UL 75

Outline of Investigation for Portable Containers and Tanks for Flammable and/or Combustible Liquids

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Summary of Topics:

This is the Second Issue of UL 75, Outline of Investigation for Portable Containers and Tanks for Flammable and/or Combustible Liquids, dated March 13, 2026. It includes revisions to Gauge Requirements: 1.1(c), 5.2, 5.4, and 17.1(d).

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INTRODUCTION

1 Scope

1.1 These requirements cover small aboveground portable steel containers and tanks which are intended for temporary storage, limited transport, and transfer or dispensing of specific liquid classes or types typically used in commercial applications. The basic types of portable containment products with summary of their intended applications and unique features are:

a) Portable Collection Containers for Used Motor Oil are vessels up to 60 gallons with single compartments, and are provided with at least two wheels and (depending on capacity), attachments for hand pulling or machine towing, and a means to transfer liquids via hose by pumps powered by hand or battery. These products are intended for only motor oils or similar Class IIIB liquids, and are intended for attended use by trained employees at businesses licensed for oil collection. These products are not intended for vehicle transport, outdoor storage, or use as hand-held fuel cans, safety cans or special-purpose containers that have different applications and/or liquid ratings;

b) Portable Dispensing Containers are vessels up to 60 gallons with single compartments, and are provided with at least two wheels, attachments for transport, and a means to transfer liquids via hose by gravity feed or hand pump. These products are intended for general use fuels or similar liquids, and are rated for either flammable and combustible liquids or only combustible liquids. These products are not intended for vehicle transport, outdoor storage, or use as hand-held fuel cans, safety cans, special-purpose containers, or portable transfer tanks that have different applications and/or liquid ratings; and

c) Portable Transfer Tanks are vessels 60 to 1100 gallons with one or more compartments, and are provided with three or more wheels, attachments for transport, and a means to transfer liquids via hose by gravity feed or hand pump. These products are intended for general use fuels or similar liquids, and are rated for either flammable and combustible liquids or only combustible liquids. These products may be pulled by machines, but are not intended for transport on public roads, in vehicles, or for use as mobile fuel dispensing tanks that have different applications and/or liquid ratings.

1.2 These portable containment products are atmospheric types that are not intended to be pressurized, but may be constructed in any shape or orientation with multiple functional openings, and have additional features or accessory options, such as strainers/filters, collector funnels, hose assemblies, control valves, level gauges, etc., are described in this Outline.

1.3 These portable containment products are intended to be used in accordance with Flammable and Combustible Liquids Code, NFPA 30, Code for Motor Fuel Dispensing Facilities and Repair Garages, NFPA 30A, and the manufacturer's instructions.

1.4 These portable container products differ from hand held portable containers of 6.6 gallons or less covered by ASTM F852 or ASTM F976, Specifications for consumer type portable fuel cans, UL 30 or UL 1313 for safety cans, or UL 1314 for special purpose metal containers.

1.5 These portable containment products differ from special purpose tanks covered by UL 142A, which are intended for larger fixed or stationary tanks with specific use applications and construction features for limited flammable or combustible liquids.

1.6 These portable tank products differ from general use tanks covered by UL 142, which are intended for larger fixed or stationary tanks with a wider range of use applications for more flammable and combustible liquids.

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1.7 The “general use” fuel and oil terms referenced in this Outline are intended to be those which are commercially dispensed or available, and which meet a recognized industry specification, such as ASTM or SAE. The “other similar” fuels and oils terms are intended to cover those with similar chemical property and compatibility characteristics to general use types.

1.8 These requirements cover only the accessories, components and features specifically identified in this Outline. Any other accessories or components that are separately shipped or added after manufacture are not included in the scope of the product evaluation. It is expected that an AHJ will approve this product prior to use.

2 General

2.1 Units of measurement

2.1.1 Values stated without parentheses are the requirement. Values in parentheses are explanatory or approximate information.

2.2 Undated references

2.2.1 Any undated reference to a code or standard appearing in the requirements of this Outline shall be interpreted as referring to the latest edition of that code or standard.

3 Glossary

3.1 For the purpose of this Outline, the following definitions apply.

3.2 ATMOSPHERIC – A container or tank that has been designed to operate at pressures from minus 0.5 psig to 1.0 psig (minus 3.4 kPa to 6.9 kPa) at the top of the tank.

3.3 GENERAL USE FUELS – Various flammable or combustible liquid which are commercially available as an energy source for spark ignition or compression ignition engines, generators, turbines, heaters, or similar equipment; and meet appropriate ASTM Fuel Specifications, such as:

a) GASOLINE – General description of various Flammable Class I petroleum distillates and alcohol blends compliant with ASTM D4814 or ASTM D5798 in a range of E0 to E83 typically used in spark ignition engines.

b) DIESEL – General description of various Combustible Class II petroleum distillates and biodiesel blends compliant with ASTM D975 or ASTM D7467 in a range of B0 to B20 typically used in compression ignition engines.

c) FUEL OIL/HEATING OIL – General description of various Combustible Class II petroleum distillates and biodiesel compliant with ASTM D396 in a range of B0-B5 typically used in heating equipment.

d) KEROSENE – General description of various Combustible Class II petroleum distillates compliant with ASTM D3699 typically used in cooking, heating, lighting or similar equipment.

e) TURBINE OIL – General description of various Combustible Class II petroleum distillates compliant with ASTM D2880 typically used in turbine type engines or generators.

3.4 GENERAL USE OILS – Various combustible liquid which are commercially available as a lubricating oil or working fluid for engines, machines, or similar equipment; and meet appropriate SAE or similar specifications, such as:

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a) MOTOR OIL/LUBE OIL – General description of various Class IIIB petroleum distillate or synthetic type oils with higher viscosity typically used as lubricants in engines or machinery applications.

b) HYDRAULIC OIL/TRANSMISSION OIL – General description of various Class IIIB petroleum distillate or synthetic type lower viscosity oils typically used as working fluids in engine or machinery applications.

c) UNUSED OILS – General description of Class IIIB motor, lube, hydraulic, transmission or similar oils that have not been transferred to motor vehicles, engines or machinery, and do not adversely affect the tank.

d) USED OILS – General description of Class IIIB motor, lube, hydraulic, transmission or similar oils drained from motor vehicles, engines or machinery after use, that may contain small amounts of contaminants, but do not adversely affect the tank.

3.5 SIMILAR LIQUIDS – Other stable flammable or combustible liquid with chemical properties similar to the general use fuels and general use oils identified, and having generally-accepted chemical compatibility with the materials used in these products, such as special fuels (aviation gas, jet fuel, marine fuel, white gas, etc.), alcohols and solvents (methanol, ethanol, acetone, ketone, turpentine, etc.), petroleum derivatives (hexane, heptane, toluene, naptha, iso-octane, etc.) or oils (machine, cutting, mineral, etc.).

CONSTRUCTION

4 General Construction Requirements – All Portable Containment Products

4.1 The liquid storage vessel and all structural parts of portable containment products shall be constructed of steel. Joints for vessels shall be welded to be liquid tight. Joints for structural parts shall be welded, bolted or connected by equivalent means. All welds shall be full penetration types and meet the strength requirements in accordance with the applicable performance tests.

4.2 The liquid storage vessel is permitted to be of any size, shape, and may be formed from multiple pieces. However, the rated/marked capacity shall not exceed 95 % of the actual capacity, and the actual capacity shall not exceed the capacity limits for each different containment product types in Table 4.1.

Table 4.1
Maximum Capacity and Minimum Thickness of Liquid Storage Vessels

Minimum steel thickness, in (mm) (nom ga)	Collection Containers, gal (L) Max 60 gal (227 L)	Dispensing Containers, gal (L) Max 60 gal (227 L)	Transfer Tanks, gal (L) Max 1100 gal (4164 L)
0.045 in (1.14 mm) (nom 18 ga)	≤25 gal (95 L)		
0.056 in (1.42 mm) (nom 16 ga)	26 – 60 gal (98 – 227 L)	≤25 gal (95 L)	
0.072 in (1.82 mm) (nom 14 ga)		26 – 60 gal (98 – 227 L)	≤60 gal (227 L)
0.093 in (2.36 mm) (nom 12 ga)			61 – 330 gal (230 – 1250 L)
0.123 in (3.12 mm) (nom 10 ga)			331 – 660 gal (1253 – 2498 L)
0.167 in (4.24 mm) (nom 7 ga)			661 – 1100 gal (2502 – 4164 L)

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