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June 20, 2001

To: All Vapor Recovery Equipment Manufacturers

The California Air Resources Board (CARB) staff has been working with manufacturers in an effort to standardize the cam and groove found on adaptors that works interchangeably with drop elbows and dust caps (note: CARB is using the term “adaptor” instead of “adapter”). As a result, one existing and one new standard have been accepted and will be required by all future applicants seeking Enhanced Vapor Recovery certification.

VAPOR RECOVERY ADAPTORS

After consulting with manufacturers, we determined that the Commercial Item Description (CID), CID A-A-59326 is appropriate when manufacturing vapor recovery adaptors and is also suitable for use with drop elbows and dust caps. We arrived at this conclusion due to the fact that most manufacturers are already designing to the standard making alterations uncomplicated. We believe that this standard is readily available and already widely accepted. A diagram, derived from the CID A-A-59326 standard, is shown in Figure 1 for your convenience.

PRODUCT ADAPTORS

Efforts were made at locating a standard similar to the CID standard for use on the product adaptors. However, efforts failed to reveal such a government standard. Instead, we found it necessary to adopt a standard that is the most widely used by industry and has been developed and tested by the manufacturers themselves. After consulting with each manufacturer, the new standard has been openly accepted by the large majority of all manufacturers with only minor changes required. Therefore, CARB will implement the standard for all new product adaptors and the drop elbows and dust caps that work interchangeably with them. We realize that not all manufacturers agreed 100 percent to the standard, and we apologize for any inconvenience that may result. A diagram, derived from the manufacturers, is shown in Figure 2 for your convenience.

The new standards will not affect adaptors, dust caps, or drop elbows that are currently used. However, with the adoption of EVR requirements, all California facilities will have up to four years to replace their equipment. The standards are intended for adaptors and elbow products certified to meet the EVR requirements. However, the changes

The energy challenge facing California is real. Every Californian needs to take immediate action to reduce energy consumption. For a list of simple ways you can reduce demand and cut your energy costs, see our Website: <http://www.arb.ca.gov>.

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made to the cam and groove dimensions of adaptors, drop elbows, and dust caps are minor and most products are already designed to the new standards.

CARB staff will test for compatibility by first starting with adaptors and then ensuring that dust caps and drop elbows fit securely and operate as designed. Please note that zero leak rate limits are required for all dust caps and all drop elbows used in gasoline dispensing facilities.

CARB staff would like to thank you for all of your efforts made to achieve this successful solution to the cam and groove issue. We believe that this problem has beset the industry for quite some time, and there is a growing recognition of the need for standardization. Your efforts have made it possible for all manufacturers to produce a product of the highest quality and will work interchangeably with various types of petroleum refueling equipment.

Should you have questions or need further information relating to the cam and groove standards for adaptors, drop elbows, or dust caps, please contact Joseph Fischer at (916) 322-8914 or Laura McKinney at (916) 327-0900.

Sincerely,

George Lew, Chief
Engineering and Certification Branch
Monitoring and Laboratory Division

cc: Prentiss Searless, American Petroleum Institute
Rosa Salcedo, Chair, CAPCOA Vapor Recovery Advisory Group

