

UST Inspector Training Webinar Series

Automatic Tank Gauges 8/6/2019

Moderated by Drew Youngs

UST/LUST Program Manager, NEIWPCC

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Today's Speakers

Marcel Moreau

Principal, Marcel Moreau Associates

Ben Thomas

President, UST Training

Jon Kelly

Founder & CEO, Canary Compliance

Justin Whitfield

Business Analyst, Canary Compliance



Why ATGs?



Why ATGs?



Parts of a Tank Gauge



Console

Parts of a Tank Gauge

Probe

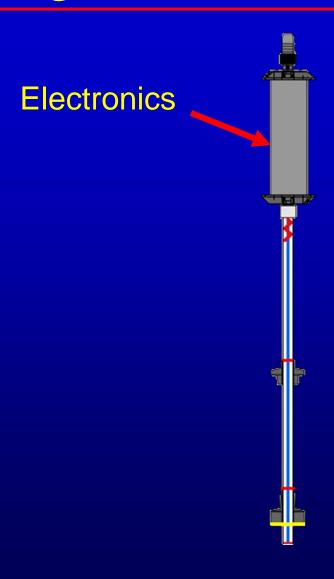


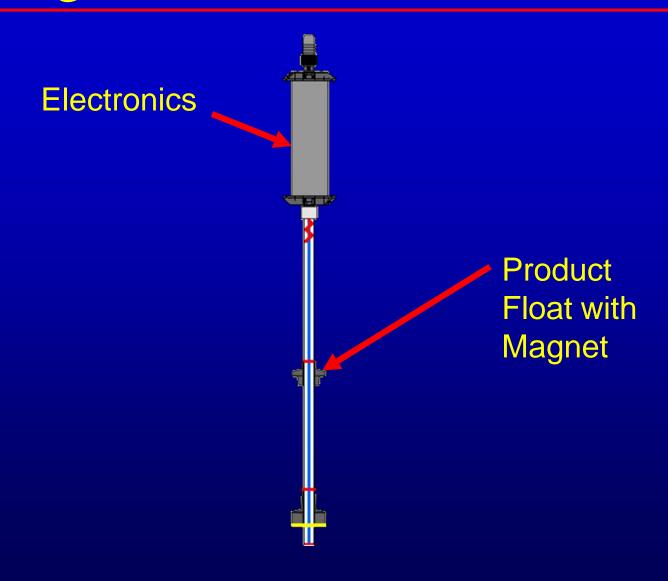


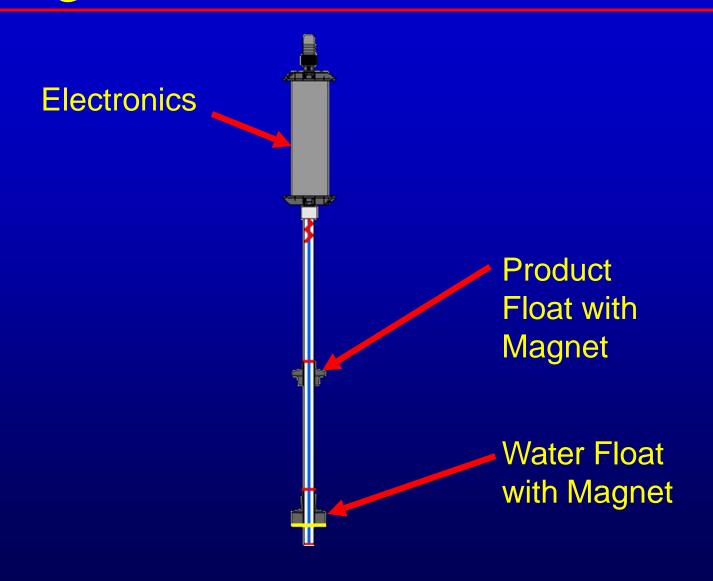
Console

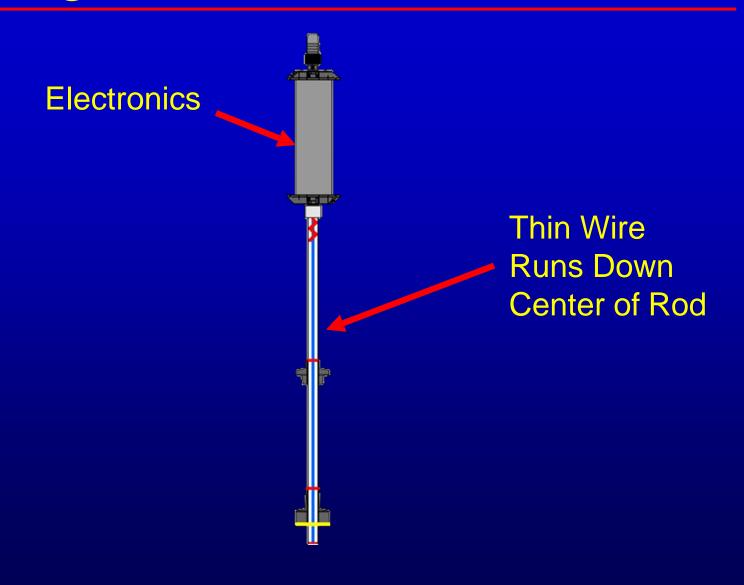


"Mag"
Short for
"Magnetostrictive"

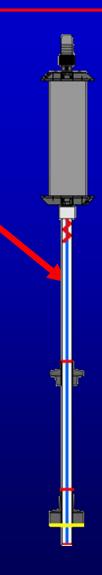




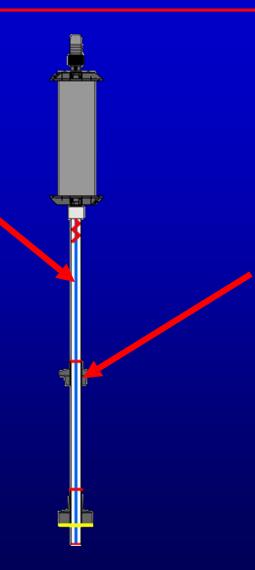




Short Electric Pulse is Sent Down the Wire, Creating Magnetic Field Around Wire

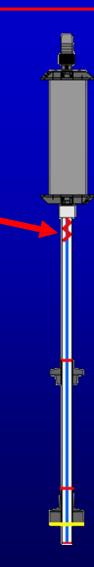


Short Electric Pulse is Sent Down the Wire, Creating Magnetic Field Around Wire



Magnetic Field
Around Wire
Interacts with
Magnet in Float,
Causing the
Wire to Twist
Slightly

This Twist Travels up the Wire and is Sensed by the Electronics



This Twist Travels up the Wire and is Sensed by the Electronics

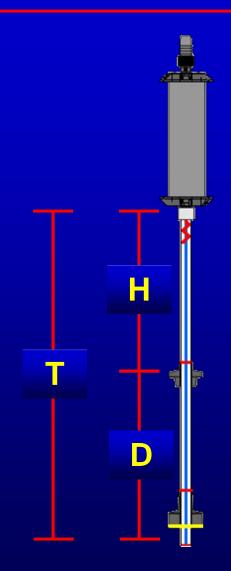


How Fast the Twist
Travels Along the
Wire was Measured
at the Factory when
the Probe was
Made, and is
Accurately Known

This Twist Travels up the Wire and is Sensed by the Electronics



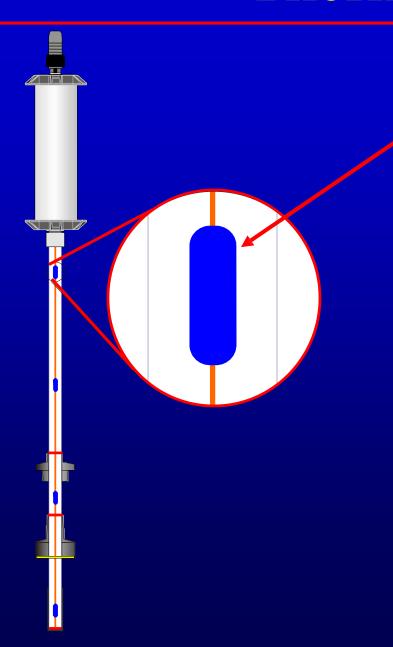
The Time from when the Electric Pulse was Sent Down the Wire to the Arrival of the Twist at the Electronics is Measured and Converted to Distance



The Distance from the Float to the Electronics (H) is Subtracted from the Total Length of the Probe (T) to Give the Depth of Liquid (D)

D = T - H

Thermistors



Thermistors are placed at different positions along the probe to measure the temperature at specific depths.



✓ Product level, gross volume, net volume

- ✓ Product level, gross volume, net volume
- ✓ Water level, water volume

- ✓ Product level, gross volume, net volume
- ✓ Water level, water volume
- ✓ Ullage Volume, 90% ullage

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- ✓ High/low product alarm,

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- High/low product alarm,
- High water alarm

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- ✓ Delivery needed, delivery volume

- ✓ Product level, gross volume, net volume
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- ✓ High/low product alarm,
- High water alarm
- ✓ Delivery needed, delivery volume
- ✓ Monthly leak detection (0.2 gph)

- ✓ Product level, gross volume, net volume
- ✓ Water level, water volume
- ✓ Ullage Volume, 90% ullage
- ✓ High/low product alarm,
- High water alarm
- ✓ Delivery needed, delivery volume
- ✓ Monthly leak detection (0.2 gph)
- ✓ Tightness test (0.1 gph)

Periodic

Periodic



No product dispensed during test period of several hours. Test data gathered while facility is closed – typically overnight.

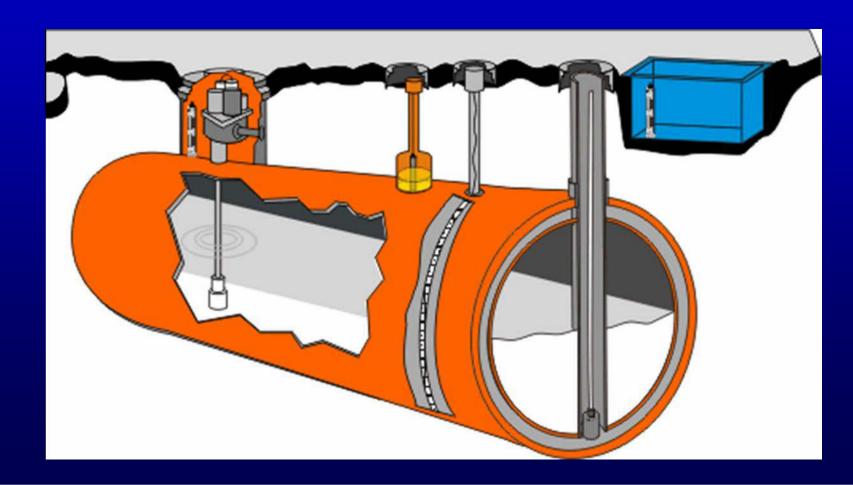
Continuous

Continuous

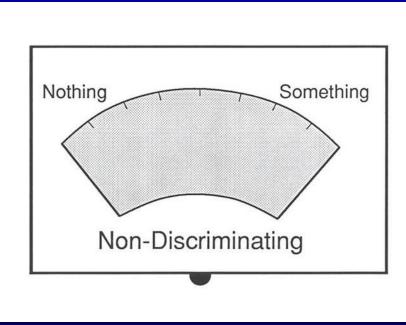


No interruption of product dispensing. Test data gathered automatically during quiet intervals between dispensing events.

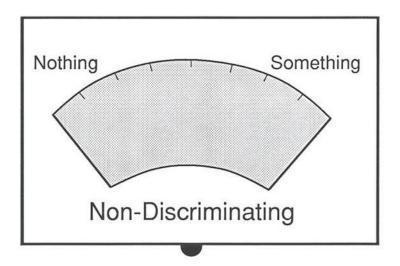
Sensors

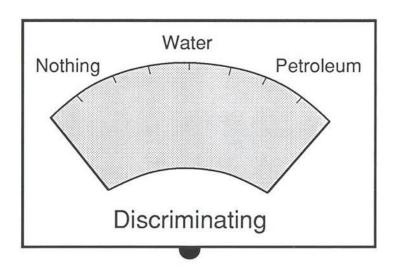


- Sensors
 - Non-Discriminating



- Sensors
 - Non-Discriminating
 - Discriminating





Sensors

- Non-Discriminating
- Discriminating
- Ineffective









Marcel Moreau is a nationally recognized petroleum storage specialist whose column, Tank-nically Speaking, is a regular feature of LUSTLine. As always, we welcome your comments and questions. If there are technical issues that you would like to have Marcel discuss, let him know at marcel.moreau@juno.com

MAKING SENSE OF SENSORS

ensors are old hat to regulators in states where secondary containment has been required for a while, but implementation of the tensors are old not to regulators in states where secondary containment has occurrending of a white, our implementation of the secondary-containment provisions of the 2005 Energy Act will introduce sensors in greater numbers to many more regulasecondary-containment provisions of the 2005 Energy Act will introduce sensors in greater numbers to many more regula-tors, tank owners, and operators. So this seems like a good time to provide a primer on how the most common kinds of sensors used in UST systems today work. Along the way, I'll also touch on some the reasons why they may not work as well as they should. In the late 1980s and early 1990s, there were many different types of UST sensors—dissolving strings, proximity switches, or the late 1900s and early 1990s, there were many afferent types of US1 sensors—aissoiving strings, proximity switches, which dissolving insulation, vapor-sensing adsistors, and metal-oxide semiconductors. Most of these have gone the way of the where with anssolving insulation, emportsensing ansistors, and inclus-oxide semiconductors. Most of these nace gone the way of the dodo, although some still survive in isolated pockets of the country. In the interests of brevity and relevance, I'm going to limit this

discussion to the technologies that I believe are most commonly used today.

What Is a Sensor?

In the UST world, sensors are devices that act as remote eyes to alert us to conditions of interest in the interstitial spaces of UST systems. These interstitial spaces include those between the walls of double-walled tanks and the insides of tank-top and under-dispenser sumps. Sensors are basically switches that are designed to automatically complete, interrupt, or modify an electrical circuit when certain conditions are present. world, these conditions

prey is most often liquid—rainwater, groundwater, gasoline, diesel, or some related petroleum product. There are also a handful of vapor sensors and vacuum sensors out there, but they are not included in this article.

A Word About Compatibility

In these days where ethanol in fuel has become almost as pervasive as ethanol in taverns, compatibility of sensors with ethanol fuels is a factor that must be considered. A brief and unscientific survey I conducted of manufacturers' literature indithat most sensors are compat-

ing whether the liquid is product or water. Most discriminating sensors combine two separate sensor technologies, one that indicates that a liquid is present and a second technology that either responds only to product or can tell the difference between product and water.

It is important that facility operators know whether the sensors present at their facility are discriminating or nondiscriminating, because the alarm messages associated with nondiscriminating sensors often err on the side of caution and indicate a "fuel alarm" even when only water oresent. The all-too-frequent intru-

For more information on sensors, see "Making Sense of Sensors" in LUSTline #58, September 2008 available on the NEIWPCC web site:

http://neiwpcc.org/our-programs/underground-storage-tanks/l-u-s-t-line/l-u-s-tline-archive/

Sensors

Line leak detectors



Sensors

Line leak detectors



a rod the market operated

a rod that

For more information on LLDs, see "Of Blabbermouths and Tattletales" in LUSTline #29, June 1998 available on the NEIWPCC web site:

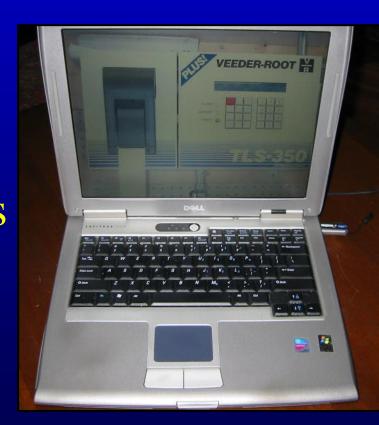
http://neiwpcc.org/our-programs/underground-storage-tanks/l-u-s-t-line/l-u-s-tline-archive/ mined unchanged uechanical da / tion the -coperated valve

Meanwhile

Sensors

Line leak detectors

Remote communications



ATGs Come in Many Flavors

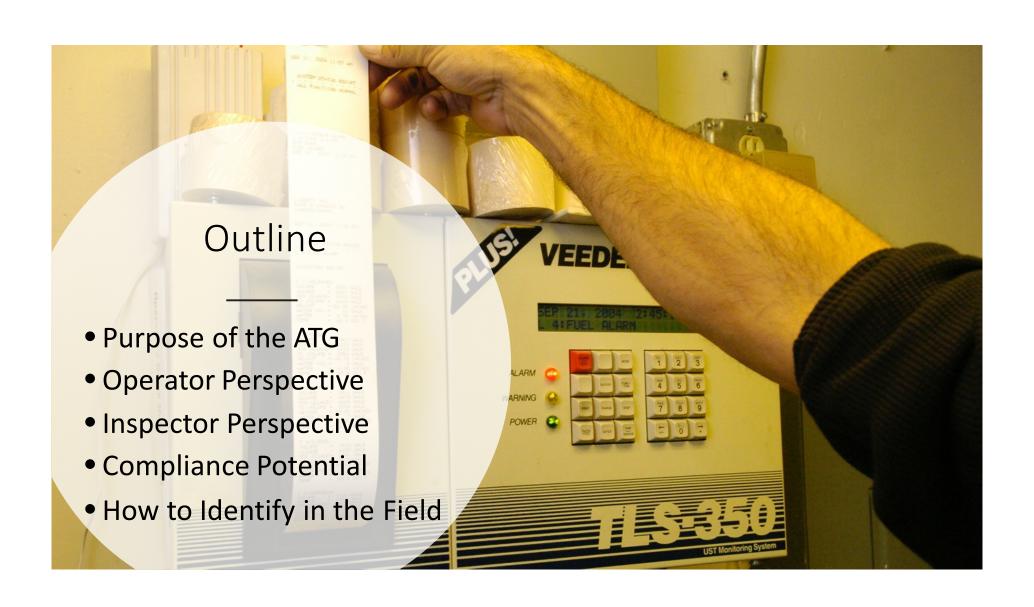






Ben Thomas UST Training Clinton, WA





PURPOSE: The Automatic Tank Gauge is

A multi-purpose tool that can do many things

The brain of the UST system

The "box" that consolidates important information

Something the operator uses to manage their UST system

Something the inspector uses to confirm compliance

A device that comes in many shapes, sizes, colors and versions

Common names

"The Veeder, The Incon, The Evo...."

"That loud thing in the back"

"The ATG"

"Tank monitor"



PERSPECTIVE: What the Operator *probably knows* it does

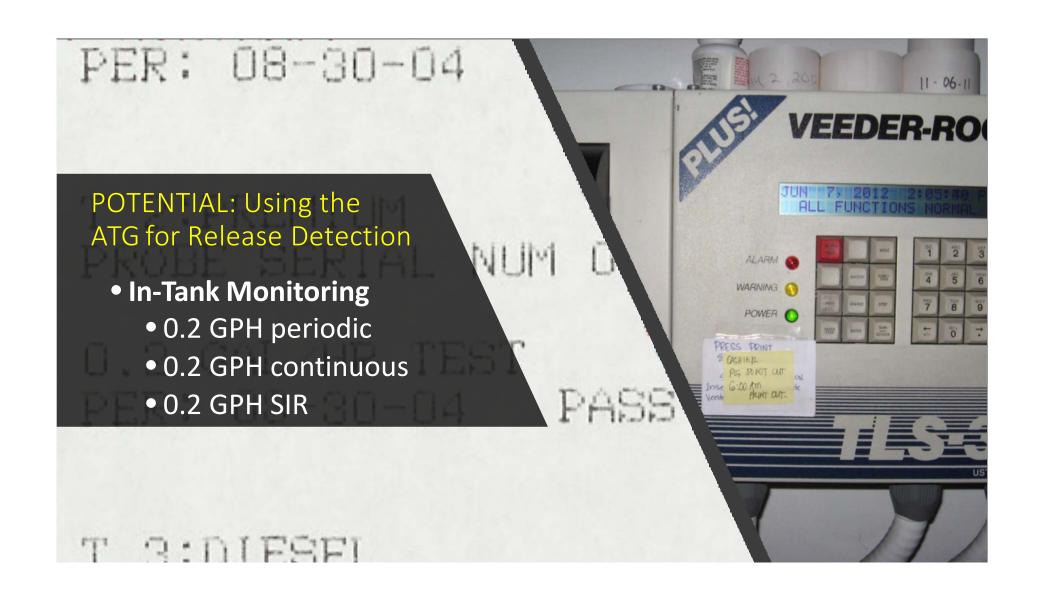
- Checks fuel levels
- Checks water levels
- Checks sales activity
- Checks for ordering/ receiving fuel
- Checks to do inventory reconciliation
- Checks for alarms (maybe)
- Checks for leaks (hopefully)

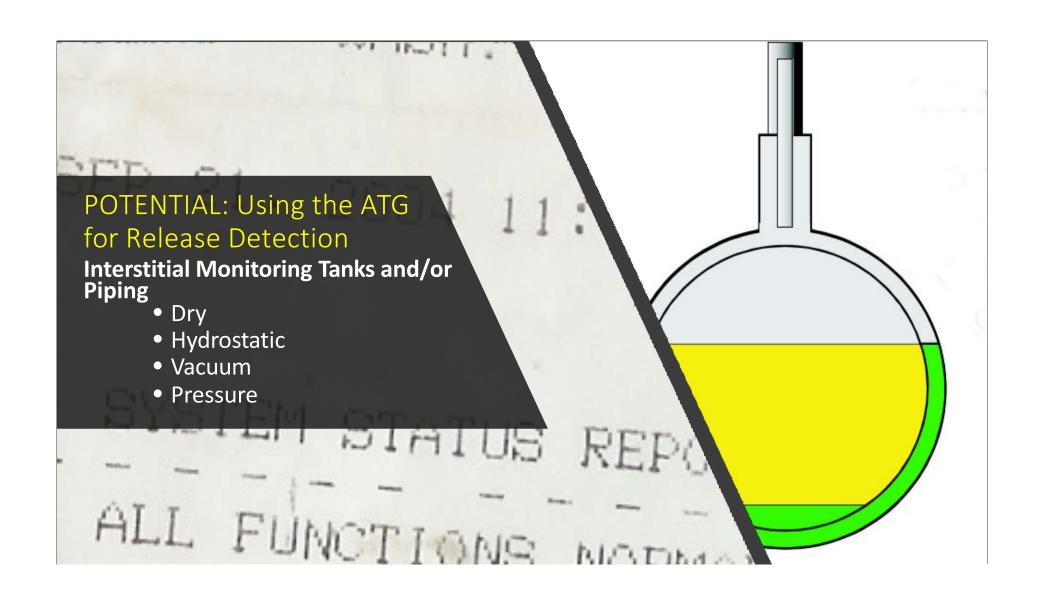


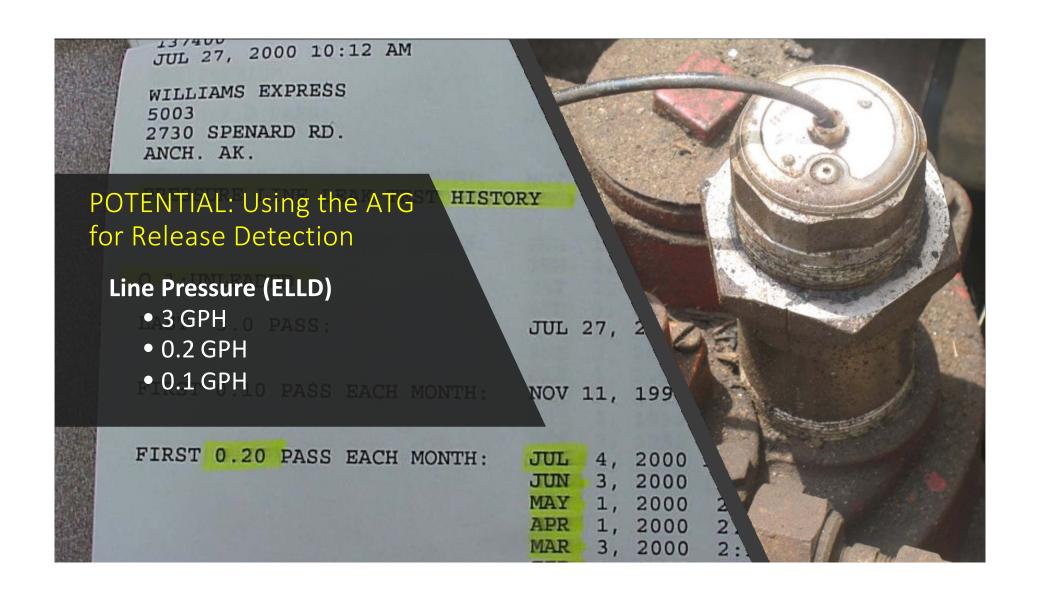
PERSPECTIVE: What the Inspector *should know* it does

- Verifies interstitial monitoring compliance
- Verifies leak test compliance
- Verifies electronic line leak detection compliance
- Searches alarm history
- Verifies setup (third party certification)
- Verifies overfill alarm settings
- Verifies sensor set up









More POTENTIAL:



- High and low level fuel alarms
- Probe and sensor identification and functionality
- Alarm and test result histories

Pro Tip: Hit the Veeder Root <Function> button to see what the ATG is programmed to do



- Hit Function a number of times
- Will tell if the UST system has
 - 0.2 GPH
 - CSLD
 - Interstitial
 - PLLDs
- Make sure you go back to All Functions Normal

ATG can tell us

Past: Alarm history (what happened)

Present: Functions and conditions (what's happening)

Future: Program settings (what can happen)

First Look for

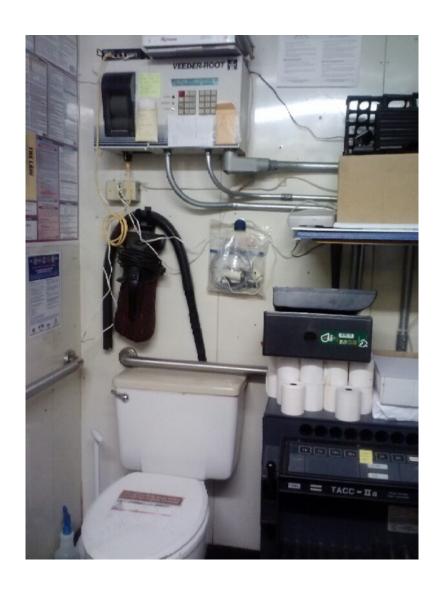
- Brand name
- Model number
- Overall condition
- Internet connection
- Power
- Any alarms



Also look for

- Lights working
- Paper/printer
- Special "notes"
- User guide
- Blockage/access/ security

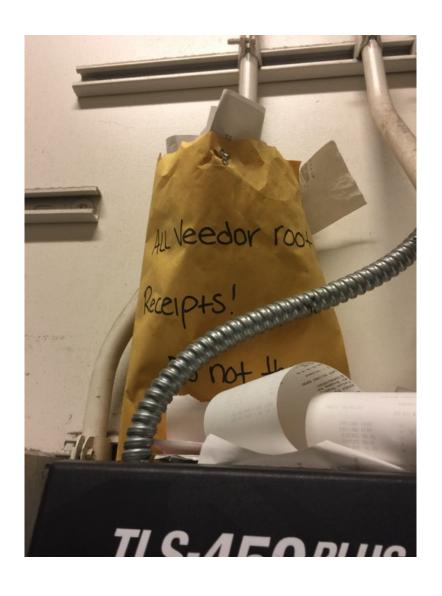


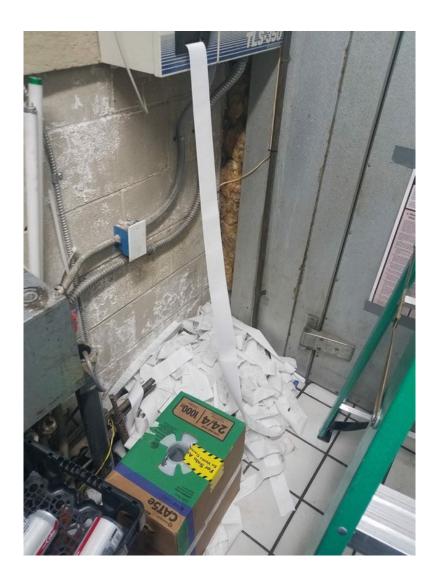






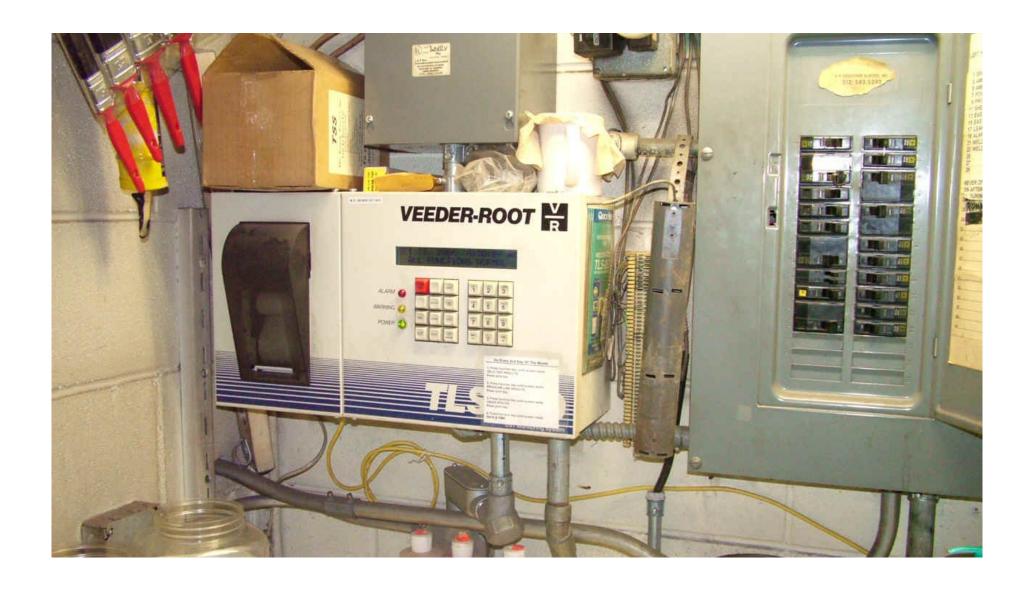








POSITIVE IDENTIFICATION: Name that ATG





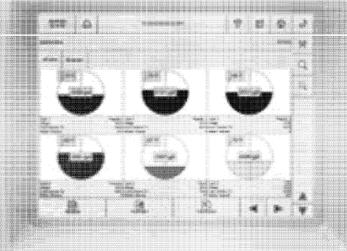




TLS-450

Easy apprade to TLS-450.













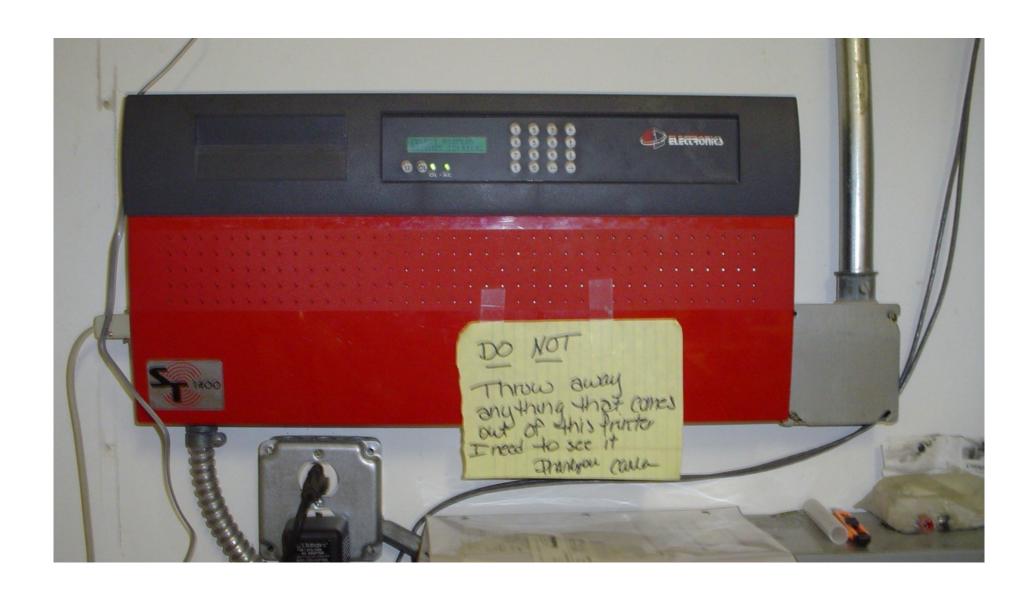


















More Resources EPA manual, August 2000, EPA 510-B-00-009, Reference manual for UST inspectors, has detailed instructions on how to obtain reports

Tank Savvy Minute videos on YouTube for the Veeder Root TLS 350 and the Franklin EVO 550





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Justin Whitfield Business Analyst
Former regulator (TX) and environmental analyst
(7-11)

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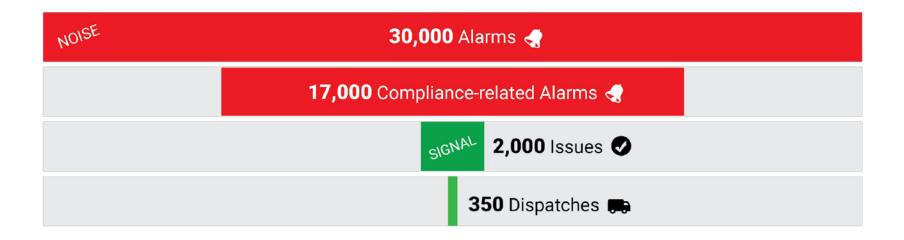
On average, how many ATG alarms occur per month at a retail facility?

- Less than I
- Between I and 5
- Between 5 and 10
- Above I0



2018 study data

Over a 2 month period at 700 sites, 30,000 total unique ATG alarms occurred





On average, how long do ATG alarms remain active?

- Less than I day
- 1-2 days
- 2-7 days
- More than a week



What impacts a site's risk profile? Alarm response time

2018-2019 study data

100 sites over six months

Excludes all alarms that were active for <24 hours

Alarm	How many times did this type of alarm occur?	On average, how many days was alarmactive?
Tank CSLD Rate Increase Warning	12	17
Tank High Water Warning	13	6
PLLDPeriodic Test Fail Alarm	13	5
Tank High Product Alarm	27	3
Sensor Fuel Alarm	26	3
PLLD Gross Test Fail Alarm	14	3
PLLD Shutdown Alarm	14	3
Tank No CSLD Idle Time Warning	22	2



True or False?

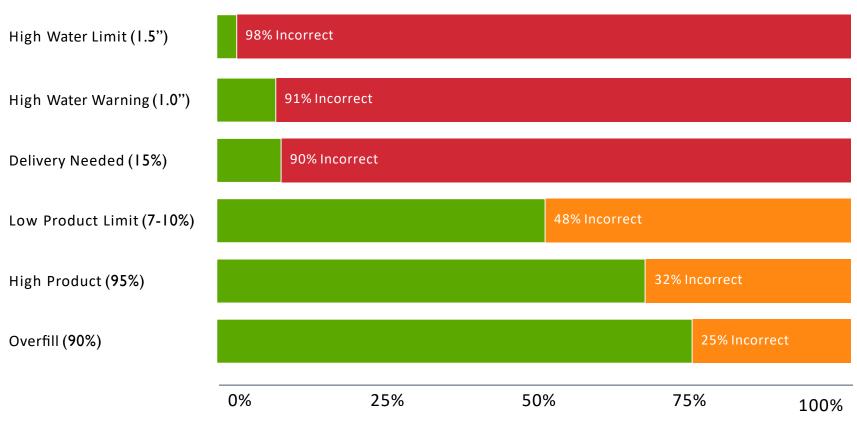
ATG alarms always accurately represent what is occurring at the site

- True
- False



What impacts a site's risk profile? Alarm data integrity

Settings Audit Results Percentage of Tanks with Correct Settings



Data anonymized and aggregated from 49 sites, 165 tanks



TANK LEAK TEST HISTORY T 2: REGULAR LAST TEST PASSED: OCT 20, 2015 3:49 AM STARTING VOLUME: 5732 PERCENT VOLUME: 57.2

FULLEST TEST PASSED EACH MONTH: JAN 30, 2015 4:39 AM STARTING VOLUME: 6318 PERCENT VOLUME: 63.0

FEB 23, 2015 3:34 AM STARTING VOLUME: 7308 PERCENT VOLUME: 72.9

MAR 1, 2015 10:44 PM STARTING VOLUME: 7183 PERCENT VOLUME: 71.6

APR 4, 2015 11:42 PM STARTING VOLUME: 6941 PERCENT VOLUME: 69.2

MAY 29, 2015 5:30 AM STARTING VOLUME: 7841 PERCENT VOLUME: 78.2 JUN 2, 2015 5:31 AM STARTING VOLUME: 7895 PERCENT VOLUME: 78.7

JUL 6, 2015 11:27 PM STARTING VOLUME: 7305 PERCENT VOLUME: 72.9

AUG 1, 2015 3:49 AM STARTING VOLUME: 6960 PERCENT VOLUME: 69.4

SEP 8, 2015 11:48 PM STARTING VOLUME: 6679 PERCENT VOLUME: 66.6

OCT 14, 2015 12:26 AM STARTING VOLUME: 6726 PERCENT VOLUME: 67.1

NOV 10, 2014 10:28 PM STARTING VOLUME: 6955 PERCENT VOLUME: 69.4

DEC 4, 2014 5:04 AM STARTING VOLUME: 5999 PERCENT VOLUME: 59.8

Is this site passing?

- Yes
- No
- It depends
- Beats me





Is this site passing?

- Yes
- No
- It depends
- Beats me









Thank You, Speakers!

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