



Evaluation of the Dri-sump Containment Tightness Testing Method

Final Report

Prepared for:
ACCENT Environmental

May 17, 2018



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523 FM 1819
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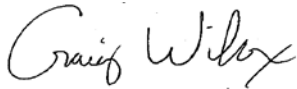
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Preface

This report describes the testing that was conducted on the Dri-sump Containment Tightness Test Method. The forms contained in this report are based on data collected using the EPA protocol "Standard Test Procedures for Evaluating Leak Detection Methods: Non-volumetric Tank Tightness Methods", EPA/530/UST-90/005, March, 1990. The testing was conducted by Ken Wilcox Associates, Inc. at the Fuels Management Research Center in Grain Valley, Missouri. This evaluation meets the requirements of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for Non-volumetric Tank Tightness Methods for Annual Tightness Testing on the containment sump portion of underground storage tanks.

The full evaluation report and certification forms are contained in Volume 1. The data sheets for the actual testing are contained in Volume 2. This report was prepared by Mr. Craig Wilcox, Ken Wilcox Associates, Inc. Technical questions regarding the Dri-sump Containment Tightness Test Method should be directed to Danny Brevard at 409-842-0150, info@dri-sump.com.

KEN WILCOX ASSOCIATES, INC.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Craig Wilcox".

Craig D. Wilcox
President

May 17, 2018

Table of Contents

Title	Page No.
Preface	ii
1.0 Introduction	1
2.0 Description of Test Method	2
3.0 Overview of EPA Evaluation Procedures	4
4.0 TEST RESULTS	5
Table 1	7
5.0 Conclusions	8
Appendix A - Results of U.S. EPA Standard Evaluation Non Volumetric Tank Tightness Testing Method	

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) regulations for underground storage tanks require owners and operators to check for leaks on a routine basis using one of a number of detection methods (40CFR Part 280, Subpart D). To ensure the effectiveness of these methods, the Environmental Protection Agency has set performance requirements for all leak detection equipment that is used to comply with the regulations. Leak detection systems which are used to conduct Annual Tightness Testing on underground storage tanks must be capable of detecting leaks of 0.1 gal/h with a Probability of Detection (P_D) of 95% and a Probability of a False Alarm (P_{FA}) of 5% or less. Additionally, the criteria stipulate that the procedure must be capable of detecting a leak from any portion of the tank system. It is up to tank owners and operators to select a method of leak detection that has been shown to meet the relevant performance standards.

To assist users of these test methods and equipment, the EPA has developed requirements for evaluating the performance of non-volumetric leak detectors. The Dri-sump Containment Tightness Test Method was evaluated using the EPA protocol "Standard Test Procedures for Evaluating Leak Detection Methods: Non-volumetric Tank Tightness Testing Methods", EPA/530/UST-90/005, March 1990. This evaluation followed the guidelines in the standard protocol for the number of leaks as well as the induced leak rate.

This evaluation presents the results of 42 tests that were conducted in a test vessel used to simulate a containment sump. The tests were conducted with the sump in a dry condition. This report describes the evaluation that was conducted on the Dri-sump Containment Tightness Testing Method. A common example of an appropriate application of this method is to tightness test the type of sump used to contain the connections made to the top of an underground storage tank (UST).

2.0 Description of the Dri-sump Containment Tightness Test Method

Leak Detection Equipment

Dri-sump Containment Tightness Testing method consists of the following equipment:

- Vapor/aerosol dispenser
- Air Pressure Generator (to create high-volume-low-pressure (HVLP) negative or positive pressure)
- Sealed Viewing Chamber with test port and two viewing ports
- Specialized Laser
- Misc Hoses
- Vapor Aerosol Consumable (proprietary)
- Vapor Stimulator Tube

Dri-sump Containment Tightness Testing method can be used to test any complete containment sump including the sides, bottom and all penetration points to determine if the sump is liquid-tight. It is used to test the following:

- A method to test any open or closed top containment sump or tank, storage vessel, vault, or any other type containment located above and below ground.
- A method to test hazardous or non-hazardous containment sumps, vessels, tanks, vaults, etc. as listed including but not limited to under dispenser (UDC), submersible turbine pump (STP), transition, spill containment (spill bucket), and any other type containment sump or tank/vessel.
- A method capable of testing dry secondary containment for piping and tanks.
- A method to test the ullage portion of any tank or vessel.

To further describe the method, Dri-sump requires no water and creates zero waste products. The test method is 100% environmentally friendly since it uses no water, no chemicals that create any environmental hazard or impact and generates no harmful waste by-products.

Testing with heavy gases and/or vapor aerosols has been an industry standard in locating leaks in underground utility lines, clean rooms, aircraft fuselages, biological containment cabinetry and more. The Dri-sump Containment Tightness Test method was developed for the petroleum industry inspection and test requirements.

Dri-sump Containment Tightness Test method uses a heavy vapor aerosol instead of water to completely fill the sump, interstice or vessel. The test method requires filling the entire containment sump with heavy vapor aerosol which takes about 3-15 seconds, depending on the size of the sump. This vapor aerosol is made from a proprietary formula of chemicals which are all food grade, pH neutral, non-petroleum based, non-toxic, non-flammable, and pose no environmental impact. The dissipation of the aerosol reverts back to normal organic elements in ambient air.

The heavy vapor aerosol is simply introduced into the sump and then the air pressure generator "pulls" the soil gases from a small Vapor Stimulator Tube that is installed in the backfill adjacent to the sump directly into the viewing chamber. A laser is introduced into the viewing chamber. If a leak is detected, the tester will see a laser line or beam that looks like a "green laser beam". This beam is generated as it reflects on the micron particles of the vapor aerosol. If no leak is detected, the laser merely makes a "dot" (no vapor aerosol is present). The test is only 60 seconds or less. The heavy vapor aerosol dissipates in about 5 to 10 minutes.

3.0 Overview of the EPA Evaluation Procedures

The experimental procedure for evaluating this test method is based on the requirements described in the EPA protocol "Standard Test Procedures for Evaluating Leak Detection Methods: Non-volumetric Tank Tightness Testing Methods", EPA/530/UST-005, March 1990. This method requires that a minimum of 42 tests be conducted, 21 under tight conditions and 21 with a leak rate at a fixed rate of 0.1 gal/h or less. In this case, the method was tested using 21 zero and 21 induced leaks generated using an orifice calibrated to a leak rate of 0.1 gal/h of unleaded fuel with a 4' head of pressure. Leaks were produced inside the containment sump. Since temperature and filling cycles have no impact on this type of testing the matrix of tests includes only randomized zero and induced leaks. These results are provided in Table 1.

Leaks were induced using an orifice calibrated to 0.1 gal/h of unleaded fuel at 4' of head pressure. The orifice was connected to the containment sump portion of the tank. The flow of the orifice was checked regularly to make sure that the flow was at the appropriate rate.

The leaks were induced by opening and closing a valve connected to the orifice. Flow continued until the system declared a leak or a tight tank. After each test, the test vessel was cleared of any vapor aerosol and a new test started after the new leak conditions were established.

Testing was conducted in a dry test vessel to simulate a containment sump.

4.0 Test Results and Discussion

The official results of the testing are provided in Attachment A of this report on the EPA forms "Non-volumetric TTT Method - Results Forms." The performance parameters of the method are summarized in Table 2 and the data and results are contained on the official EPA data reporting forms in Attachment A.

Calculation of P_D and P_{FA}

The equations used to calculate the Probability of a False Alarm (P_{FA}) and the Probability of Detection (P_D) were taken from the EPA Protocol for Non-volumetric methods. The P_{FA} is calculated from the equation

$$P_{FA} = TL_1/N_1$$

where TL_1 is the number of cases, where the method indicated a leak when no sample was present and N_1 is the total number of tests conducted. If no false alarms occur, the P_{FA} is zero or 0%. The upper level confidence interval for these results (UL) can be calculated using the equation

$$UL \text{ for } P_{FA} = 1 - (\alpha)^{(1/N_1)}$$

where N_1 is the number of tests performed with zero leaks and α is the confidence coefficient of 95%.

The corresponding P_D was calculated from the equation

$$P_D = TL_2/N_2$$

where TL_2 is the number of tests, where a leak was detected when product was present at the threshold level and N_2 is the number of tests conducted. The lower confidence limit (LL) for P_D is calculated from the equation

$$LL \text{ for } P_D = \alpha^{1/N_2}$$

Where N_2 is the number of correct tests conducted with the induced leak.

A total of 42 tests were conducted for this evaluation of which 21 were leak tests and 21 were tight tests. There were no missed detection for the 21 leak tests and no false alarms for the 21 tight tests resulting in a P_D of a 0.1 gal/h leak of 100% and a P_{FA} on a tight tank of 0%. The 95% confidence interval is from 89.50% to 100% for the P_D and from 0% to 9.50% for the P_{FA} .

Dri-sump Containment Tightness Testing Method

Average Data Collection Time

Test times during the evaluation had an average time of 1 minute or less depending on if there was a leak induced. When there is vapor aerosol detected by the laser, a leak is declared immediately. During a test in a no leak condition, the test time was approximately 1 minute before a tight condition was declared. Once the presence or absence of a leak is established, additional sensitivity cannot be gained from longer monitoring times.

Temperature Factors and Stabilization Times

The Dri-sump Containment Tightness Test Method is not sensitive to temperature fluctuations. No temperature compensation or stabilization periods are required.

Other Factors

Add any other factors here

.

Dri-sump Containment Tightness Testing Method

Table 1. Data Sheet Summarizing the Results – Dri-sump Containment Tightness Testing Method

Run #	Start	End	Induced Leak	Reported Tight/Leak	Test Time (sec)
1	958	959	0	Tight	60
2	1002	1003	0	Tight	60
3	1004	1005	0	Tight	60
4	1005	1006	0	Tight	60
5	1006	1006	0.1	Leak	10
6	1009	1009	0.1	Leak	10
7	1012	1013	0	Tight	60
8	1016	1017	0	Tight	60
9	1017	1017	0.1	Leak	10
10	1020	1020	0.1	Leak	10
11	1023	1023	0.1	Leak	10
12	1025	1026	0	Tight	60
13	1026	1026	0.1	Leak	10
14	1028	1029	0	Tight	60
15	1031	1031	0.1	Leak	10
16	1033	1034	0	Tight	60
17	1034	1034	0.1	Leak	10
18	1037	1037	0	Tight	60
19	1039	1039	0.1	Leak	10
20	1042	1042	0.1	Leak	10
21	1044	1045	0	Tight	60
22	1045	1046	0	Tight	60
23	1046	1046	0.1	Leak	10
24	1048	1049	0	Tight	60
25	1049	1049	0.1	Leak	10
26	1051	1052	0	Tight	60
27	1053	1053	0.1	Leak	10
28	1056	1057	0	Tight	60
29	1112	1112	0.1	Leak	10
30	1114	1115	0	Tight	60
31	1116	1116	0.1	Leak	10
32	1118	1119	0	Tight	60
33	1119	1120	0	Tight	60
34	1120	1120	0.1	Leak	10
35	1123	1123	0.1	Leak	10
36	1131	1132	0	Tight	60
37	1132	1132	0.1	Leak	10
38	1134	1135	0	Tight	60
39	1135	1136	0	Tight	60
40	1138	1138	0.1	Leak	10
41	1140	1141	0	Tight	60
42	1142	1142	0.1	Leak	10

5.0 CONCLUSIONS

The following conclusions are based on the testing described in this report.

1. The Dri-sump Containment Tightness Test Method meets the requirements of the US EPA for leak detection systems that are used for underground storage tank containment sumps.
2. This technology is capable of detecting leaks equivalent to a 0.1 gal/h leak with a probability of 100%. The 95% confidence interval for P_D is from 89.50% to 100%.
3. The false alarm rate was determined to be 0%. The confidence interval for P_{FA} is from 0 to 9.50%.

**Results of U.S. EPA Standard Evaluation
Non-volumetric Tank Tightness Testing Method**

This form tells whether the tank tightness testing method described below complies with the performance requirements of the federal underground storage tank regulation. The evaluation was conducted by the equipment manufacturer or a consultant to the manufacturer according to the U.S. EPA's "Standard Test Procedure for Evaluating Leak Detection Methods: Non-volumetric Tank Tightness Testing Methods." The full evaluation report also includes a form describing the method and a form summarizing the test data.

Tank owners using this leak detection system should keep this form on file to prove compliance with the federal regulations. Tank owners should check with State and local agencies to make sure this form satisfies their requirements.

Method Description

Name Dri-sump Containment Tightness Testing Method

Version Dri-sump Containment Tightness Testing Method

Vendor ACCENT Environmental

523 FM 1819

(street address)

Pollok Texas USA 75969 (409) 842-0150

(city) (state) (country) (zip) (phone)

Evaluation Results

This method, which declares a tank to be leaking when A solid laser beam of light is visible which is created when a "light sheet" of the vapor aerosol micron-size particles are presented in the laser as it is introduced into the view chamber

has an estimated probability of false alarms [P(FA)] of 0 % based on the test results of 0 false alarms out of 21 tests with no leak present. A 95% confidence interval for P(FA) is from 0 to 9.50 %.

The corresponding probability of detection [P(D)] of a 0.1 gallon per hour leak is 100 % based on the test results of 21 detections out of 21 simulated leak tests. A 95% confidence interval for P(D) is from 89.50 to 100 %.

Does this method use additional modes of leak detection? Yes No. If Yes, complete additional evaluation results on page 3 of this form.

Based on the results above, and on page 3 if applicable, this method does does not meet the **federal** performance standards established by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (0.10 gallon per hour at P(D) of 95% and P(FA) of 5%).

Test Conditions During Evaluation

The evaluation testing was conducted in a Containment Sump - gallon steel fiberglass tank that was 30 inches in diameter and 60 inches long, installed in Laboratory backfill.

The ground-water level was NA inches above the bottom of the tank.

Non-volumetric TTT Method _____ Dri-sump Containment Tightness Test Method
Version _____ Dri-sump Containment Tightness Test Method

Test Conditions During Evaluation (continued)

The tests were conducted with the tank between NA and NA full.
The temperature difference between product added to fill the tank and product already in the tank ranged from NA °F to NA °F, with a standard deviation of NA °F.
The product used in the evaluation was Air.
This method may be affected by other sources of interference. List these interferences below and give the ranges of conditions under which the evaluation was done. (Check None if not applicable.)

None

Interferences

Range of Test Conditions

Interferences	Range of Test Conditions
_____	_____
_____	_____

Limitations on the Results

The performance estimates above are only valid when:

- The method has not been substantially changed.
- The vendor’s instructions for using the method are followed.
- The tank contains a product identified on the method description form.
- The tank capacity is NA gallons or smaller.
- The difference between added and in-tank product temperatures is no greater than + or – NA degrees Fahrenheit.

Check if applicable:

Temperature is not a factor because The system uses a laser that detects a vapor aerosol solution that is unaffected by temperature variations.

- The waiting time between the end of filling the test tank and the start of the test data collection is at least 0 hours.
- The waiting time between the end of “topping off” to final testing level and the start of the test data collection is at least 0 hours.
- The total data collection time for the test is at least 10 seconds.
- The product volume in the tank during testing is between NA
- This method can cannot be used if the ground-water level is above the bottom of the tank.

Other limitations specified by the vendor or determined during testing:

Description

Nonvolumetric Tank Tightness Testing Method

This section describes briefly the important aspects of the nonvolumetric tank tightness testing method. It is not intended to provide a thorough description of the principles behind the method or how the equipment works.

Method Name and Version

Dri-sump Containment Tightness Test method

Product

> Product type

For what products can this method be used? (check all applicable)

- gasoline
- diesel
- aviation fuel
- fuel oil #4
- fuel oil #6
- solvents
- waste oil
- other (list) NA

> Product level

What product level is required to conduct a test?

- above grade
- within the fill pipe
- greater than 90% full
- greater than 50% full
- empty
- other (specify) NA

Principle of Operation

What principle or principles are used to identify a leak?

- acoustical signal characteristic of a leak
 - identification of a tracer chemical outside the tank system
 - changes in product level or volume
 - detection of water inflow
 - other (describe briefly) identification of laser reaction to vapor aerosol chemical outside or inside the tank system
-

Temperature Measurement

If product temperature is measured during a test, how many temperature sensors are used?

- single sensor, without circulation
- single sensor, with circulation
- 2-4 sensors
- 5 or more sensors
- temperature-averaging probe

If product temperature is measured during a test, what type of temperature sensor is used?

- resistance temperature detector (RTD)
- bimetallic strip
- quartz crystal
- thermistor
- other (describe briefly) NA

If product temperature is not measured during a test, why not?

- the factor measured for change in level or volume is independent of temperature (e.g., mass)
 - the factor measured for change in level or volume self-compensates for changes in temperature
 - other (explain briefly) NA
-

Data Acquisition

How are the test data acquired and recorded?

- manually
- by strip chart
- by computer

Procedure Information**>Waiting times**

What is the minimum waiting period between adding a large volume of product to bring the level to test requirements and the beginning of the test (e.g., from 50% to 95% capacity)?

- not applicable
- no waiting period
- less than 3 hours
- 3-6 hours
- 7-12 hours
- more than 12 hours
- variable, depending on tank size, amount added, operator discretion, etc.

>Test duration

What is the minimum time for collecting data?

- less than 1 hour
- 1 hour
- 2 hours
- 3 hours
- 4 hours
- 5-10 hours
- more than 10 hours
- variable

>Total time

What is the total time needed to test with this method?

(setup time plus waiting time plus testing time plus time to return tank to service)

_____hours 1 _____minutes

>Other important elements of the procedure or method

List here any other elements that could affect the performance of the procedure or method (e.g., positive or negative ullage pressure, tracer concentration, distance between tank and sampling ports, etc.)

>Identifying and correcting for interfering factors

How does the method determine the presence and level of the ground water above the bottom of the tank?

- observation well near tank
- information from USGS, etc.
- information from personnel on-site
- presence of water in the tank
- other (describe briefly) NA
- level of ground water above bottom of the tank not determined

How does the method correct for the interference due to the presence of ground water above the bottom of the tank?

- head pressure increased by raising the level of the product
- different head pressures tested and leak rates compared
- tests for changes in water level in tank
- other (describe briefly) NA
- no action

Does the method measure inflow of water as well as loss of product (gallon per hour)?

- yes NA
- no

Does the method detect the presence of water in the bottom of the tank?

- yes NA
- no

How does the method identify the presence of vapor pockets?

- erratic temperature, level, or temperature-compensated volume readings
- sudden large changes in readings
- statistical analysis of variability of readings
- other (describe briefly) NA
- not identified
- not applicable; underfilled test method used

How does the method correct for the presence of vapor pockets?

- bleed off vapor and start test over
- identify periods of pocket movement and discount data from analysis
- other (describe briefly) NA
- not corrected
- not applicable; underfilled test method used

How does the test method determine when tank deformation has stopped following delivery of product?

- wait a specified period of time before beginning test
- watch the data trends and begin test when decrease in product level has stopped
- other (describe briefly) NA
- no procedure
- not applicable, does not affect principle of operation

Are the method's sensors calibrated before each test? NA

- yes
- no

If not, how often are the sensors calibrated? NA

- weekly
- monthly
- yearly or less frequently
- never

>Interpreting test results

What effect is used to declare the tank to be leaking? (List all modes used by the method.)

Visual identification of leak, hole, crack, improper fitting fails test unless verified as repaired on side of vessel that is not visible

A solid laser beam of light is visible which is created when a "light sheet" of the vapor aerosol micron-size particles are presented in the laser as it is introduced into the view chamber

If a change in volume is used to detect leaks, what threshold value for product volume change (gallon per hour) is used to declare that a tank is leaking?

- 0.05 gallon per hour
- 0.10 gallon per hour
- 0.20 gallon per hour
- other NA

Under what conditions are test results considered inconclusive?

- ground-water level above bottom of tank
 - presence of vapor pockets
 - too much variability in the data (standard deviation beyond a given value)
 - unexplained product volume increase
 - other (describe briefly) NA
-

Exceptions

Are there any conditions under which a test should not be conducted?

- ground-water level above bottom of tank
 - presence of vapor pockets
 - large difference between ground temperature and delivered product temperature
 - extremely high or low ambient temperature
 - invalid for some products (specify) _____
 - soil not sufficiently porous
 - other (describe briefly) NA
-

What are acceptable deviations from the standard testing protocol?

- none
 - lengthen the duration of test
 - other (describe briefly) NA
-

What elements of the test procedure are left to the discretion of the testing personnel on-site?

- waiting period between filling tank and beginning test
 - length of test
 - determination of presence of vapor pockets
 - determination that tank deformation has subsided
 - determination of "outlier" data that may be discarded
 - other (describe briefly) NA
-
- none

Appendix A

Results Forms for the Dri-sump Containment Tightness Testing Method

Run #	Start	End	Induced Leak	Reported Tight/Leak	Test Time (sec)
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