

## 2015 Editions of the International Mechanical Code (IMC) & International Fire Code (IFC) Requirements for ASTs for Fuel Burning or Generator Equipment

This table lists some of the relevant *aboveground storage tank* construction requirements in the 2015 edition of the IFC and the IMC for such tanks connected to fuel burning appliances or generator equipment. Please note that the 2015 edition of IFC references the 2011 edition of NFPA 31 for all its requirements relating to ASTs for Fuel Burning or Generator Equipment, while the 2015 edition of the IMC references 2011 version of NFPA 31 and the 2015 version of NFPA 37.

This table is a partial list of the differences and similarities between these Codes, and is not intended to be a replacement for these Codes.

Aboveground Storage Tank Requirements	IFC & IMC 2015 EDITION
IMC General Requirements for Fuel Burning Appliances & Generator Equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fuel storage for liquid-fueled stationary internal combustion engines and gas turbines shall meet the requirements of 2010 edition of NFPA 37. (International Mechanical Code (IMC) Section 915 .1)</li> <li>• International Mechanical Code (IMC) Chapter 13 governs the design, installation, construction and repair of fuel-oil storage and piping systems. The storage of fuel oil and flammable and combustible liquids shall be in accordance with Chapters 6 and 57 of the International Fire Code.</li> </ul>
Terminology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Protected Aboveground Tank:</b> A listed tank system consisting of a primary tank provided with protection from physical damage and fire resistive protection from a high intensity liquid pool fire exposure. The tank system may provide these protection elements as a unit or may be an assembly of components or a combination thereof. (IFC: 202)</li> </ul>
Inside Building Unprotected Fuel Oil Storage Tanks for Fuel Burning Appliances & Generator Equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The aggregate capacity of unprotected fuel oil storage tanks containing Class II or III liquid shall not exceed 660 gallons. (IFC: 603.3.2.1)</li> <li>• Tanks shall be used only to supply fuel oil to fuel-burning or generator equipment. Connections between tanks and equipment supplied by such tanks shall be made using closed piping systems.(IFC: 603.3.2.2)</li> <li>• Tanks and piping systems shall be installed and separated from other uses in accordance with International Mechanical Code (IMC) Section 915 and IMP Chapter 13, as applicable. (IFC: 603.3.2.4)</li> </ul>
Inside Building Protected Fuel Oil Storage Tanks for Fuel Burning Appliances & Generator Equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The aggregate capacity of protected fuel oil storage tanks containing Class II or III liquid shall not exceed 3000 gallons. However, such tank(s) shall be located in a room protected by automatic sprinklers. (IFC: 603.3.2.1 Exception)</li> <li>• Tanks shall be used only to supply fuel oil to fuel-burning or generator equipment.. Connections between tanks and equipment supplied by such tanks shall be made using closed piping systems.(IFC: 603.3.2.2)</li> <li>• Tanks and piping systems shall be installed in accordance with 2015 edition of the International Mechanical Code (IMC) Section 915 and IMP Chapter 13, as applicable. Tanks shall comply with IFC Section 5704.2.9.7 (i.e. venting, flame arresters, overfill prevention system, signage at fill point, spill containers, etc.) (IFC: 603.3.2.4)</li> </ul>
Tanks in Basements for Fuel Burning Appliances & Generator Equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tanks in basements shall be located not more than two stories below grade plane. (IFC: 603.3.2.5)</li> </ul>
Outside Unprotected Fuel Oil Storage Tanks for Fuel Burning Appliances & Generator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Where connected to a fuel-oil piping system, the maximum amount of fuel oil storage allowed without additional protection is 660 gallons. The storage of fuel oil above ground exceeding 660 gallons shall comply with the 2011 NFPA 31. (IFC: 603.3.1)</li> </ul>

**2012 International Fire Code (IFC) Requirements for ASTs for Fuel Burning or Generator Equipment**  
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<b>Equipment</b>	
<b>Tank Construction for Fuel Burning Appliances &amp; Generator Equipment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tank construction must meet the requirements of NFPA 31 for fuel burning appliance storage, and NFPA 37 for generator equipment fuel storage. The NFPA standards provide a list of acceptable tank construction. For example, NFPA 31 provides eleven UL, API and/or SU standards (See NFPA 31 Section 7.2.7.1), any one of which would meet NFPA 31 requirements. NFPA 37 provides 6 choices (See NFPA 37 Section 6.1), any one of which would meet NFPA 37 requirements.</li> </ul>
NFPA 31	National Fire Protection Association Standard 31, 2011 Edition, <b><i>Installation of Oil-burning Equipment</i></b>
NFPA 37	National Fire Protection Association Standard 37, 2015 Edition, <b><i>Stationary Combustion Engines and Gas Turbines</i></b>
IMC	<b>International Mechanical Code</b> , 2015 Edition
IFC	<b><i>International Fire Code</i></b> , 2015 Edition

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