

#### GENERATOR BASE TANK ABOVEGROUND STORAGE TANKS



R011

# **INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS**

## OCTOBER 2014

- 1.0 TANK SITE EVALUATION AND PREPARATION PRIOR TO INSTALLATION
- 1.1 The foundation for must be designed to support both the tank and generator plus 100% of the tank's contents when full. The foundation design shall also take into account the type of support that is being used and the point load associated with that support. The foundation may be constructed using concrete, asphalt, gravel or other stable material and must include provisions in its design to prevent tank movement. The foundation should include any provisions necessary for seismic design.
- 1.1.1 The foundation design must also include provision for draining surface water away from the tank.
- 1.2 For tank installations without cathodic corrosion protection, the tank should be grounded in accordance with applicable electrical and fire code standards.
- 1.3 Where the steel tank body is in contact with the earth, use a zinc grounding rod. Do not use a copper grounding rod.
- 1.4 Where the steel tank body is in contact with the earth or foundation, it should be protected from external corrosion. For external corrosion protection using cathodic corrosion protection, consult applicable standards (i.e., National Association of Corrosion Engineers) to provide the tank with appropriate protection from lightning without interference with the corrosion protection. Refer to STI R893-89, "Recommended Practice for External Corrosion Protection of Shop Fabricated Aboveground Storage Tank Floors."
- 1.5 Tanks located in areas subject to flooding must be protected against floatation.
- 1.6 Aboveground tanks should not be located above underground utilities or directly beneath overhead power lines.

1.7 The tank shall be protected from vandalism and accidental damage in accordance with all applicable codes, i.e., NFPA 30, NFPA 30A, UFC, etc. as well as local environmental regulations and safety codes. Consult local authorities before installing this tank.

### 2.0 TANK HANDLING

- 2.1 Do not handle or install tank without having knowledge and experience in procedures involved with proper and safe installation of an aboveground tank used for storage of stable, flammable and combustible liquids.
- 2.2 Equipment for handling the tank shall be of adequate size to lift and position the tank. DO NOT DROP OR DRAG THE TANK.
- 2.3 Tanks shall be carefully handled using cables or chains of adequate length and size with spreader bars. Attach to the tank using the lifting lugs provided. Care should be taken that the angle between the two cables, at the lift point, shall be no greater than 60 degrees. Four point lifting is required and the spreader bar must pick up a balanced load on all four points.
- 2.4 DO NOT HANDLE OR MOVE THE TANK UNLESS IT IS EMPTY.
- 2.5 This is a stationary tank. Do not use this tank for transport of any product.
- 2.6 Special instructions for tanks with bolt-on lift lugs - Bolt-on lift lugs are designed to lift the generator and an empty base tank as a unit. Use the nuts and lock washers supplied by the manufacturer and tighten with a wrench until the lock washer is flat. Special care is necessary to avoid a dangerous unbalanced load. Be sure that spreader bars are used and the load is balanced on all four points.

## 3.0 TESTING

## 3.1 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

- 3.1.1 An on-site air test of the tank may be required by local authorities to ensure no damage has occurred in shipping and handling. All testing should be done as described below.
- 3.1.2 If the manufacturer has shipped the double wall tank with a vacuum drawn on the space between the walls, read and record the vacuum pressure. If the vacuum gauge reading is less than 12 inches Hg (40.5 kPa), contact the original tank manufacturer.
- 3.1.3 In lieu of the air pressure test described below, a vacuum may be applied to the interstice of a double-wall tank or to the interstice of a double-bottom tank. NOTE: This test procedure may be difficult to conduct for large (greater than 2000 gallons) tanks because of the size of the volume to be evacuated and difficulty in sealing the tank openings. DO NOT APPLY A VACUUM TO THE PRIMARY TANK OF A DOUBLE-WALL TANK OR TO A SINGLE-WALL TANK. A vacuum of 7" to 10" Hg is to be applied to the interstice and held for at least 24 hours with no more than a 2" Hg vacuum loss allowed. If this vacuum cannot be held for 24 hours, then perform the air test procedure described below.
- 3.1.3.1 Caution must be taken in applying a vacuum to the interstice of a tank and the testing must be stopped if any deformation appears on the tank.

#### 3.2 AIR PRESSURE TEST PROCEDURE FOR TANKS

3.2.1 Remove emergency vents and cap openings to hold tank pressure as required.

**NOTE:** Use only calibrated air pressure gauges with a 0-15 psig (0-103 kPa) dial span. The regulated air supply test pressure used for this test shall be not more than 1 ½ psig (10.4 kPa). Set the pressure relief valve in the air supply line at 1 ½ psig (10.4 kPa). This 1 ½ psig (10.4 kPa) pressure is to be used for testing tanks in the field ONLY. In-shop testing will be performed at a different pressure. See the Gen-Tank® Standard, paragraph 8.0, "Tightness Testing" for more information.

**CAUTION:** Do not leave pressurized tank unattended while the air supply line is connected. Do not stand in front of tank heads or fittings when pressurizing tank. Pressurizing may result in the slight deformation of the sides of rectangular tanks. Should deformation appear severe, immediately relieve the pressure.

- 3.2.2 TANK PRESSURIZING PROCEDURE
- 3.2.2.1 Install test piping as shown in Figure 3.2.2.1. Temporarily plug, cap or seal off remaining tank openings to hold pressure.
- 3.2.2.2 Close valve A and B. Open valve C.

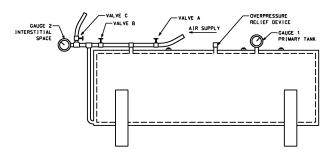


FIGURE 3.2.2.1 DOUBLE WALL TANK

- 3.2.2.3 Connect regulated test air supply line to test piping as shown in Figure 2.
- 3.2.2.4 Slowly open valve A to pressurize the primary tank. Pressure gauge 1 should indicate test air pressure given in Section 3.2.2 above.
- 3.2.2.5 Close valve A. Disconnect regulated test air supply line from test piping.
- 3.2.2.6 Monitor test pressure in primary tank for 1 hour minimum. A steady drop in pressure reading for gauge 1 indicates there may be a leak in the primary tank. Check the fittings, the gauge, and then retest. If the problem persists, contact the tank manufacturer.
- 3.2.2.7 If no leaks are found, close valve C and slowly open valve B to pressurize the interstitial space between the double walls of the tank. WARNING: Do not apply air pressure to the interstitial space without air pressure in the primary tank. Do not apply air pressure to the interstitial space that is higher than the air pressure in the primary tank. Damage to the primary tank and/or secondary tank may result. Pressure gauge 1 will indicate a slight drop in test pressure when valve B is opened, but should hold steady at the lower pressure. If test pressure drops below minimum requirements, close valve B, reconnect air supply line and slowly open valve A to increase pressure in primary tank When the required pressure is indicated on gauge 1 close valve A, disconnect test air supply line. Open valve B to equalize pressure in the primary tank and the interstitial space. Gauge 1 and gauge 2

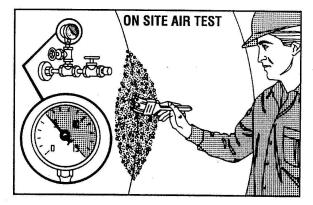
should have the same pressure reading.

- 3.2.2.8 Close valve B. Hold test pressure in interstitial space for 1 hour minimum. A steady drop in pressure gauge 2 indicates there may be a leak in the interstitial space. Check the fittings, the gauges, and then retest. If the problem persists, contact the tank manufacturer.
- 3.2.2.9 Proceed to Section 3.2.3, "Detection of Leaks" below.

## 3.2.3 DETECTION OF LEAKS

- 3.2.3.1 Immediately apply leak test solution to tank exterior surfaces, welds, fittings, etc. Check for leaks. No leaks are allowed. If leaks are found, notify the tank manufacturer. If no leaks are found, testing of the tank is complete.
- 3.2.3.2 Open valve C, then slowly open valve B to release test air pressure.
- 3.2.3.3 With tank depressurized, remove test piping, temporary plugs, caps and seals. Reinstall emergency relief vents, etc. which were removed in Section 3.2.1 above. Emergency vents are required on both the primary tank and the secondary tank.

WARNING: Emergency relief vents must be operable to prevent causing tank failure by over-pressurization.



## 4.0 TANK PIPING AND ACCESSORIES

- 4.1 Install all permanent piping and fittings using compatible, non-hardening thread sealant material.
- 4.2 All unused tank openings must be properly sealed and be liquid and vapor tight prior to putting the tank into service.
- 4.3 DO NOT WELD ON THE TANK, MODIFY OR PENETRATE THE TANK STRUCTURE IN ANY WAY WITHOUT THE EXPRESS WRITTEN PERMISSION OF THE TANK MANUFACTURER.
- 4.4 All tank accessories shall be installed as required per local codes. Anti-siphon devices, overfill shut-offs and alarms, vents gauges,

emergency vents, etc. are common requirements for tanks storing motor fuels for the purpose of being dispensed into motor vehicles.

4.5 Tanks installed inside buildings may have special requirements. Consult local codes for more information. Some jurisdictions require that vent and emergency vent piping continued to outside of the building. In this case, the piping must be adequately supported so as not to damage the tank.

## 5.0 LABELING

- 5.1\* A label regarding tank maintenance shall be applied near the installation instructions. The label shall state, "KEEP WATER OUT OF YOUR TANK. For tank maintenance instructions, see STI R111 at www.steeltank.com."
- 5.2 Tanks shall be labeled in accordance with all applicable codes.

## 6.0 MAINTENANCE

- 6.1 The tank operator should perform periodic walkaround inspections to identify and repair areas of damage to the vessel or the coating itself and check for proper drainage around the tank area.
- 6.2 It is imperative that the tank exterior be inspected periodically to ensure that the integrity of the coating is maintained. The frequency of periodic repainting will be based upon environmental factors in the geographic area where the tank is located. Special consideration should be given to the selection of the paint, surface preparation and coating application. The coating selected should be suitable for use with the current coating, or the existing coating should be removed. The coating selected should be of industrial quality.
- 6.3 Proper site preparation and maintenance are vital to ensure drainage of surface water. Should ground conditions change or settlement occur, take the appropriate steps to maintain proper drainage and prevent standing water near or under the tank area.
- 6.4\* The primary tank shall be inspected monthly for the presence of water at the lowest possible points inside the primary tank. Remove any water found. Water and sediment in fuel can cause plugging of filters. Also, bacterial growth, originating from the fuel can cause corrosion of tanks and lines. For procedures on how to check for the presence of water and removal of water, refer to the STI R111, Storage Tank Maintenance. For copies of the RP and more information,

please go to www.steeltank.com.

- 6.5 This tank must be removed from service if damaged by fire exposure, other physical means or misuse.
- 6.6 Failure to adhere with these maintenance instructions may void your warranty.
- 6.7 Tank relocation requirements often aboveground storage tanks are relocated. The following instructions are to be followed when this occurs: All steps are to be documented and the documentation is to be kept for the life of the tank.
- 6.7.1 The hazards associated with the cleaning, entry, inspection, testing, maintenance or other aspects of ASTs are significant. Safety considerations and controls should be established prior to undertaking physical activities associated with ASTs. Cleaning of tanks must be per state and local jurisdiction requirements.
- 6.7.2 Refer to the STI Standard SP001, "Standard for the Inspection of Aboveground Storage Tanks" for requirements concerning tank inspections. This SP001 Standard details requirements for inspections based on the tank installation and age. A tank must undergo the appropriate inspection prior to relocation.
- 6.7.3 In addition, the tank must be subjected to a pressure (or vacuum) test as detailed paragraph 3.2 above except an inert gas, such as nitrogen, should be used for tanks that have previously held fuel.

### DISCLAIMER

These instructions are intended only as an aid to tank installers who are knowledgeable and experienced in aboveground tank installation. Compliance herewith does not necessarily meet the requirements of applicable federal, state and local laws, regulations and ordinances concerning tank installation. STI makes no warranties, express or implied, including but not limited to, any implied warranties of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose, as a result of these installation instructions.

Contact STI for the latest version of these Installation Instructions or visit the STI website at www.steeltank.com.