

# Vapor Balancing Services

*Services address the regulatory compliance requirements of new Stage I Vapor Balancing Regulations*



Tanknology is now offering on a nationwide basis, a new set of services to assist petroleum operators across the US who must now comply with new Stage I Vapor Balancing Regulations.



An EPA Final Rule issued in January of this year requires that a large percentage of operators across the United States install Stage I Vapor Balancing equipment at gasoline dispensing facilities. The first deadline with widespread impact associated with this new rule was a reporting requirement, which was to be filed no later than May 9, 2008.

Although these are new testing requirements for some tank owners, Tanknology has many years of experience providing these services in highly regulated parts of the country.

Tanknology's service offering, designed specifically to meet the compliance requirements of this new EPA regulation, includes:

- **Pressure/Vacuum Vent Cap Testing**  
Tanknology will perform a Vent Cap Test using its proprietary Pressure/Vacuum Vent Cap Tester per CARB TP-201.E, and install a new compliant PV caps, if necessary.
- **Pressure Decay Testing**  
The company's field technicians will perform a 2-inch pressure decay test, per CARB TP-201.3.
- **Drop Tube Length Inspection & Verification**  
Technicians will inspect and verify that the drop tube inside the tank is installed to within the specified distance of the tank bottom.

A summary of the Federal EPA regulations appears on the back of this page.

**To learn more about Vapor Balancing Services, or discuss additional compliance services for your site, call us today at 1-800-964-1250, ext. 228.**



*Environmental Compliance for Petroleum Systems*

©2009 Tanknology Inc., Austin, TX. All rights reserved. [tanknology.com](http://tanknology.com)

# Stage I Vapor Balancing Requirements for gas stations:

## Stations with throughput *less than 10,000 gallons per month*

1. **Use Management Practices to Control Vapor** - Gasoline must not be handled in a manner that would result in vapor releases to the atmosphere for extended periods of time. Proper handling measures to prevent such releases include: Minimize gasoline spills; clean-up spills as quickly as possible; cover open gasoline storage tank fill pipes with a gasketed seal when not in use; and minimize gasoline sent to open collection systems.
2. **EPA Reporting** - Notification reports for these gasoline facilities are not required but, records documenting that gasoline throughput is less than 10,000 gallons per month must be made available within 24 hours upon request.

## Stations with throughput of *10,000 gallons or more per month*

All of the above management requirements, plus:

1. **EPA Reporting** - Submit an Initial Notification to the EPA Regional Office with authority over the facility and to the state delegated authority no later than 5/09/08.
2. **Submerged Fill Pipes** - For tanks greater than or equal to 250 gallons, gasoline must be loaded using submerged fill pipes. Submerged fill pipes installed on or before 11/09/06 must discharge no more than 12 inches from the bottom of the tank. Submerged fill pipes installed after 11/09/06 must discharge no more than 6 inches from the bottom of the tank.

## Stations with throughput of *100,000 gallons or more per month*

All of the above management requirements, plus *one* of the following three options:

1. Operate a vapor balance system installed prior to 1/1/08 that meets an enforceable state, local or tribal rule or permit that requires either:
  - a. Achieves an emission reduction of at least 90%; or
  - b. Operates meeting the management practices specified (in #2) below.

**EPA Reporting requirements with this option:** The requirements stated above, plus the maintenance of records, reports and tests as specified in enforceable conditions.

2. Operate a vapor balance system during storage tank loadings using the following management practices:
  - Equip connections and lines with seal closures
  - Vapor tight lines from storage tank to cargo tank
  - Designed to prevent over tight/loose connections
  - Gauge well provided with submerged drop tube extending specified distance (12 inches for pipes installed on or before 11/09/06; 6 inches for pipes installed after 11/09/06;) from tank bottom
  - Use vapor tight caps for liquid fill connections
  - Install pressure/vacuum vent valves on tank vent pipes at specified settings and test initially and every three years thereafter.
  - Vapor balance system must meet static pressure test initially and every three years thereafter
  - Dual point (no coaxial) vapor balance systems for new/reconstructed gasoline distribution facilities.

**EPA Reporting requirements with this option:** The requirements stated above, plus the maintenance of records documenting initial pressure test and subsequent tests performed every three years.

3. Vapor balance system demonstrated to achieve an emission reduction of 95% or better.

**EPA Reporting requirements with this option:** The requirements stated above, plus notification 60 days before test and test results 180 days after testing.

**Note:** *New and reconstructed stations constructed after 11/9/06 must be in compliance with the above requirements upon startup, or 1/10/08, or whichever is later.*

