meetings

TMS is putting together the 2014 Tank Talk meeting agenda, setting dates, cities and lining up speakers. Tank Talk will be held in 8 different cities across our state. Some of the topics we will discuss include level C training, updates on SPCC and UST tank rules (if published by the meetings). P.B Hoidale Co. representative will discuss ATG functions for automatic tank gauges, KDHE will update us on UST compliance. Please contact us if you have a topic of special interest you would like to have addressed.

## KDHE Inspection Reminder

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment have sent a letter to all UST owners and operators reminding them to

have facility personnel available to open dispenser cabinets and remove the lids on the submersible pumps, ATG probes and spill buckets. KDHE needs your assistance to properly inspect your location. State employees will not open lids or remove coverings at facilities due to potential liability issues. The information below is the notice KDHE sent out to UST owners and operators:

*KDHE inspects Underground Storage Tank (UST) facilities at least once every 3 years for a formal full compliance inspection. KDHE inspectors will call the facility contact ahead of time to schedule the inspection so that facility personnel, such as the Class B Operator or their representative can be present to assist with the inspection. KDHE requests that facility personnel be available to open dispenser cabinets and remove the lids on the submersible pumps, ATG probes, and spill buckets so that the functionality of the equipment can be ascertained. When an inspector arrives at the facility, facility personnel should have the items listed below available for the inspector:*

1. *Daily inventory control for the current or previous month.*
2. *If using Automatic Tank Gauge for release detection, a copy of the last passing tank report, or the knowledge on how to pull the report from the Automatic Tank Gauge.*
3. *Notify the inspector if the Automatic Line Monitor is a stand-alone unit and is not connected to the printer. If the Automatic Line Monitor is connected to a printer, provide a copy of the last passing results.*
4. *The previous months SIR report if using SIR for release detection.*
5. *If the facility has cathodic protection and uses a rectifier, the location of the rectifier and the last month the volts and amps were recorded.*
6. *Keys to the lower portion of the dispensers.*
7. *Assistance to the inspector for accessing the sumps.*

*Problems found during the inspection will be discussed with the facility personnel. Items that are not in compliance will need to be addressed before the permit for the next permit cycle is issued.*

### 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.

**THOSE 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.

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

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| July 2   | Via Christi Hospital<br>(Formerly Mt Carmel)<br>Sheridan Room<br>#1 Mt Carmel Way / 1102 E. Centennial<br>Pittsburg, KS |
| July 3   | The Eldridge Hotel<br>Crystal Ballroom<br>701 Massachusetts<br>Lawrence, KS   |
| July 21  | FULL Topeka Public Library<br>Room 101 C<br>Marvin Auditorium<br>1515 SW 10th Avenue<br>Topeka, KS                      |
| August 5 | City Limits Convention Center<br>Otterbourne Room<br>2227 S Range Avenue<br>Colby, KS                                   |
| August 6 | Fort Hays State University<br>Memorial Union<br>Black & Gold Room<br>600 Park Street<br>Hays, KS                        |
| August 7 | Holiday Inn at the Campus<br>Landon Room<br>1641 Anderson Avenue<br>Manhattan, 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.