The Basic Safety Parameters of a Fuel Storage Tank by Steve Rechardson

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A fuel storage tank needs to be built to endure years and years of usage. These tanks may be installed either underground or above ground. The installation of a tank mostly depends on factors such as the quantity of fuel to be stored, the space available etc. For instance, at gas bunks, you will most likely find underground tanks because the volumes of fuel are massive. The process of engineering these tanks is exceedingly complex. There are several layers that not safeguard against leakages, cracks and other hazards.

Today, the manufacturing process and installation of tanks is governed by strict federal laws. These laws have been brought into force to prevent the irreparable damage caused by fuel leaks and contamination. Fuel leaks not only contaminate soil, but can also seep into underground water reserves rendering them unsafe for consumption.

Needless to say, the liabilities associated with underground contamination and leaks have risen sharply in the recent past. Thatâ€™s precisely why a fiberglass or steel tank should only be purchased from a reputable source. There are several examples where the use of substandard tanks has caused leaks and enterprises have had to spend millions of dollars for cleaning up the contaminated soil and groundwater.

Places such as fuel stations, industries, airports, municipal centers, military stations etc need to make use of fuel storage tanks. A faulty storage tank can put the entire installation and hundreds of lives at risk. Purchasing a tank from a manufacturer with several decades of experience is very vital. Such firms are more likely to be tuned into the requirements of varied industries and offer appropriate solutions.

In most cases, fiberglass tanks are used for underground storage whereas steel tanks are used for aboveground purposes. Since metals are exposed to the risk of corrosion underground, hence they perform better in aboveground installations. On the other hand, fiberglass can remain buried underground for decades without getting damaged. If you wish to replace your tank, the process of removing these tanks should be ideally carried out by the same firm that installed it.

No matter how rigorously a tank has been tested at the manufacturing facility, it is important to test it thoroughly during the installation process on-site too. This rule applies to all types of tank, irrespective of whether it is a fiberglass or steel tank. It is also important to check for adherence to the federal fire safety and environment regulations.

Today, a fuel storage tank is used for storing petroleum, biofuels and certain types of oils. The tanks as well as their components should be UL listed and should carry an extensive warranty. There are also various tanks available for storing other materials such as water, chemicals, wastewater etc.

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Steve Rechardson - About Author:

I have many years of experience in manufacturing industry. I like to share my knowledge related to a fuel storage and a steel tank which is the best for the safe storage of petroleum and other combustible materials. If you are looking for such type of tanks you shouldn't start your search before you have a quick peak over here.

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