

UTAH TANK NEWS

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New DERR Director Appointed



Brad T Johnson, Director

Utah Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) Executive Director Dianne Nielson appointed Brad Johnson as the Director of the Utah Division of Environmental Response and Remediation. Johnson had been serving as Interim Division Director since January 2003 when Director Kent P. Gray retired.

"Brad is the right person to step into this job," Nielson said. "He has provided superb leadership to a staff that has accomplished great work. And just as important, he is committed to doing the right thing for the environment and improving Utah's quality of life."

As Division Director, Johnson will oversee the inspection and clean up of underground storage tank sites, the Voluntary Cleanup Program, Superfund, environmental emergency response, and Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know reports. Johnson will also lend his expertise to state and national groups working through hazardous waste issues.

"I'm excited for the opportunity to be part of DEQ's Senior Management Team and look forward to building on our successes," Johnson said.

Johnson began his work with DEQ as an environmental scientist 20 years ago. For the past 15 years, he has managed the state's work with EPA to clean up Utah's most hazardous waste sites under the Superfund Program. He graduated from Brigham Young University with two degrees in Geology, a bachelor's in 1981 and a master's in 1983. ■

Valid ATG Tests

By William Moore

Owners and Operators can be lured into a false sense of security if they do not know the 3rd Party Certified Limitations of their Automatic Tank Gauging (ATG) system. It is possible to initiate a Tightness Test and receive a “Pass” even though the tank is not full enough to meet the criteria for a “Valid Test.” For it to be a “Valid Test,” tanks are required to have at least a specified minimum level of product. The chart below indicates the minimum required product level in your tank in order to receive a valid “Pass” from your ATG. If your ATG does not appear on the chart or if you have questions concerning your ATG, please contact Bill Moore at (801) 536-4100. ■

ATG Manufacturer Type	Minimum Required Product Level in Tank
Caldwell Systems Tank Manager (revised 4/5/99)	18 inches of product
EBW Autostik	10% full
EBW Autostik II	50% full
EBW Autostik Jr.	50% full
EMCO EECO TLM 1500, 2000, or 3000	48” Tank Dia= 8.5 inches 72” Tank Dia= 11.5 inches 96” Tank Dia= 14 inches 126” Tank Dia=18 inches
Gilbarco EMC, TM2, TM2.1, TM3 and TM3.1	50% full
Gilbarco EMC with CSLD	12 inches
Gilbarco EMC/PC series	48” Tank Dia= 18 inches 72” Tank Dia= 24 inches 96” Tank Dia= 30 inches 132” Tank Dia=39 Inches

INCON Tank Sentinel TS-1000, 1001, 2001 Standard Test	48” Tank Dia= 12 inches 72” Tank Dia= 15 inches 96” Tank Dia= 17.5 inches 126” Tank Dia=21.5 inches
INCON Tank Sentinel TS-2000 Standard Test	50% full
INCON Tank Sentinel TS-1000, 1001, 2000, 2001 with SCALD	7.3% full
NESCO Emcompass Standard Test (Default)	50% full
NESCO Emcompass with CSTT Completed Tests	18% full
Petrovend Petrosonic III Version 4.05 or later	50% full
Petrovend Site Sentinel	50% full
Red Jacket RLM 5000, 9000, ST-1400 and ST-1800 series and ProLink with Mag Probes	48” Tank Dia= 16 inches 72” Tank Dia= 24 inches 126” Tank Dia= 41 inches
Red Jacket RLM 5000, 9000, ST-1400 and ST-1800 series with Ultrasonic Probes	50% full
Tidel EMS-2000, 3000, and 3500 series	2 hour test 49 inches 4 hour test 18 inches 6 hour test 15 inches
Veeder Root TLS-250	50% full
Veeder Root TLS-350, 300 series Standard Test with Old System Software	50% full
Veeder Root TLS-350, 300 and TM2 with Standard Test with New System Software	30% full
Veeder Root TLS-350, 300 Series CSLD Test with Old System Software	10% full
Veeder Root TLS-350, 300 Series CSLD Tests with New System Software	5% full

TERRORISM AT SERVICE STATIONS

By David Wilson
And Alex Ralston

The Division of Environmental Response and Remediation (DERR) received a fax on March 21, 2003 from the FBI Counterterrorism Division regarding Al-Qaeda interest in targeting the fuel infrastructure in the United States. An excerpt from this fax states, "Recent reporting indicates that Al-Qaeda Operatives have discussed... acts of terrorism involving gas stations, fuel trucks, and underground fuel storage locations..." The fax goes on to indicate that there are no specific targets for these acts of terrorism, but people should be alert for suspicious activity.

Although it is unlikely for such an attack to occur at your local gas station, it is still good advice to remain alert to the potential for acts of terrorism. Listed below are some ideas to protect you as an owner/operator from this possible threat.

- Keep fuel tanks **locked** at all times, except when receiving deliveries.
- **Report** any suspicious persons or vehicles around the site to the proper authority or local law enforcement officer.
- Aboveground tanks should have a **locked** security fence around the tank farm.
- Immediately **report** any fuel delivery truck, or truck driver, attempting to enter the site that is not properly identified or authorized to make deliveries to your site.
- Have a Preventive Maintenance (PM) and **training program** to test the operator's knowledge of what to do in the event of any emergency and test on a regular schedule: emergency shut down switches, impact valves, locks on gates, tanks, and other security measures taken at your site.

If you have questions or comments, please contact David Wilson at (801) 536-4100. ■

UTAH PETROLEUM STORAGE TANK TRUST FUND

by Randy Talyor

The PST Fund is a voluntary program to provide the owners and operators of underground fuel storage tanks a low-cost method to comply with Federal Financial Assurance requirements and to pay for the cost of cleanup if a leak occurs. Of the 3,999 eligible tanks in Utah, 3,557 participate in the PST Fund (89%). Since the PST Fund's inception in 1991, 178 petroleum releases have been cleaned up and closed out at a total cost of \$15.5 million. There are currently 264 open releases being worked on that are estimated to cost \$75.7 million.

The main source of PST Fund revenue is a per gallon fee paid by the participating owner/operators. This fee was originally set at ½ cent. It was reduced to ¼ cent in 1997 because the PST Fund had a healthy cash balance. Since that time the cheap, easy cleanups have been completed and the PST Fund is left with the expensive, difficult cases. In addition, new releases continue to be reported. This has resulted in a steady decline in the cash balance to the point the PST Fund was predicted to reach a zero cash balance in 2005.

Utah's Independent Actuary and the State Auditor recognized the declining cash balance and recommended a fee increase to ½ cent per gallon. The fee can only be changed by the State Legislature. A bill to accomplish this received wide support and was passed early in the 2003 legislative session. The ½ cent fee became effective July 1, 2003. Another provision of the bill will reduce the fee back to ¼ cent when the PST Fund cash balance reaches \$20 million.

It is projected that this fee increase will keep the PST Fund financially healthy for the foreseeable future. Owners and operators who participate will continue to be provided with financial assurance and reimbursement for the cost of cleanup for current and future petroleum releases. ■

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For more info call David Wilson at
(801) 536-4138

Environmental Consultant

Contact Melissa Turchi at
(801) 536-0078

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