Product Quality in Light Product Storage and Handling Operations

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Product Quality in Light Product Storage and Handling Operations

1 General

1.1 Scope and Purpose

This recommended practice (RP) is intended to provide guidance on the minimum equipment standards and operating procedures for the receipt, storage blending and delivery of non-aviation light products, their blend components, and additives at distribution and intermediate storage terminals, including related operations of pipeline, marine vessel (barge or ship) and road and rail transport.

This publication recognizes the variety of conditions and the means to address product quality. Thus, this publication is intended to provide recommended practices, rather than set rigid guidelines. However, to demonstrate that site has addressed variances to the recommended practices, a documented risk assessment shall be created. It is up to the organization what form the risk assessment may take.

Users of this publication should be aware that due consideration shall be given to the effect of any unusual or abnormal circumstance on which it is not possible to generalize within the scope of this publication. Specialist advice shall be sought in these cases.

This publication should assist those involved in fuel handling at distribution and intermediate storage facilities. Every effort has been made by API to assure the accuracy and reliability of the data contained in this publication; however, API makes no representation, warranty, or guarantee in connection with this publication and hereby expressly disclaims any liability or responsibility for loss or damage resulting from its use or for the violation of any local or regional laws or regulations with which this publication may conflict.

This RP is intended to provide guidance on the minimum equipment standards and operating procedures for the receipt, storage, blending of light products, including but not limited to gasoline, kerosene, diesel, heating oil and their blend components (i.e. ethanol, biodiesel/FAME, and butane) at distribution and storage terminals, as well as light product shipments directly via a pipeline, marine vessel (barge or ship) or road and rail transport.

In addition, this RP provides guidance for the design, construction, operation and maintenance of light products storage and distribution terminals with the specific intent of protecting or ensuring product quality.

This document incorporates by reference several other standards and recommended practices. The distinction between mandatory, recommended, and optional provisions in the referenced documents is not changed by nature of their reference in this standard.

The values stated in this RP are International Units (SI); U.S. Customary (USC) units are in parentheses.

1.2 Non-applicability

This document is not intended to cover fuels addressed in other applicable documents (i.e. aviation fuels) covered under API 1595 or EI/JIG Standard 1530.

This RP does not cover intermediate or residual fuels (i.e. bunker fuels, #4 oils and #6 oils).

The design and construction provisions of this standard are intended for application at new facilities. Application of the design and construction provisions of this standard to facilities, equipment, structures, or installations that are already in place, that are in the process of construction or that are installed before the date of this publication should be evaluated when circumstances merit. Such an evaluation should consider the site-specific circumstances and detailed accounting for both the potential and tolerance for risk, existing conditions at the installation, and overall benefit for applying the required design and construction provisions.