

ASSOCIATION OF MARINA INDUSTRIES

For Immediate Release

Wendy Larimer
202/350-9623
wlarimer@marinaassociation.org

UST TRAINING REQUIRED FOR ALL MARINAS WITH UST's

If you have an underground storage tank (UST) at your marina, federal regulations require you and your staff to undergo UST training by August 2012, or face penalties for being out of compliance with UST regulatory requirements.

The Energy Policy Act 2005 called on EPA to develop guidelines for states to implement UST operator training curriculum and requirements. To date 34 states have put training requirements in place and the remainder are working on their programs. Since states are interpreting federal guidelines, the requirements vary by state and marina personnel must contact their state to find out how to comply. To find your state contact visit www.marinaassociation.org/government/current-issues

This rule is not dictated by size of UST. If you have one, you must do the training. The purpose of the training is to ensure those working with and around UST's understand the operation and maintenance recommendations for their tanks. Topics include spill prevention, leak detection, emergency response and record keeping.

The guidelines cover three classes of UST operators which each have to undergo their own type of training. An "A" operator will typically be the owner of the marina, the person responsible for paying for the tank and who is closest to the regulations surrounding tank ownership. A "B" operator will likely be a manager who is responsible for day to day operations of the tank, record keeping, monitoring, and overseeing employees who pump gas. The "C" class would be like a dockhand who may visually monitor a tank, pump gas, and be responsible for helping in event of a spill. Anyone at your facility who falls under one of these categories must be trained as trained employees must always be onsite when you are open.

The training may include online, classroom, onsite, or a combination of all. Nearly all programs will require a final exam which must be passed for an employee to get a certificate of training. As of now no follow-up training will be necessary and the certificate travels with the employee no matter what state he works in. States may provide their own training programs or there are a few companies out there offering training that various states have approved.

This link is to EPA's Operator Training Resource Guide which includes details on each state program.

http://astswmo.org/Files/Policies_and_Publications/Tanks/2011.06_Operator_Training_Resource_Guide.pdf

For more information on UST training visit <http://www.epa.gov/oust/fedlaws/optraing.htm>