Online UST Operator Training Kick Off

The Kentucky UST Program recently introduced a new online training system to a select group of UST designated compliance managers (also known as DCMs) in a seminar that was jointly offered by the agency and the Kentucky Petroleum Marketers Association.

The new training application is called Kentucky TOOLS (short for Tank Operator Online Learning System) and is the gateway to an electronic library of lessons crafted to satisfy state- and federal-mandated training requirements for UST personnel. All materials on the site are based on Kentucky UST regulations and industry best practices.

“The innovative design has been a monumental undertaking but it will be worth it,” said UST Branch Compliance Supervisor Stephen Kent. “Employees of the Division of Waste Management are responsible for all aspects of this new application. I'm proud of their hard work and support as we continue to implement the training requirements across the Commonwealth.”

Upon logging in, the online system is designed to identify only the lessons the user needs, based on the equipment at their UST facility. Subjects covered by the online content include spill prevention, overfill protection, release detection, secondary containment, corrosion protection, product compatibility, and notification requirements.

“The Kentucky UST Branch has recognized and responded to the need for the required training to be cost-free, easy to access, and readily available to Kentucky’s UST personnel,” said Kent. “Users will find this online training resource to be extremely valuable in their efforts to prevent releases and ultimately protect human health and the environment.”

To assure optimal customer service and assistance, the online training will be made available to designated compliance managers over the course of the next year through the issuance of unique personal identification numbers. Successful completion of the training will be required on an annual basis.

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At full capacity, Kentucky’s 10,465 active regulated petroleum underground storage tanks can hold nearly 87.5 million gallons of product – gasoline, diesel, and related fuels. A certain level of upkeep and monitoring is required to prevent as many leaks as possible. Soon these tanks will have state-trained designated compliance managers.
Are your underground storage tanks internally lined?

If so, make sure you will meet the upcoming deadline. Kentucky underground storage tanks (USTs) that only use internal lining for corrosion protection must meet regulatory requirements by the deadline, Dec. 22, 2013, or be closed. It is important to act now.

These tanks must have a passing manned entry integrity assessment and impressed current cathodic protection added by the deadline. This requirement has explicitly been in the Kentucky UST regulations since Oct. 6, 2011.

For more information on this requirement, contact Denise Dzurenka at Denise.Dzurenka@ky.gov or 502-564-5981, ext. 4607.

EPA’s Online Biofuels Guidance

EPA developed an online resource to help UST owners and operators access documentation for demonstrating whether their UST system equipment and components are compatible with biofuels. It is available on EPA’s website at www.epa.gov/oust/altfuels/biofuelsguidance.htm, Biofuels Compatibility Resources.

“This resource is primarily for UST owners and operators who are currently storing or are interested in storing gasoline containing greater than 10 percent ethanol or diesel containing greater than 20 percent biodiesel,” said Carolyn Hoskinson, director of the EPA Office of Underground Storage Tanks.

In June 2011, EPA published guidance which described options for complying with the federal UST compatibility requirement at 40 CFR 280.32. In that guidance, EPA recommended that tank owners demonstrate compatibility by having a record of the Underwriters Laboratories (UL) listing or manufacturer certification associated with their UST equipment. EPA stated they recognize that collecting this documentation may be time-consuming, and developed this online resource to help tank owners with this effort. For information about the June 2011 guidance or general information about storing biofuels in USTs, see EPA’s website at www.epa.gov/oust/altfuels/biofuels.htm.

Website Spotlight: Resources for UST Contractors and Companies

We want you to have all the tools necessary to make working with our agency as easy as possible.

For UST contractors and companies, resources, news and announcements are located on one convenient Web page. There are “Quick Links” and an “I need …” list that features the most used resources on the USTB website.

Contact us if you have difficulty locating anything and we will be happy to assist you.

Visit our website today.
http://waste.ky.gov/ust

Bright Ideas?
Tell us what you think.
Let us know if there is something you would like to see in the UST Quarterly.
Send your ideas, suggestions and photos to Virginia Lewis.
Virginia.Lewis@ky.gov 502-564-5981, ext. 4024
Access Agreements
By Dawn Baase

Contamination from UST sites has no respect for property boundaries. If it's suspected to have traveled "off-site" to neighboring properties, then an access agreement may be needed.

There are three types of access agreements the branch requests: an encroachment permit (right-of-way access), initial off-site access agreement (first agreement with the property owner), or a supplemental access agreement (subsequent access following the initial access agreement). Signed access agreements are required prior to the branch directing work on an off-site property. An off-site access agreement is a written agreement with specific terms between two or more parties stating terms of the agreement. These agreements are between the contracting company working on behalf of the owner/operator and the property owner owning the property where access is being sought.

With the implementation of the 2011 UST Regulations, changes were made in the reporting requirements for off-site access requests in Section 8 of the Site Investigation Outline (July 2011):

*If soil and/or groundwater contamination likely extends off-site, all potentially affected property owners shall be identified in the Site Investigation Report. Provide the off-site property owner’s name, mailing address, and telephone number to the UST Branch, and identify all existing access agreements. Provide copies of all existing written access agreements.*

A good way to do this would be to submit a list of access agreements/denials/no responses in a list, provide the required details (per Section 8), and note the type of agreement (encroachment, initial, or supplemental). This proves beneficial for the state project manager in facilitating the issuance of the next directive and helps expedite the review, reimbursement, and even corrective actions.

In order to be reimbursed for off-site access activities, in response to a written directive from the branch, simply submit documentation demonstrating an attempt was made to contact the off-site property owner. Documentation includes a signed access agreement either granting or denying access or, if all verbal attempts have failed and no response is received within 14 days of mailing a certified letter requesting off-site access from the property owner, a copy of the certified letter with the signed certification of delivery card and a detailed description of attempts to directly contact the property owner. For more information regarding off-site access agreements, contact Dawn Baase at 502-564-5981, ext. 4014 or Dawn.Baase@ky.gov.

UST Quarterly Begins Fifth Year of Publication

This issue marks the beginning of five years of the UST Quarterly aiding tank owners, operators, contractors and companies with timely information regarding the regulatory aspects of owning and managing USTs and the cleanup of UST-related contamination.

Thank you for your interest, ideas, suggestions and photos. This issue and all back issues can be found at [http://waste.ky.gov/ust](http://waste.ky.gov/ust).
2013 Annual Tank Fee Invoices—Two Ways to Pay

It is that time of year again. Annual tank fees ($30 tank fee for each UST in active or temporary closure status) are assessed on July 1 of every year.

*** Online ***
Paying online is free, secure and easy to use. To use this service, visit the UST Branch website at http://waste.ky.gov/ust and follow the links.

*** Mail ***
Make checks payable to the Kentucky State Treasurer. Mail payments to:
Kentucky Dept. for Environmental Protection
UST Branch
200 Fair Oaks Lane, 2nd Floor
Frankfort, KY 40601

For questions regarding annual tank fees, contact the UST Branch Administrative Section at 502-564-5981.