



4109 Zeering Rd., Denair, CA 95316
<http://www.convault.com>, dave@convault.com
800-222-7099, 209-632-7571
FAX 209-632-4711

MEMORANDUM

Subject: Aboveground Tanks Inspection & Maintenance Program

Dear Customer:

Our records show that you are owner of one or more Convault Aboveground Storage Tanks (AST's). We would like to congratulate you on your choice of selecting Convault AST, which are known to be the best in the industry. Convault tanks are designed to give you many years of trouble free and reliable fuel storage system.

While we have designed the Convault AST so that it requires minimum maintenance, it still should have regularly scheduled inspections and a maintenance program. The tank exterior should be regularly checked, painted and the cracks in the concrete sealed. It has recently come to our attention that some aboveground storage tank (AST) owners are experiencing rusting of the pipe nipples and fittings on the top of their units. Steel parts are especially vulnerable to corrosion and must be repainted on a regular basis. You should be glad that the exterior of your tank is concrete! Every tank owner should have in place a program for inspection and maintenance of their fuel tanks and equipment. Not only is this required by the Convault warranty, it is also required by many state and local regulations.

Another important subject that we would like to bring to your attention is the possibility of internal corrosion of all steel tanks. Water and bacteria are the main cause of internal corrosion of steel tanks. Water can create the right environment for certain bacteria, which can cause severe corrosion. Basically, what you should do to prevent internal corrosion in your tanks is to prevent water from entering your tank. You should constantly monitor your tanks for presence of water. If you find water in your tank, you should remove the water as soon as possible. Certain bacteria can cause slime and block your filters and fuel lines. Simply put, if you monitor and control water, you can expect a long service life from your tank; otherwise you might drastically reduce the useful life of your tank. Your tank warranty does not cover internal corrosion caused by water or bacteria.

The bacteria problem is not limited to the above ground storage tanks. This is a problem that can affect any fuel storage system, aboveground or underground. There is a lot of literature and information about slime forming and corrosion causing bacteria. For your information, we enclose a copy of an article that was recently published in a trade magazine. The article is interesting because it not only describes the bacteria problem, but it also recommends how to prevent it. Also a report by the US Department of Energy, BNL 48406 provides information on methods to test for and remove water, and test for bacteria presence in fuel. The report also provides information on tank cleaning and fuel additives.

If you need additional information on bacteria corrosion, please contact us. If you have any questions or problems, we will be more than glad to help you and work with you to resolve your problems.