

ET PRODUCTS TANK MAINTENANCE PROGRAM



The Benefits of a Tank Maintenance

Tank maintenance programs are not a new concept, but the need for tank maintenance programs is evolving and more important. Modern fuels are susceptible to a wide array of issues that can occur in storage, so taking steps to ensure that fuels are kept fresh and in good condition is extremely important. Moisture contamination is a constant threat that can result in operational shutdowns if not recognized and dealt with early on.

When bringing vehicles into a service department for possible mechanical failure, mechanics often initially blame fuel for the issues. Having a history of monthly fuel quality analysis is a great way to help dispel guilt and get on the faster track of finding the cause of the issue at hand.

The benefits experienced by a tank maintenance program are wide-reaching. They can go a long way in securing existing business and attract new business because of the additional advantage that you provide customers.

Moisture and Tank Maintenance

The prevention of moisture accumulation is one of the most important aspects of tank maintenance programs. Customers with fuel storage usually depend on their fuel to work properly when called upon, but they do not take the time to inspect their tanks on a regular basis. Taking a few minutes every month to make sure that there are no leaks, cracks, or other failures can go a long way in the prevention of future fuel issues.

Water enters the fuel supply chain in multiple ways including condensation, contamination during transport, leaks, and careless handling. The routine removal of this moisture prevents water accumulation and helps prevent issues such as ice formation, bacterial and fungal growth (“bugs”), oxidation, and corrosion.

All fuels contain a volume of dissolved moisture that is removed with fuel as it is burned during combustion. ET’s Moisture Control technology attaches to moisture and allows it to be burned off in the engine as regular dissolved moisture. This process prevents the formation of tank water bottoms that can lead to a variety of issues.

Basic Tank Maintenance Tips

Storage Tanks

- Use a tank maintenance additive that will prevent the accumulation of moisture and disperse and remove contaminants
- Pump out or drain moisture and contaminants at least semi-annually.
- Use desiccant vent breathers to remove water vapor from air as it enters tanks
- Understand whether tanks are level to identify where water bottoms will accumulate
- Double check fill caps and venting for leaking.
- Inspect tanks for cracks, holes, leaks, or loose fittings and caps
- Keep snow and water away from fill areas
- Sample and test fuel annually
- Use an effective biocide treatment semi-annually
- Glycol ethers (moisture control agent) act as a co-solvent for water and can help reduce water accumulation and enhance fuel's ability to hold water in solution and can help remove moisture from the entire system
- Periodically, use #2470 Pro Force Super Shine at the 1:1000 maintenance ratio to keep moisture and other contaminants at bay

Vehicle Equipment Tanks

- As you enter the cold / winter season, change your fuel filter with a new clean filter of appropriate size
- Drain off all water from water separators daily
- Make sure fuel caps fit tightly and do not leak
- Minimize condensation by topping off tanks at the end of runs.