

Manual Tank Gauging Method for Emergency Back-Up Tanks and for Those Tanks That are Idle for Long Periods of Time

Underground storage tanks that are used for emergency stand-by power generation and that are typically idle for months at a time may use the following approach to meet monthly release detection requirements.

Tanks that are idle, meaning no dispensing or deliveries occur for a 30 day period of time, may use this method.

The method uses a gauge stick capable of measuring product height in one eighth inch increments, water and fuel finding pastes, a tank chart corresponding to the tank being tested and a means to record and document the data gathered.

To use this method, the tank must be idle for a period of 30 days. The level of product and water in the tank is measured to the nearest 1/8 inch using fuel and water finding pastes and converted to gallons using the tank chart. Water finding paste is used to obtain a more reliable measurement, likewise, fuel finding paste will also provide a more accurate measurement. These readings are then recorded on the first day of the test period. During the next 29 days, product must not be added or withdrawn from the tank. On the thirtieth (30th) day, the level of product and water is determined again, converted to gallons using the tank chart, and compared to the measurements taken on the first day. If a discrepancy of more than 100 gallons is observed, the tank must be reported as leaking. A loss of 100 gallons during a thirty day period equates approximately a 0.2 gallon per hour leak rate. If a discrepancy of less than 100 is obtained, the tank is considered not leaking. However, an explanation for any loss, even if it is less than 100 gallons in a months period of time, must be obtained.

Conditions

1. Readings shall be made either: with product paste or by averaging a pair of stick readings (stick to be wiped dry between readings).
2. Deliveries shall be made as close as practical to the start of the measurement period (i.e., +/- 3 days.)
3. Scheduled operations (i.e., dispensing or pumping) shall be conducted as close as practical and prior to the start of the test period.
4. Tank readings shall be made both before and after product delivery.
5. Tank readings shall be made before and after any scheduled pumping or dispensing.
6. Tank reading shall be made as soon as practical after any unscheduled operation or dispensing.
7. Test periods shall be conducted every month.

Form for monitoring of emergency generator UST's

Tank Number: _____

Tank Size: _____

Test Period Number (month): _____

Action / Date	Inches	Gallons	(B) - (A)	Comments
Start (A) water	-----		N/A	
End (B) water	-----			
Operation	-----		N/A	
Delivery water	-----		N/A	

Notes: