

Note:

Installers must be certified by the New Mexico  
Petroleum Storage Tank Bureau as required in Part 14  
NMAC 20.5

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**INSTALLATION  
GUIDELINES FOR  
ABOVE GROUND  
STORAGE TANK  
SYSTEMS**

New Mexico  
Environment Department  
Petroleum Storage Tank Bureau  
2044 Galisteo Street  
Santa Fe, NM 87504

### **Physical Location for AST Systems:**

1. First and foremost make sure ASTs may be constructed at the location you have selected. Contact the local Fire Department and City-Building officials for local codes.
2. Determine if you have adequate set back from property lines, streets and buildings.
3. Submit a facility site and equipment plan to the NM PSTB 30 days prior to beginning any installation.

### **Installation:**

1. USTs cannot be used for above ground use unless the manufacturer, a professional engineer, or an AST certified inspector has certified them for above ground use, Section C 20.5.405 NMAC.
2. Use a NMPSTB Certified Installer.
3. Provide project drawings and install ASTs and piping in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and the current edition of an industry standard or code approved in advance by the PSTB.
4. Owners shall properly design, construct, install and initially test each tank and piping in accordance with the current edition of a Nationally accepted Industry Code or Standard of Practice approved in advance by the PSTB
5. Foundations and supports must meet the minimum allowable bearing-pressure of the soil for the site soil conditions. This shall be determined by an Engineer for each individual site.
6. All ASTs shall be UL or SWRI Listed or be constructed according to API 650 Standards.
7. As of August 15, 2003, all New AST Installations shall meet NMAC 20.5.4.401 Performance Standards.

### **Security:**

1. Owners shall ensure ASTs and all related equipment are secure from physical damage and or vandalism with the use of guard-posts and fencing as necessary.
2. Provide lockable valves to prevent accidental releases.

### **Corrosion Prevention:**

1. Owners shall submit corrosion prevention plan for all AST systems installed after August 15, 2003 and by August 15, 2004 for existing AST systems

### **Pressurized Dispensing Systems:**

1. AST systems using turbine pumps shall be equipped with line leak detection capable of operating as designed for each individual application.
2. AST located at an elevation so as to produce a gravity head on the dispenser or piping shall be equipped with a solenoid valve, which meets the requirements of a current edition of an Industry Code or Standard and accepted by the NMPSTB prior to installation.
3. Only steel piping shall be used for above ground use and must be compatible with the substances being conveyed. Above ground piping must be protected from damage caused by impact, settlement, vibration and corrosion. Piping at marinas must be protected from fire, expansion and stress caused by tidal action.
4. Piping at marinas must be equipped with a breakaway valve at all shore to marina connections.

### **Suction Systems:**

1. Suction Systems must be equipped with an anti-siphon valve and or an internal check valve, as determined by individual application for each site.
2. Suction pumps shall have pressure relief valves installed when connected to an AST.
3. All pumps and dispensers shall use flexible connectors to connect piping except when pump is installed on top of the AST.

### **Secondary Containment Requirements:**

New AST installations must meet the secondary containment requirements by August 15, 2003 and existing ASTs must comply by July 1, 2011. These requirements include:

1. Double-wall tanks and piping may be used as secondary containment.
2. Secondary containment must contain 110% of the volume of the largest tank in the containment area plus the area displaced by the other tanks.
3. Steel, concrete or a geo-synthetic material is accepted by the PSTB for secondary containment.
4. Vaults that are in compliance with Subsection F of 20.5.401 NMAC may be used to meet the secondary containment requirements.

### **Spill and Overfill Protection:**

Spill and overfill protection are required by August 15, 2004 for existing AST systems. New installations must meet the current requirement upon installation.

1. Spill containment buckets; overfill alarms, visible or electronic gauging system and remote fill systems.

### **Miscellaneous Information :**

1. Dispenser containment sumps are required by July 1, 2011 for existing AST systems.