



30-DAY INTERSTITIAL MONITORING FOR DOUBLE-WALLED TANKS

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Interstitial monitoring is a method of detecting leaks in the underground storage tank (UST) systems that are double-walled. Double-walled tanks are essentially a tank within a tank. They are designed to prevent releases into the environment by containing fuel in the “interstitial space” between the two tanks if a leak occurs from the inner tank. You can monitor for leaks in the interstitial space by visually checking a gauge, monitoring with an electronic sensor or manually with a gauge stick.

If a pressure or vacuum gauge is used to monitor the interstitial space, you must check and record the gauge readings at least once every 30-days. A change in the recorded pressure may indicate a leak.

If the double-walled tank is monitored for leaks using an automatic leak-sensing device, interstitial monitoring is performed using sensors that are connected to an automatic tank gauge (ATG) console. The ATG continuously monitors for leaks and also serves as an alarm console for the sensors. You must print out a copy of the sensor report at least once every 30-days to record that the sensors do not detect liquid in the interstitial space.

If a double-walled tank is monitored for leaks using visual monitoring, the operator must manually check the tank’s interstitial space every 30-days for fuel or water using a gauge stick. The date and results of the visual inspection must be logged or recorded as proof that leak detection is being performed.

