

## Underground Storage Tank Dispenser Containment

Even small releases from underground storage tank (UST) systems — for example, those that occur when changing filters — can lead to significant environmental contamination. Under-dispenser containment is a liquid-tight structure that can take the form of a pan or a sump. Its function is to keep product released by dispenser components, whether from accidental damage, maintenance, or failure, from being released into the environment.

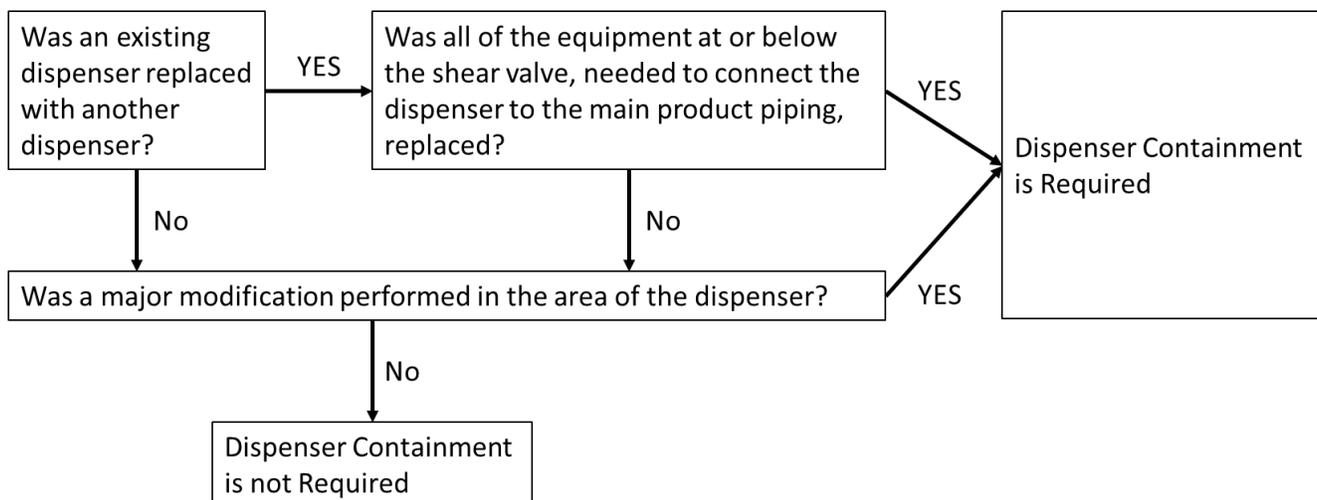
Amendments to the UST Regulations, effective on November 10, 2007, require placing containment under petroleum dispensers attached to underground storage tank systems. See 25 Pa. Code, Chapter 245, Sections 245.421 and 245.422 (relating to performance standards for underground storage tank systems and upgrading existing underground storage tank systems). Beginning on December 22, 2018, all containment structures used for interstitial monitoring of UST systems must be tightness tested every three years.

### Effective November 10, 2007, dispenser containment is required:

- Under each dispenser of a new or replacement UST system.
- Under each new dispenser added to an existing UST system.
- Under an existing dispenser when more than 50 percent of the existing piping that routinely contains and conveys product from the tank is replaced.
- Under an existing dispenser when the dispenser is replaced with another dispenser and all equipment at or below the shear valve needed to connect the dispenser to the UST system’s main product piping is replaced.
- Under an existing dispenser when a major modification is performed in the area of the dispenser involving excavation beneath the dispenser.

Under-dispenser containment is not required on UST systems installed before November 10, 2007, unless one of the above activities is performed on the UST system.

The flowchart below describes the conditions under which dispenser containment must be installed.



Newly installed or repaired containment must be tested to ensure it is liquid-tight. For additional information on containment testing, see Fact Sheet 2630-FS-DEP4176 “Containment Testing for Underground Storage Tanks (USTs).”

Storage tank system components can sometimes provide more than one function. Secondary containment is a layer of material that surrounds the storage tank and/or product piping and permits a release to be contained and detected. Under-dispenser containment may be part of a secondary containment system used for piping release detection. When a storage tank system uses interstitial monitoring for piping release detection — as is required on new USTs, see Fact Sheet 2630-FS-DEP1507, “How to Detect Releases in Underground Piping Systems” — the secondary containment must enclose all of the underground piping up to the shear valve. Secondary containment structures used for interstitial monitoring must be tested for liquid tightness every three years.

Some UST systems may have a consumer-style dispenser installed. This style dispenser looks like a pump motor on a stick with a hose attached. It has no framework supporting the dispenser and no sheet metal surrounding it to keep rain out of a standard pan or sump. For this style dispenser, a concrete pad surrounding the dispenser support (riser) pipe and extending approximately two feet in each direction can act as under-dispenser containment.

For more information, visit [www.dep.pa.gov](http://www.dep.pa.gov), Businesses > Land > Storage Tanks.