Industry alliance study examines ULSD corrosion

"Severe and rapid corrosion has been observed in systems storing and dispensing ultra low sulfur diesel (ULSD) since 2007. In addition, the corrosion is coating the majority of metallic equipment in both the wetted and unwetted portions of ULSD underground storage tanks (USTs). To investigate the problem in an objective manner, multiple stakeholders in the diesel industry, through the Clean Diesel Fuel Alliance (CDFA), funded this research project."

The Clean Diesel Fuel Alliance (CDFA), composed of individual companies and many trade associations (STI/SPFA is a member), posted its report "Corrosion in Systems Storing and Dispensing Ultra Low Sulfur Diesel (ULSD), Hypotheses Investigation" on Monday, September 10, 2012. Eight alliance member companies funded the research project. Battelle was hired to advise on project set-up, conduct the actual research, analyze the data and write this final report...

More about ULSD corrosion study...

STI proposes "pass/fail" venting in UL 2085

STI has proposed a change, initially published for comment on May 6, 2012, to the UL 2085 Standard for Protected Tanks. The proposal's intent is to add a "pass/fail" criterion to one of the optional tests allowed in the UL standard.

The test, Venting by Form of Construction, is an option that allows tank manufacturers to construct the secondary containment of a protected tank to preferentially fail, in lieu of using a traditional venting device...

More about UL 2085...

More UL news...

- UL has established a Task Force to provide guidance for development of a new underground tank internal upgrade standard, SU 1856. An initial conference call took place in August, and UL staff hopes to create a first draft by the end of this year.
- Special task forces under the UL STP (Standard Technical Panel) have been formed to modify UL 58, UL 1746 and UL 1316. Consensus has already been achieved to modify scope statements of all three documents in a similar manner.

Did you know?

- Human liposuction fat...
- Stolen fryer oil...
- WW II canvas-rotting fungi..
- Stinkweed...
- Kudzu and horse manure...
- Old newspapers...
- Soda pop...
- Bunny rabbits?!?

All have been used as biofuels...Click here!

Industry Calendar

Automechanika 2012
September 11-16
Tank and Petroleum Mishaps

Pittsburgh PA: Lightning sparked a fire in a 500-gallon fiberglass condensate storage tank, causing the tank to melt and spill 440 gallons of "oily gases..."

Rockport TX: Lightning exploded a petroleum storage tank and set fire to two nearby fiberglass tanks storing saltwater..

Williston ND: Lightning struck a saltwater tank, causing the tank and contents to burn. The fiberglass tank held gas and saltwater byproducts of oil production.

Tank explosion "rocket" on YouTube
The YouTube link on the right is video of a styrene tank explosion in Lavrian, Greece. The tank rocketed from its facility and landed on a neighboring company's property.

More Tank and Petroleum Mishaps...

Tips for identifying buried tanks
Tank owners sometimes have trouble identifying what type of UST is buried underground. Original purchase documents are often mislaid or lost.

This article offers guidance for identifying USTs. With simple suggestions, Author Bert Schutza of Tanknology helps owners draw conclusions specific to tank types...

More about identifying buried tanks...

What caused this tank fire?
An unusual tank fire incident was reported earlier this year by the Petroleum Tank Management Association of Alberta (PMMAA), Canada.

An insulated, 400 bbl crude oil tank (API 12F) caught fire. The fire was restricted to the ullage space and the flames were coming from the 10" emergency vent and 3" normal vent. The tank owner company requested that the fire brigade put water to the vent space, focusing on the 10" vent...

More about this tank fire...
STI/SPFA presents pressure vessel workshop at Stainless Steel World

Pressure Vessel and Tank Fabrication Using Stainless Steels is a half-day workshop on October 17th, presented by STI/SPFA in conjunction with the Stainless Steel World Conference & Expo in Houston.

Our pressure vessel workshop is complimentary for all conference attendees. Click here for the workshop agenda.

We'll also have an exhibit booth at the expo, so be sure to stop by if you're attending! For complete information about the Stainless Steel World Americas Conference & Expo, click here.

Who invented stainless steel?

"Stainless steels, although among the most complex and most challenging alloys to produce and fabricate, have become the third most widely used of metals...it was surprising that stainless steel had not been discovered earlier than the first part of the twentieth century"--so who invented stainless steel?

Read this fascinating article about the numerous people and companies who discovered and refined the stainless steels we use every day. Thanks to Stainless Steel World magazine for sharing this piece from their June 2012 issue.

More about stainless steel's history...

Webinar: Regulation of Tanks Inside Buildings

Whether you're a code user or a code enforcer, don't miss this informative webinar. Our expert presenters are Jeff Shapiro, PE, code consultant; and Scott Stookey of the International Code Council.

Jeff and Scott provide a guide to regulations and codes covering tanks inside buildings:

- Regulations that restrict the installation of tanks inside buildings
- Group H Occupancy triggers and ways to avoid them
- Special considerations for tank fill and vent connections
- Requirements for fire protection systems and containment
- Special enclosures and tank vaults

Save the date and watch your email and www.steeltank.com for registration info!

Regulation of Tanks Inside Buildings Webinar
with Jeff Shapiro and Scott Stookey
Monday, November 5, 2012–Noon Central Time
Installation and Inspection

STI/SPFA presents a new webinar in its continuing series focused on steel water pipe. Industry experts share their knowledge and experience in the water infrastructure industry:

- Buried steel pipe deflection design
- Selection of backfill material and compaction
- Trenching and bedding placement
- Types of joints and their coatings
- Design guidelines for handling pipe
- Common installation problems
- Inspection tips

Save the date and watch your email and www.spfa.org for registration info!

Steel Water Pipe Installation and Inspection Webinar
Friday, November 16, 2012

Steel fab contributes to economic recovery

You may not think about it often, but steel fabricators are part of the larger manufacturing sector. As such, they are contributors to economic recovery and growth. Here are some stats from the National Manufacturing Association (NAM):

- Job openings in the manufacturing sector rose to 312,000 in July, the highest level since before the recession. Manufacturers have hired an additional 210,000 workers since December 1, 2011.
- Manufacturing supports an estimated 17 million jobs in the US, about one in six private sector jobs. Nearly 12 million Americans (9%) of the workforce are employed in manufacturing.
- The US is the world's largest manufacturing economy, producing 21% of global manufactured products—including tanks, pressure vessels, water storage tanks, steel pipe infrastructure and other steel fab products.
- US manufacturing produces $1.7 trillion of value each year, or 11.7% of GDP.

NAM celebrates manufacturing with Cool Stuff Being Made on YouTube—be sure to watch creation of a Boeing 777 jet:
Then hear about manufacturing and jobs from NAM's Jay Timmons, President and CEO:

Let Us Lead – National Association of Manufactures
President & CEO Jay Timmons

Online learning from STI/SPFA

Cost-effective and convenient, online education and training is a rich resource for you and your employees. STI/SPFA offers these e-learning modules and archived webinars:

- Tank Venting Essentials: PreVENTing Catastrophe
  - Steel Water Tank Standards
  - Steel Water Tank Construction
  - Steel Water Tank Coatings and Linings
  - Steel Water Pipe Installation
  - Steel Water Pipe Coatings and Linings

Take advantage of these easy-access, low-cost presentations by industry experts.  

Click here for e-learning modules
Click here for archived webinars

Get the facts about the benefits of steel

STI/SPFA presents our series of STEEL FACTS informational flyers. These single-page handouts dispel the myths and present the simple facts about the benefits of using steel, all of which have been researched by industry experts:

- The Strength of Steel
- Choose Steel for Lifetime Value
- Cathodic Protected Tank Inspection
- Steel Tanks: Compatible with All Biofuel Blends

Click here to get your own copies of Steel Facts

Pentagon energy use
According to IHS The Energy Daily, the Pentagon wants to reduce military fossil fuel consumption 20% by 2020. Last year, the agency's energy consumption was $20 billion, with $5 billion in liquid fuels consumed by the military for training, moving and sustaining personnel, equipment and weapons.

The biggest user is the Air Force, accounting for 2.5 billion gallons of aviation fuel each year. Last year, it spent $1 billion more on fuel than budgeted. The Navy did the same, spending $2.3 billion more than the cost of its annual 1.23 billion gallons of fuel.

IHS The Energy Daily is an initiative of Chemical Week.

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