

Fuel Safety Bulletin

2010-03

Dated: April 09, 2010

Subject: Oil Tank interstitial monitoring

Recently, we have come upon a situation that has caused some confusion among Oil-Burner Technicians and contractors in the field. This item involves interstitial monitoring, as required by the B139 Code, on double bottom tanks.

We have been contacted asking whether the use of a plug or a valve constitutes "interstitial monitoring" between the bottom layers of a new outdoor oil tank.

CSA B139 Installation Code for Oil-Burning Equipment states;

- 7.5.5** A supply tank with a capacity of 2500 L (550 gal) or less, or multiple supply tanks with a total capacity of 2500 L (550 gal) but not exceeding a total capacity of 5000 L (1100 gal), shall be provided with
- (a) a secondary containment designed for outdoor use, having a capacity at least equal to that of the largest surrounded tank; or
 - (b) a double bottom with interstitial monitoring between the steel walls, unless the supply tank is a non-metallic tank in compliance with ULC ORD-C80.1.

The wording in 7.5.5(b) would indicate that this is a constant monitor within the void space. A monitor would, for instance, have to have some way to inform one if there is a leak. A simple plug or valve in the bottom of a tank's void space would not provide this level of monitoring.

For any questions regarding this Bulletin, please contact me at our Halifax offices.

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