

Spill Containment - Control of Pollution Regulations 2001

The Dilemma

Every year more than 5000 oil incidents are reported to the Environment Agency, that's nearly 14 every day!

Most incidents were caused by oil leaking from tanks either during storage or delivery. The Oil Storage Regulations will help us to stop these incidents by requiring tanks owners to provide a secondary containment facility, such as a bund or drip tray to prevent oil escaping into the water environment. Anyone storing oil in containers greater than 200 litres, above ground at an industrial, commercial or institutional site, or more than 3500 litres at a domestic site must now comply with these regulations.

Legislation

The following points are extracts taken from: www.environment-agency.gov.uk

Pollution Prevention Guidelines

Location of Storage Container

 Position tanks or take other steps to minimise the risk of damage by impact, not to be within 10 metres if a watercourse or 50 metres of a well or borehole".

Secondary Containment

- Situate all tanks and their ancillary equipment within an oil tight secondary containment system such as a bund.
- The secondary containment system should be impermeable to oil and water and there should be no direct outlet.
- Ideally, pipework should not pass through the bund wall, if unavoidable, seal the pipe into the bund with a material that is resistant to attack by the oil stored to ensure the bund remains leak-proof.
- The secondary containment system must provide storage of at least 110% of the tank's maximum capacity. If more than one container is stored, the system must be capable of storing 110% of the biggest container's capacity or 25% of the total tank capacity within the bund, whichever is greater.

Ancillary Equipment

- Make sure that any valves, filters, sight gauges, vent pipes or other ancillary equipment are situated within the secondary containment system and arranged so that any discharges of oil are contained.
- Support sight gauges properly and fit them with a valve that will close automatically when not in use.
- When a fill pipe is outside the containment system, use a drip tray to catch any oil spilled during delivery.
- Fit an automatic overfill prevention device if the tank and any vent pipe cannot be seen by the person controlling the delivery.
- · Support all pipework properly.

How Sui Generis Can Help

Bund Lining

A GRP lining will completely and seamlessly seal the bund as it is unaffected by settlement of hairline cracks and remains maintenance free for up to 20 years. Once internal wall and floor surfaces are prepared a suitable GRP lining is then selected and applied on site by our highly skilled workforce.

Standard Bunds

Quick and easy to install, available in a range of sizes and capacities, the one piece moulded GRP units are a more viable long term solution to traditional block or brick on concrete built bunds.

Tank Bunds

A low cost versatile spill containment facility suitable for liquid storage of up to 2000 litres. It can be re-sited easily and additional supports are available.

IBC Bunds and Spill Pallets

This is suitable for 1000-1500 litre IBC units for use across all industrial sectors. It can support one or two IBC units and special facilities can be added.

Bund Water Control Unit

Developed to remove rainwater from bunded areas designed to contain oil. Once water is detected it automatically activates a submersible pump to remove only the unwanted clean water.

Custom Built Bunds

Tailor made to your exact requirements, our one piece moulded custom built bunds are more economical than you might think.



Bund Lining



Standard Bunds



Tank Bunds



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Bund Water Control Unit



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Oil Storage Safety Checklist

The following checklist is based on the requirements laid down in the Control of Pollution (Oil Storage) (England) Regulations 2001. These regulations apply to businesses based in England only, but are considered to be 'good practice' for those based in Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland. The requirements relate to the storage of oil above ground, in containers and fixed storage, but not in buildings.

The	Storage	Yes	No
1.	Are the tanks, drums or containers strong enough to hold the oil without leaking or bursting?		
2.	Is any bund capable of containing 110% of the capacity of oil container?		
3.	If there's more than one container, is the bund capable of storing 110% of the largest tank or 25% of the total storage capacity, whichever is greater?		
4.	Is the base of the bund impermeable to water and oil?		
5.	Are the walls impermeable to water and oil?		
6.	Are both the walls and base of the bund regularly checked for leaks?		
7.	Have you ensured that the base and walls aren't penetrated by any pipe or opening, which is used for draining the system?		
8.	If any fill pipe or draw-off pipe penetrates the base or any of its walls, has the fitting point been sealed to prevent oil escaping from the system?		
9.	Are all the valves, taps and vent pipes etc. located within the spill containment area?		
10.	If a fill pipe isn't within the secondary containment system, has a drip tray been provided to catch any oil spills when being filled?		
11.	If so, is it regularly inspected, cleaned, maintained and in good condition?		
12.	Have you ensured that any equipment such as sight gauges, valves or filters are stored within the bund when not in use?		



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Fixe	d Storage Tanks			
This applies to oil delivered from the tank via a permanently attached flexible pipe.				
1.	Are sight gauges properly supported and fitted with a valve which must be closed automatically when not in use?			
2.	Has any fill pipe, draw-off pipe or overflow pipe been positioned so as to minimise any risk of impact damage?			
3.	If you can't see the tank and any vent pipe during filling, has an automatic overfill prevention device been fittedto the tank?			
4.	Has the pipe been fitted at the delivery end with a tap or valve that closes automatically when not in use?			
5.	If not, have arrangements been made for the pipe to be adapted to do so?			
6.	Has the pipe been fitted with an automatic shut-off device so it can't accidentally be left in the 'open position'?			
7.	If not, have arrangements been made for the pipe to be fitted with an automatic hut-off device?			
8.	Has any pump been fitted with a non-return valve in its feed line?			
9.	Is the pipe work regularly inspected, cleaned, maintained and in good condition?			
10.	Has any pump been protected from unauthorised use?			
Location		Yes	No	
1.	Is the oil storage positioned well away from any vehicles?			
2.	If not, can it be relocated without incurring unacceptably high costs?			
3.	If not, have vehicle movements been minimised?			
4.	If necessary, have speed restriction been introduced?			
5.	Have crash barriers been placed near to the storage area?			