



**Ohio Department of Commerce**  
**Division of State Fire Marshal**  
**Bureau of Underground Storage Tank Regulations**  
8895 East Main Street  
Reynoldsburg, OH 43068  
(614) 752-8200 FAX (614) 752-7213  
www.com.state.oh.us

**Bob Taft**  
Governor

**Doug White**  
Director

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## ***Important Advisory From BUSTR***

March 23, 2006

To UST owners and operators;

Recent federal legislation now requires Ohio to perform on-site inspections of registered UST systems at least once every three years (this legislation is the Energy Policy Act signed into law on August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2005). Because of this change you should expect a visit from an inspector from the State Fire Marshal, Bureau of Underground Storage Tank Regulations (BUSTR) sometime in the next 3 years. It is also possible that inspectors from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) may perform compliance inspections of UST systems in Ohio.

To prepare for these compliance inspections, pay particular attention to the following:

1. Ensure your registration with the State Fire Marshal, BUSTR is current and up to date. Have a copy of your registration certificate available for inspection, preferably on-site but an off site location is sufficient if you can get a copy of it to the inspector within 24 hours. You may contact the State Fire Marshal, Bureau of Testing and Registration at (877) 264-0023 or at (614) 752-7126 for calls outside Ohio if you have questions concerning your registration and fees due.
2. Ensure you have a valid certificate of coverage from the Ohio Petroleum UST Release Compensation Board (PUSTRCB). Please note that BUSTR and PUSTRCB are separate organizations! The certificate of coverage must be available for inspection, preferably on-site.
3. The BUSTR inspectors will inspect your spill buckets and your submersible pump and dispenser sumps to ensure they are undamaged and clear of debris. Whatever type of equipment you have designed to prevent overfills during fuel delivery will also be inspected for proper operation.
4. If your tank is constructed of metal, you need to be able to demonstrate that your method of corrosion protection is working. Corrosion protection can include sacrificial anodes, impressed current systems or internal lining (lining for the purpose of corrosion protection is not approved for new tank systems but is still used in some older systems). The inspection and testing requirements depend on what type of system you have. You may find the details in the BUSTR rules (Rule 8, "Operation and Maintenance Requirements for UST systems" - section C) or in our UST Compliance Guidance Document. Again, have your records available.
5. You need to inspect your leak detection system at least once a month to confirm your system has produced a passing result. The most commonly used leak detection systems are automatic tank gauging (ATG) systems or interstitial monitoring for double walled tanks. BUSTR inspectors will look for monthly leak detection records going back 2 calendar years.

6. Automatic line leak detectors must be tested annually to ensure they are working properly. The method of testing varies depending on the type of system you have. Underground pressurized piping must also be tested annually using a tightness test to ensure it is not leaking. UST systems equipped with on-site electronic testing units capable of detecting a two-tenth gallon per hour leak rate at operating pressure may substitute records of these tests for the tightness test *if a passing result is available for all 12 months*.
7. The Fire Marshal now requires a form to be completed and signed by the UST owner or operator called the "BUSTR Operational Compliance Form". The purpose of this form is so the UST owner or operator can attest in writing that they understand the requirements that apply to their UST system and that these requirements have been completed over the past year. *You do not need to return this form to BUSTR*. Have the completed form available for inspection, preferably on-site. If you do not already have a copy of this form, you can get one from us.

Please note that this list is not inclusive and UST owners and operators are required to comply with all of the BUSTR rules (Ohio Administrative Code, rule 1301:7-9). This is merely a listing of the most common violations noted by the BUSTR field inspectors.

Copies of the BUSTR rules, UST Compliance Guidance Document, and the BUSTR Operational Compliance Form are available at the BUSTR web site (<http://www.com.state.oh.us/sfm/bust/>). You may also obtain a hard copy of these documents by contacting BUSTR at 1-800-686-2878 or 614-752-7938 for out of state callers. We may charge a small fee to cover publishing costs.

Sincerely;

Peter A. Chace  
Chief, BUSTR