

STORAGE TANK COMPANY CERTIFICATION

Why must a company be certified by the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)?

The Pennsylvania Storage Tank and Spill Prevention Act (Act 32 of 1989) and DEP regulations have established a certification program for installers and inspectors of aboveground and underground storage tanks. The regulations require all companies that conduct storage tank handling or inspection activities to be certified by DEP. The regulations also make it unlawful to perform tank handling, testing, or inspection activities as an employee of a noncertified company.

How is a company certified?

Applications for certification are available electronically on the DEP website, in all DEP regional offices or by contacting the storage tank program's central office at 717-772-5599. An instructional guidance document accompanies the application. Completed applications are submitted to the central office for review. DEP will determine if a company applying for certification meets all the requirements of Act 32 and the regulations.

How will a company renew or amend its certification?

A company's certification is valid for three years from the date of issuance unless DEP suspends, revokes or otherwise invalidates the certification prior to the renewal date. A renewal application must be submitted to DEP at least 60 days prior to the renewal date. Any change to company certification information must be reported to DEP within 14 days of the effective date of the change.

Additional information on both renewal and amendment requirements are provided in the instructional guidance that accompanies the certification application. The forms are available electronically on the DEP website, at DEP regional offices, and at DEP central office.

Must a certified company employ a certified installer or certified inspector?

Yes. Not only must the company itself be certified, but one or more of its employees must also be a certified installer and/or inspector, depending upon the types of activities the company conducts. The company may have noncertified employees, but any tank handling and inspecting activities conducted by noncertified employees must be supervised by the certified employee who assumes all responsibilities.

Must a company be certified if the company subcontracts with a certified company?

No. If a company subcontracts with an appropriate certified company to do the tank handling activity and does not employ the certified individual who is in direct supervision of the project, the company does not need to be certified. The company that employs the certified individual must be certified.

Must a certified company ensure that its employees have had adequate safety training?

Yes. A certified company is responsible for employees having appropriate safety training for the activities they perform. Companies shall adhere to health and safety procedures, such as those required by the Federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH).

For additional information on Pennsylvania's Storage Tank Program or to obtain forms, contact:

<p>Southeast Region 2 East Main St. Norristown, PA 19401-4915 484-250-5900 Counties: Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, and Philadelphia</p>	<p>Northeast Region 2 Public Square Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701-1915 570-826-2511 Counties: Carbon, Lackawanna, Lehigh, Luzerne, Monroe, Northampton, Pike, Schuylkill, Susquehanna, Wayne, and Wyoming</p>
<p>Southcentral Region 909 Elmerton Ave. Harrisburg, PA 17110-8200 717-705-4705 Counties: Adams, Bedford, Berks, Blair, Cumberland, Dauphin, Franklin, Fulton, Huntingdon, Juniata, Lancaster, Lebanon, Mifflin, Perry, and York</p>	<p>Northcentral Region 208 W. Third St., Suite 101 Williamsport, PA 17701-6448 570-327-3636 Counties: Bradford, Cameron, Clearfield, Centre, Clinton, Columbia, Lycoming, Montour, Northumberland, Potter, Snyder, Sullivan, Tioga, and Union</p>
<p>Southwest Region 400 Waterfront Drive Pittsburgh, PA 15222-4745 412-442-4000 Counties: Allegheny, Beaver, Cambria, Fayette, Greene, Somerset, Washington, and Westmoreland</p>	<p>Northwest Region 230 Chestnut St. Meadville, PA 16335-3481 814-332-6648 Counties: Armstrong, Butler, Clarion, Crawford, Elk, Erie, Forest, Indiana, Jefferson, Lawrence, McKean, Mercer, Venango, and Warren</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Central Office Bureau of Environmental Cleanup and Brownfields Division of Storage Tanks P.O. Box 8762 Harrisburg, PA 17105-8762 800-42-TANKS (in PA) or 717-772-5599</p>	

For more information, visit www.dep.pa.gov, Businesses > Land > Storage Tanks.