

Portable Fuel Container Public Workshop

California Air Resources Board
Monitoring and Laboratory Division



May 18, 2004

Email Notify and Manufacturer Contacts



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Portable Fuel Containers

This page updated November 10, 2003

The ARB Portable Fuel Container regulations are an important concept in our efforts to improve air quality in California. Portable Fuel Containers (gas cans, utility jugs, etc.) are used to fill equipment such as vehicles, lawn mowers and watercraft. The goal of this program is to ensure that spillage and permeation losses are minimized or eliminated. Because of their large numbers, these containers have the potential to create a substantial amount of hydrocarbon emissions. These types of emissions create ozone-forming smog which may jeopardize public health.

Notice of Public Meeting to Consider Modifications to Existing Regulations Scheduled for November 19, 2003 in Sacramento.
[Word \(46K\)](#) or [PDF Format - \(85K\)](#) **NEW!**

October 2, 2003 Stakeholders Informational Letter [Word \(46K\)](#) or [PDF Format - \(85K\)](#) **NEW!**



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A department of the California Environmental Protection Agency

Presentation Agenda

- Review
- Residential PFC Survey Results
- Review modifications to Regulation and CP-501
- Consumer Acceptance Criteria.
- Lunch Break.
- Revised Permeation Test Method.
- First draft of Spill-Proof Spout Test Method.

Review

- Amend regulation to improve PFC definitions.
- Incorporate a Certification Program to improve compliance.
- Improve test methods to simulate real world usage.
- Provide spill-proof spouts capable of filling a greater variety of equipment and vehicles.
- Improve customer acceptance.

Residential PFC Survey Results

- Survey still in progress
- 405 of 500 residential samples gathered.
- 500 commercial samples still being gathered.
- Weighting and additional samples still needed.

Regulation Amendments

- Applicability
- Definitions
- Performance Standards & Test Procedures
- Exemptions
- Innovative Products
- Administrative Requirements
- Variances
- Compliance Testing
- Enforcement

Certification Procedure 501

- General Information & Applicability
- Certification Requirements
- Submitting an Application
- Application Review & Acceptance
- Engineering Evaluation
- Alternate Test & Inspection Procedures
- Documentation Of Certification
- Summary of Certification Process

CP-501 Consumer Acceptance

- Consumer Acceptance Concept
 - Manufacturer Scoring
 - ARB Scoring
 - Passing Score
- Criteria:

Handles

Pressure Release

Dispense Volume

Target Tank Force

Contact Surface

Fill Height

Flow Rate

Full Indicator

Instructions

A wide-angle photograph of a calm ocean under a clear blue sky. The sun is low on the horizon to the left, creating a bright, shimmering reflection on the water that transitions through colors from yellow to green to blue. The sky is a deep, clear blue with a few wispy white clouds near the horizon. The water is dark blue with gentle ripples.

Lunch Break

Permeation Test Method

- Language clarified for readability
- Introduces spout durability test

Review Method

- Applicability, Principal & Summary, Biases
- Sensitivity and Range, Equipment
- Durability Demonstration
- Precondition, Sealing, Trip Blank

Spill-Proof Spout Test Method

- Tests will be conducted using water and/or gasoline
- Leak checks
 - Initial test at atmospheric pressure
 - Intermediate tests at operating pressures
 - Final test at elevated pressure
- Liquid adhesion to surfaces is allowed
- Liquid retention within spout is not allowed
- Four different test fixtures
 - Small capacity tanks
 - Medium capacity tanks
 - Large capacity tanks
 - Automobile tanks

Manufacture Studies

- Manufacturers wishing to present in-house marketplace studies or information?

(we can accommodate)

Next PFC Workshop

- Tentatively scheduled for July 2004.
- ARB requesting manufacturers to submit findings, input or suggestions prior to workshop.

Contact Information

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