

Steel Tank Institute

Division of STI/SPFA

570 Oakwood Road

Lake Zurich, IL 60047

847/438-8265 Fax: 847/438-8766

NEWS

New Revisions to SP001 Standard to be Published

LAKE ZURICH – July 15, 2005 – After a year of study and revisions by a broad-based committee of experts, Steel Tank Institute is announcing the newest edition of standard SP001, which is now known as “Standard for the Inspection of Aboveground Storage Tanks.” The third edition of the SP001 standard can be ordered by contacting STI via phone or by visiting the STI web site at www.steeltank.com.

The effort completes a cycle of standard-making revisions. The process started in 2004 when STI announced a request for public proposals to modify the standard.

The revised standard incorporates key changes such as:

- A risk-based inspection schedule. Tanks with a means of detecting a release of product are inspected less frequently. Single-wall tanks sitting directly on soil pose the greatest risk for an incident and therefore require more frequent inspections.
- Inspection of field-erected tanks up to a maximum 30-foot (9.14 meters) diameter and a maximum shell height of 50 feet (15.24 meters). This would equate to a capacity of about 265,000 gallons (1,002,840 liters). This will allow one inspector to inspect virtually all tanks at a facility where both field-erected and shop-fabricated tanks are installed.

Other significant changes include sections on safety considerations, inspection of portable containers (55 gallons or more), suitability-for-continued-service guidance, and expanded periodic inspection checklists.

The committee’s work stemmed in part from revisions of the SPCC regulations, created by EPA to prevent oil pollution of the nation's water, which were published in August 2002. The rule incorporated

provisions for all regulated tanks to be integrity tested. National standards, such as SP001, play an important role in trying to comply with the regulation.

The STI committee, which unanimously approved the new edition after a year's worth of meetings and teleconferences, was formed last year to reshape the SP001 standard and clarify issues that resulted from trying to provide the owner/operator with a method of SPCC compliance.

A balanced number of representatives from major oil companies, engineers and regulators participated in the committee. "The members and Board of Directors of STI thank the committee members for the remarkable amount of time and energy that they put into revision of the standard," said Chuck Travelstead, committee chairman. "It is clear that the SP001 standard will provide valuable guidance to AST owners, managers, installers, inspectors and regulators."

The committee anticipates adaptations in 2006 to STI's AST Inspector Certification program. New procedures will address certification requirements of both existing SP001 inspectors and API 653 inspectors.

STI members manufacture a variety of aboveground storage tanks including shop-fabricated and field-erected designs. The Steel Tank Institute is a Division of STI/SPFA, an association serving companies fabricating steel tanks, piping and pressure vessels for use in the petroleum, food, water and chemical processing industries. STI/SPFA provides certification and training courses, performs quality assurance inspections, develops industry standards and specifications, produces safety manuals, and serves as a liaison to regulatory and code authorities.

For further information, contact Dana Schmidt at

STI/SPFA, 570 Oakwood Road, Lake Zurich, IL 60047

Phone: 847/438-8265, x246 Fax: 847/438-8766

E-mail: dschmidt@steeltank.com Web: www.steeltank.com. # # #