

## **A Special Note Regarding Class C Operators at UST Facilities**

**Did you know that one-third of all reported Operator Training violations are due to a lack of trained Class C operators?**

**Did you know that although having a Class A, Class B, and a Class C operator assigned to your facility is required; Class C operator training is the only one that incurs no cost to you?**

Class C operators become qualified by receiving site-specific training on emergency procedures from either the underground storage tank owner or the Class A or Class B operator.

At a minimum, training provided by the tank owner or Class A or Class B operator must enable the Class C operator to take action in response to emergencies, such as situations posing an immediate danger or threat to the public or to the environment and that require immediate action, caused by spills or releases and alarms from an underground storage tank system. Training must include written instructions or procedures for the Class C operator to follow; the instructions should indicate who to notify in the event of an emergency. The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PA DEP) recommends all individuals working at an underground storage tank facility receive Class C operator training.

**Did you know that Class C operators must receive annual refresher training?**

Yes. It's true. While Class A and Class B operators only need to attend training once as long as facility compliance is maintained, individuals who are designated as Class C operators must receive annual refresher training. Annual refresher training should consist of, at a minimum, a review of the facility's emergency procedures to ensure contact information and storage tank components are current.

**Can your Class C operators answer the following questions?**

1. Where are the emergency procedures?
2. What do you do in the event of a fire, fuel spill, or other emergency?
3. What do you do in the event of an alarm associated with the release detection equipment?
4. Where is the automatic shut-off switch and what does it do?

**If your Class C operators cannot answer the above questions; they have not been properly trained.**

**You have sent some employees to an approved Class A and Class B operator course, and have trained your employees on emergency procedures at your facility so that they are Class C operators; how can you demonstrate compliance to the PA DEP?**

The PA DEP recommends owners of underground storage tank systems complete the following checklist to ensure compliance with Operator Training.

- A copy of the certificates of training for Class A and Class B operators shall be on file and readily available.
- The owner of an underground storage tank facility shall prepare a list of designated operators. The list must identify the current Class A, Class B and Class C operators for the underground storage tank facility.
- A Class C operator must be briefed annually on emergency procedures following initial training. An owner should have a list of Class C operators, which includes the name of the individual, date of initial training, and date of the annual refresher training.