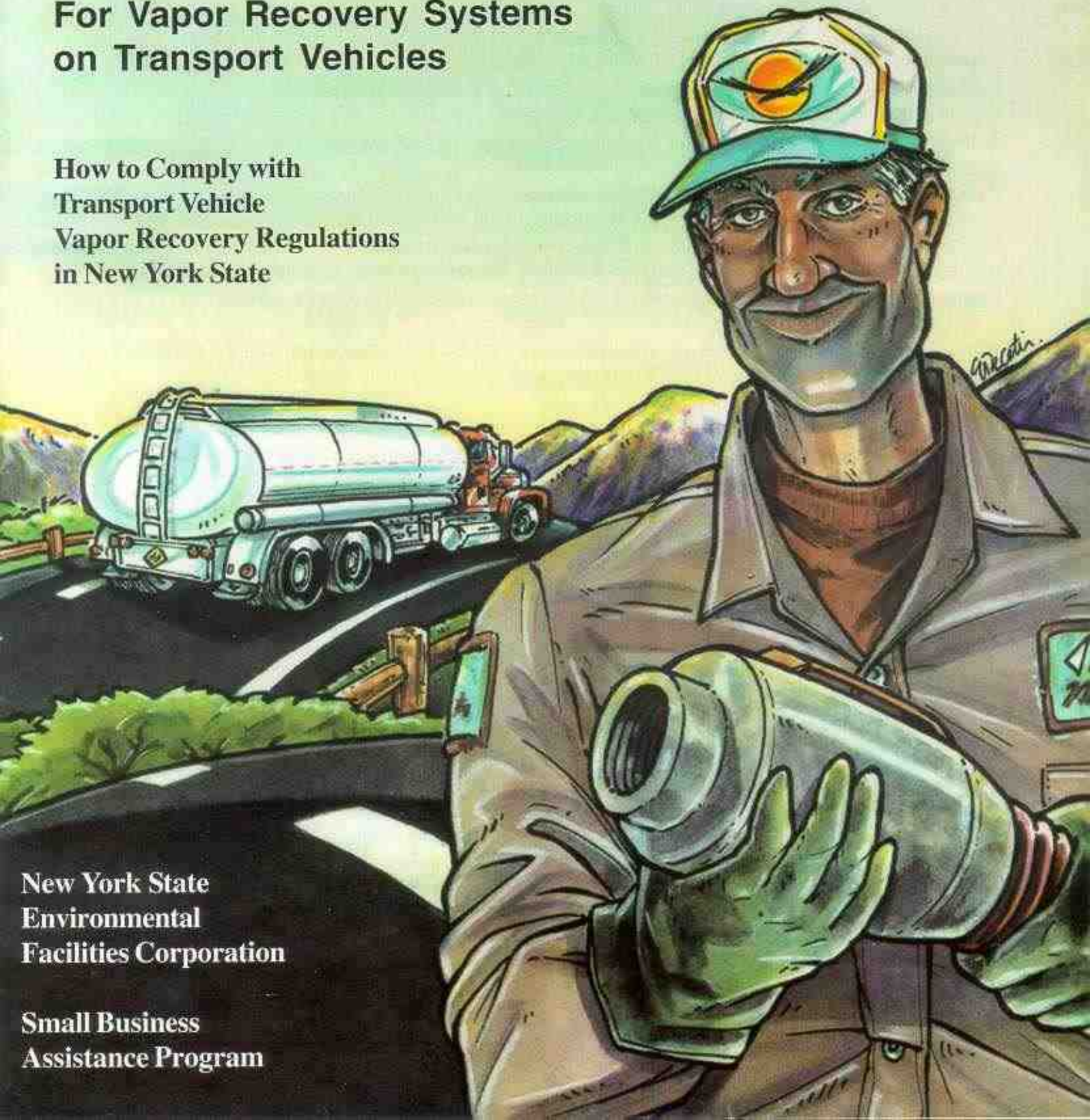


# Gasoline Transport Vehicles

## Self-Inspection Handbook

For Vapor Recovery Systems  
on Transport Vehicles

How to Comply with  
Transport Vehicle  
Vapor Recovery Regulations  
in New York State



New York State  
Environmental  
Facilities Corporation

Small Business  
Assistance Program

## Introduction...

The gasoline carried in your transport vehicle is a source of volatile organic compound (VOC) emissions. VOCs react in the presence of sunlight to create ozone.

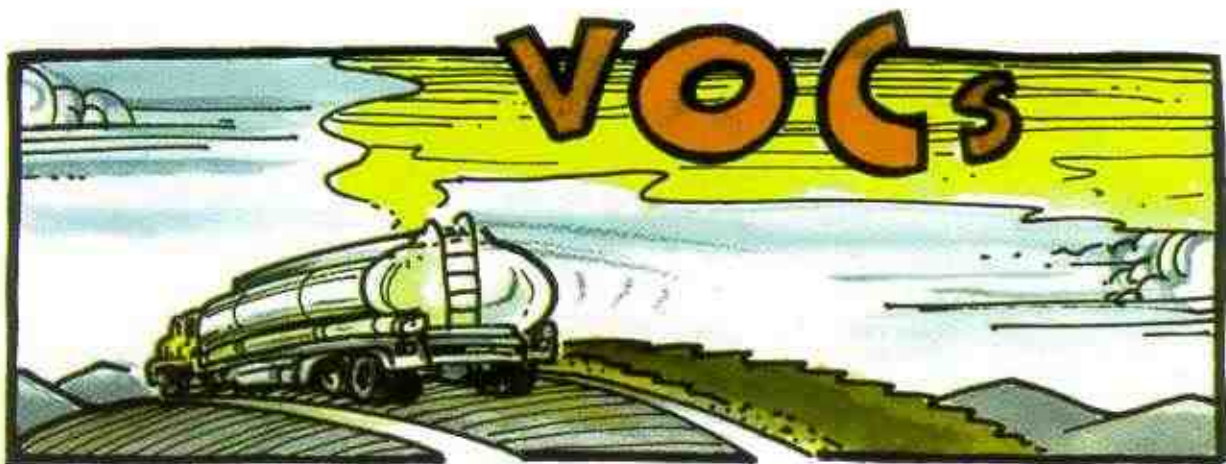
Ozone, the major ingredient of SMOG, aggravates heart and respiratory illnesses and may contribute to the development of various diseases including bronchitis and emphysema. Benzene, a part of VOC emissions from gasoline, is a cancer causing substance.

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) requires vapor control systems on gasoline transport vehicles (tanker trucks) to control the air emissions associated with loading and unloading gasoline at gasoline terminals and gasoline dispensing sites (gas stations). These vapor recovery systems are regulated by Part 230, "Gasoline Dispensing Sites and Transport Vehicles." The regulation does not apply to the transport of diesel fuel and heating oil.

If your vapor recovery equipment is not maintained or used improperly, gasoline vapors from your transport vehicle will escape into the air, endangering the health and well-being of people and the environment. Transport vehicles that release gasoline vapors violate state, federal and local regulations. Such violations may result in penalties. **A leaking vapor recovery system also increases the fire hazard associated with transporting and transferring gasoline.**

Your effort to stay in compliance with regulations can reduce fire hazards and make a significant impact in reducing the effects of SMOG and benzene exposure in our state.

**You can help control the emissions from your transport vehicle and stay in compliance with requirements by reading and implementing the information in this handbook!**





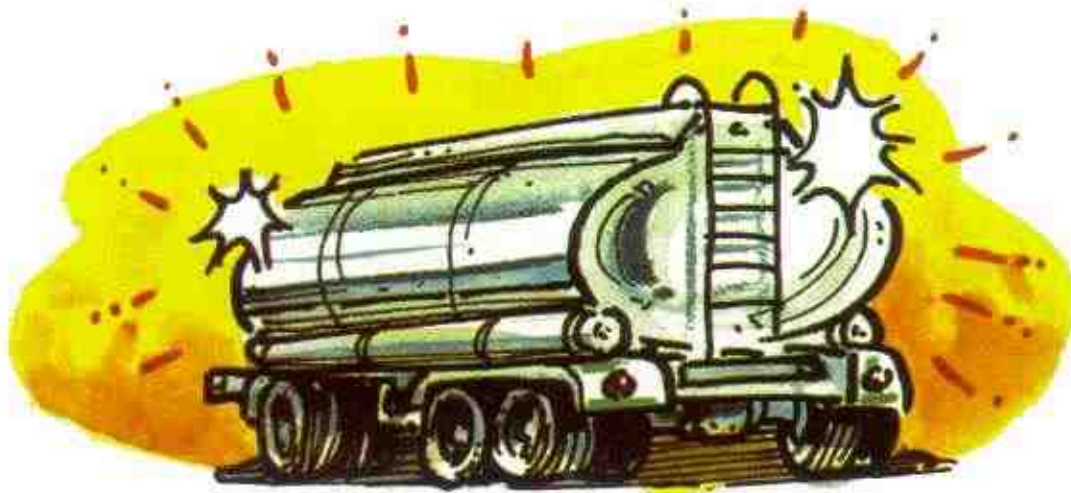
## How to Certify Your Gasoline Transport Vehicle

### Certification Requirements

To certify you must test your gasoline transport vehicle annually and demonstrate that the tanker is vapor-tight. This test requires pressure decay and vacuum leaks to be measured and compared to the pressure change standard. After passing the pressure/vacuum tests, the vehicle must display the following marking near the U.S. Department of Transportation certificate plate: NYSDEC and the date on which the transport vehicle was last tested. If the vehicle fails the pressure/vacuum test, it must be repaired and retested. The vehicle must be repaired within 15 days or taken out of service. The owner of the transport vehicle must maintain records of the pressure/vacuum testing and the nature of any repairs that were needed to pass the certification test.

You cannot legally operate your transport vehicle unless it is certified and maintained in accordance with regulatory requirements.

Remember, the certificate must be kept with the transport vehicle at all times. If the owner/operator is found without the certificate, a Notice of Violation (NOV) will be issued and penalties may be assessed.



If your gasoline tanker marginally passes the annual test, it may indicate worn gaskets, gasket seats and/or pressure vacuum vents.

## Regulatory Standards

Transport vehicles with vapor recovery equipment must pass the leak pressure change standards in the annual certification test. The standards for these tests are shown in the table below.

The pressure change values in the table are not to be exceeded under the conditions given.

Test	Pressure Change (inches of water)	Time (minutes)	Pressurization (inches of water)
Pressure decay	3	5	18
Vacuum	3	5	6*

\* Evacuation

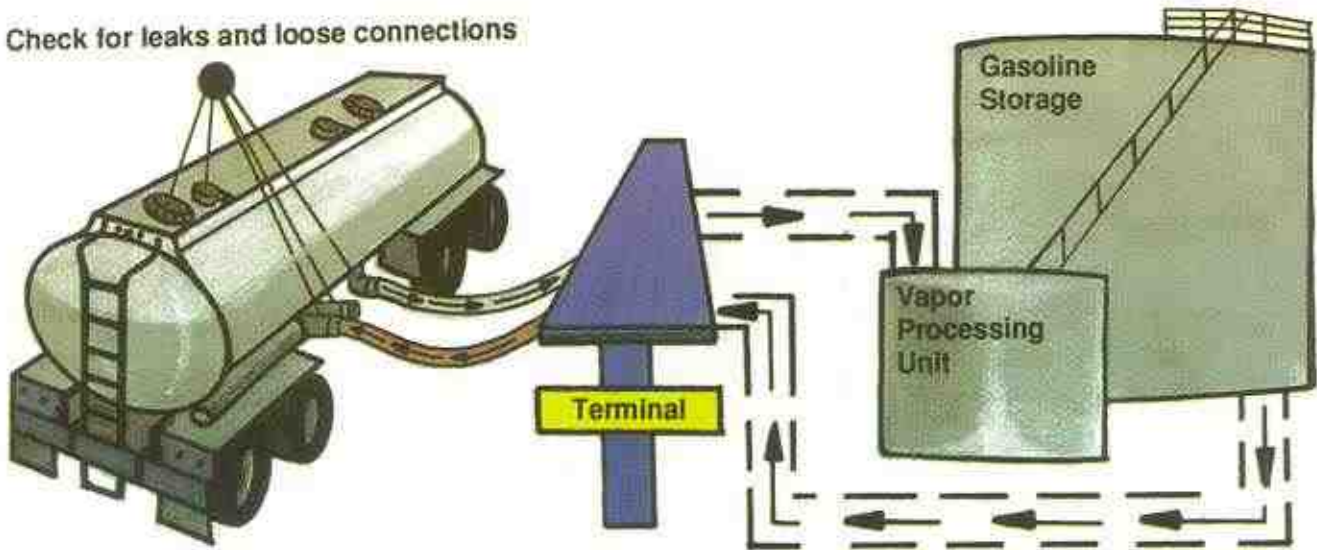
Your existing vehicle maintenance shop can perform the testing as long as the correct procedures are followed and properly documented.

EPA Test Method 27, **Determination of Vapor Tightness of Gasoline Delivery Tank Using Pressure/Vacuum Test**, is the recommended test procedure to demonstrate compliance with the DEC requirements.

The DEC conducts random inspections using a combustible gas detector to determine compliance with the standards.

The vapor return hose must be attached during the testing. Liquid delivery hoses may either be attached, or visibly inspected for leaks or cracks.

Check for leaks and loose connections



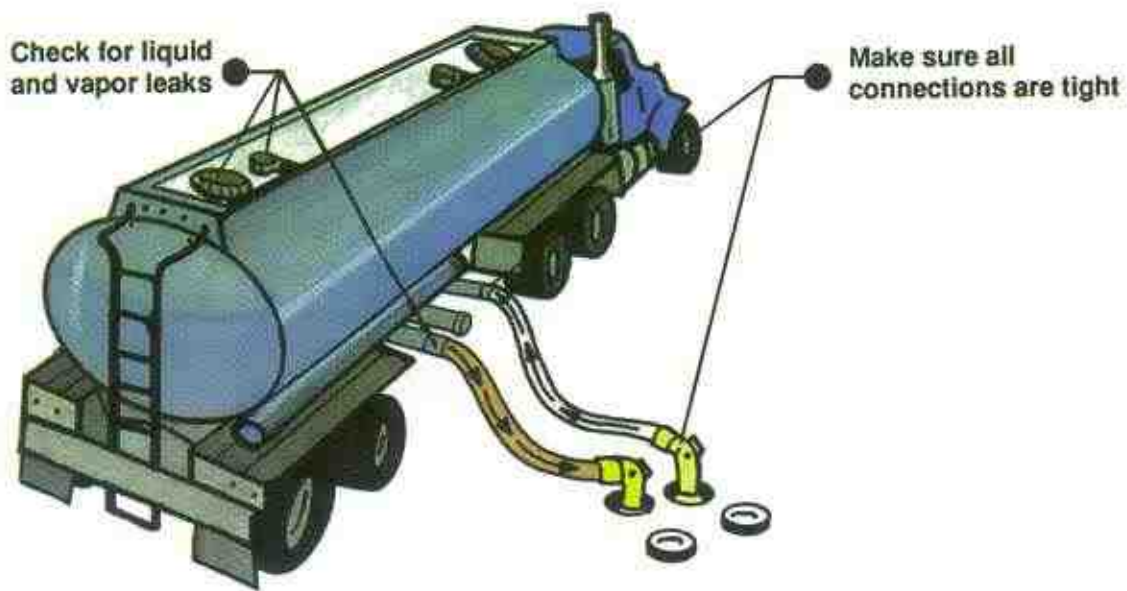
## Loading Your Gasoline Tanker

As gasoline is loaded at the terminal, vapors are pushed out of the tanker and processed by the vapor recovery or destruction unit.

### Driver's Checklist at the Terminal

1. Hook up terminal vapor hose to your tanker using proper adapter fittings.
2. Hook up the terminal product hose to the proper product outlets on the tanker.
3. Follow any specific loading instructions posted at the terminal.
4. Climb about 2 rungs of the ladder and look about 2 inches above the dome hatch and vapor vent covers to check for vapor leaks while loading. Correct any problems immediately.
5. Report any problems to the terminal operator.

**Failure to use the vapor recovery equipment when loading gasoline is a violation.**



## Unloading Your Gasoline Tanker

As gasoline is unloaded, the vapors in the underground or above ground storage tanks are directed into the tanker. When unloading is complete, the dispensing site (gas station) has a load of gasoline and the tanker returns to the terminal with a load of vapors.

### Driver's Checklist at the Dispensing Site/Gas Station

1. Hook up vapor recovery hose to your tanker and the vapor recovery fitting on the gasoline storage tank.
2. Hook up the product hose to the tanker and the proper product fill tube on the gasoline storage tank.
3. Make sure all the connections are tight and secured and all gaskets are in place and in good condition.
4. Look, listen, and smell for liquid and vapor leaks.
5. Make sure that caps are replaced on the dispensing site's fill tube and vapor fitting after the load is dropped.
6. Report any problems associated with the station to the station owner.

**Do not deliver any gasoline to any storage tank that has a damaged or dysfunctional vapor recovery system.**

**Failure to use the vapor recovery equipment when unloading gasoline is a violation.**

**Part 230 requires that the owner of the vehicle provide adequate training and written instructions to the operator of the vehicle.**

## Look, Listen, and Smell for Liquid or Vapor Leaks...

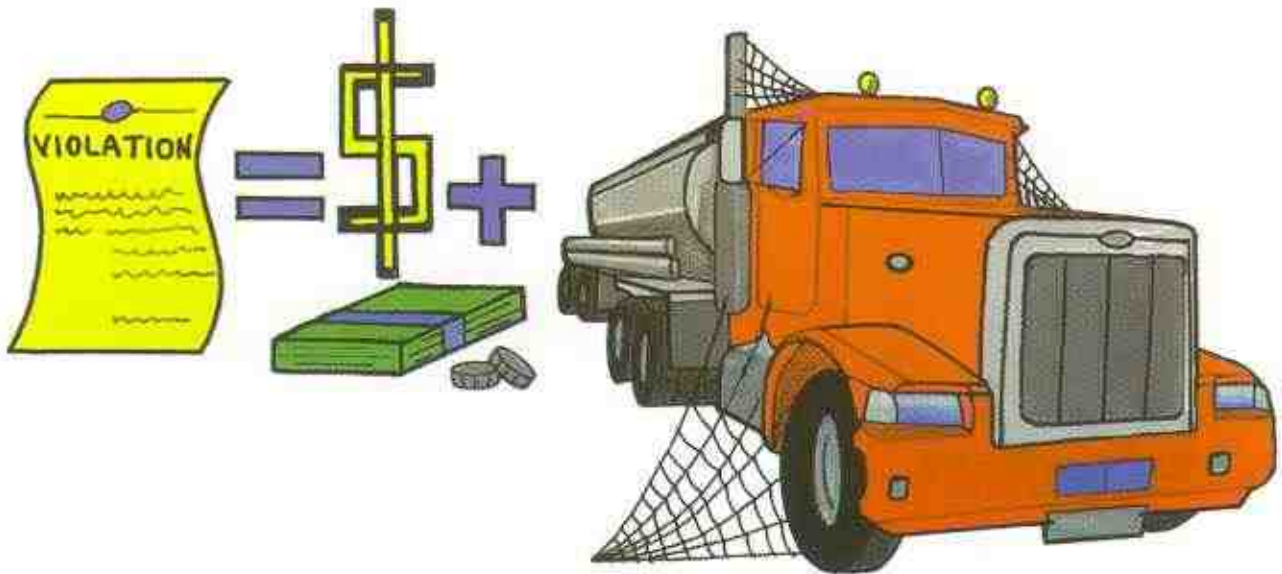


Look for visible vapor or liquid leaks

Look for stains – they may indicate a vapor or liquid leak.

Use a soap/water solution on suspected leaks – bubbles will show a leak.

Use your vapor recovery equipment at all times. Failure to use vapor recovery equipment is a violation of regulations. The driver and/or the owner/operator will be held responsible for violating Part 230.



## Penalties

### Owner Liability

If your transport vehicle is found to be operating in violation of vapor recovery requirements, a Notice of Violation (NOV) will be issued.

If civil charges are brought, a violation means a fine that can range up to \$10,000. Each day is a separate offense.

An additional cost, when you receive a NOV, is the removal of your transport vehicle from service until it is shown to be in compliance. Under no circumstances should you allow a noncomplying transport vehicle to return to the terminal for another load of gasoline before it is brought into compliance.





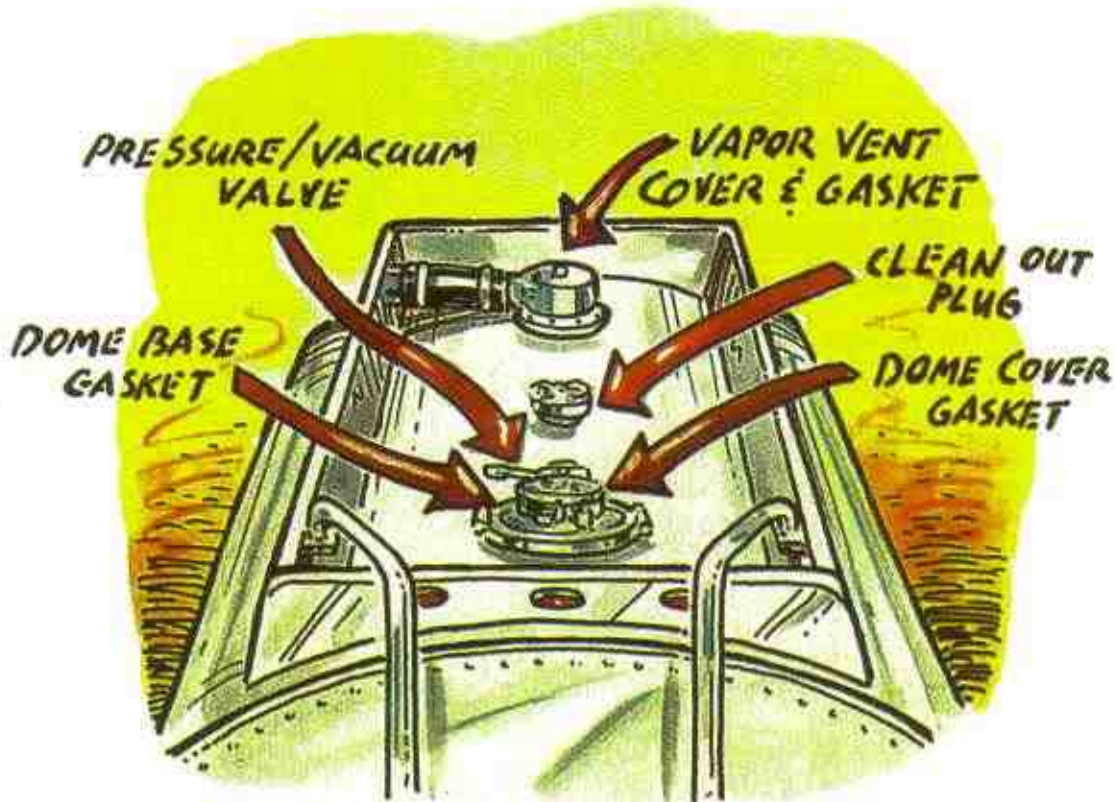
## Dome Covers and Vapor Vent Covers...

Faulty dome cover gaskets are a major source of vapor leaks.

Worn, cracked, or maladjusted internal vapor valve covers and hoses are also frequent sources of vapor leaks.

Make sure to pay close attention to these potential leak sources. Look, listen, and smell for vapor leaks while the transport vehicle is being loaded.

Correcting any problems helps you to reduce emissions and stay in compliance.



The use of silicone or other sealants in lieu of replacing the dome cover and internal vapor vent gaskets may compromise the emergency venting on transport vehicles. Make sure dome covers are securely latched.

# Maintenance and Routine Testing are the Answers...

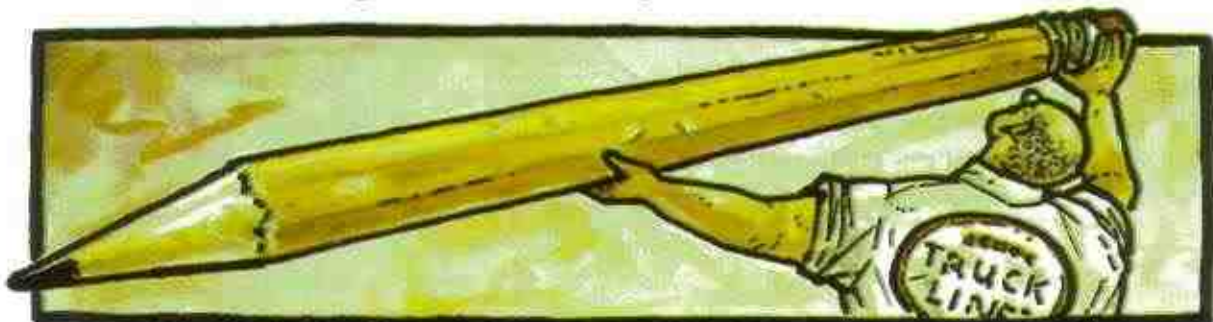
Regularly scheduled inspections and maintenance help you avoid costly penalties. This suggested visual self inspection checklist is a good way to protect yourself from large penalties and loss of business. Inspect these items regularly and immediately repair or replace equipment as necessary. **The tank should be retested/checked after any repairs.**

Experience tells us that the best way to comply with air pollution regulations is to know the law and do preventive maintenance on the vapor recovery equipment on your transport vehicle.

The checklist below, used with your vapor recovery handbook, will help you stay in compliance with the required regulations.

Suggested Compliance Checklist ✓✓✓								
Periodic Inspection Dates								
✍ Check to make sure pressure/vacuum test label on your truck or trucks are up-to-date								
✍ Check to make sure pressure/vacuum test paperwork is in the truck								
✍ Inspect dome cover gaskets and seals								
✍ Inspect pressure/vacuum valves								
✍ Check dome base rings for damage								
✍ Check vapor vent covers and hoses								
✍ Inspect vapor recovery piping								
✍ Check for pressure from vapor cap/check valve								
✍ Inspect adapters for damage or wear								
✍ Inspect vapor and liquid transfer hoses								
✍ Inspect cracks on rollover rails								
✍ Inspect entire tank for other signs of product leakage								

## Routine Testing is the Key to Ensure Compliance



# Need More Information?

## *Let Us Help You!*

This booklet is brought to you by the New York State Small Business Assistance Program (SBAP) administered by the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation. If you're ready to join the other New York State small businesses who've taken advantage of free, confidential assistance from the SBAP, call our **toll-free number, 800-780-7227**. We're looking forward to helping you comply with the Stage I and Stage II gasoline vapor recovery requirements.

## Small Business Assistance Program

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