

# Underground & Aboveground Storage Tanks



**Leaking underground/aboveground storage tanks (USTs/ASTs) represent a major source of environmental contamination.** In fact, the EPA estimates that 30% of storage tanks in the US today are not compliant. Are yours among them? If that's the case, you're not alone. Regulations—layered in federal complexity and riddled with state-to-state nuances—can be overwhelming.

## And yet, non-compliance is expensive.

According to the EPA, underground storage tank cleanups can range from \$130K to over \$1M, depending on the extent of contamination. And aboveground storage tanks can be equally costly. Spills and other consequences of inadequate management can spur years of cleanup efforts, lengthy legal battles, decreased property values, and even neighborhood evacuations depending upon the extent of a release.

Aging tanks clearly pose the most risk although even newly-installed tanks, if not adequately inspected and maintained, can lead to expensive repairs and premature replacement.

For over 30 years, Apex has helped countless clients manage UST/AST risk with adherence to safety, security, environmental, and regulatory guidelines. By incorporating engineering protocols and industry standards, we can help you achieve compliance and savings with both preventative and remedial UST/AST services.

Whether you need help planning and installing new tank systems or the repair, replacement, or upgrade of existing ones, our team of credentialed professionals can help. Equally important, our inspection and maintenance services will help you ensure your tanks' safety, efficacy, and longevity.

## Design and Planning

To ensure successful operation of any new installation or upgrade, this stage is critical. Our UST/AST experts are adept at assessing sites to uncover potential challenges such as traffic patterns, existing structures, or prior site uses and recommending the solutions to address them and lay the groundwork for the smoothest and least disruptive path forward. Knowledgeable in state and federal requirements and specific tank manufacturer requirements, our team achieves early approval of our designs while our regulator relationships streamline the permitting process.

## UST/AST Investigations

Beyond comprehensive compliance investigations, we also address all facets of the petroleum industry, helping our clients with spill prevention, control, and countermeasure (SPCC) plans; investigating and characterizing station sites and terminals; and providing emergency response to unexpected releases. Primarily, however, our services are designed to accurately detect oil leaks, spills, or other potential integrity or structural issues. Our team can help you with regularly scheduled inspections, evaluations, and testing of your bulk oil storage tanks including external visual inspections of containers, foundations, and supports; integrity testing; and additional evaluations, as needed, to assess whether your AST is fit for continued service.



### Construction Services

Our turnkey UST/AST services have been recognized by the Associated Builders and Contractors Association for excellence in construction and safety management.

Experts with the right equipment is the key to successful installations. Our certified crews are able to quickly and effectively handle all sizes of tank projects with our warehouse of service equipment which is complemented by our nationwide network of equipment providers. Whatever the need, from cranes to excavators, we can mobilize within 24 hours to serve you.

Quite often, tank projects are part of proposed property transfers and involve the demolition of older structures to make way for new ones. In those cases, we work closely with construction companies and owners to meet even the most stringent construction schedules. We understand that delays can be extremely costly and we work diligently, on your behalf, to ensure they don't occur.

### Installation, Cleaning, and Removal

Our certified tank professionals can help you on the front end, providing a complete suite of services from design/build consultations; permitting; and site preparation to testing; reporting; and tank system, monitoring equipment, and piping installations. And they can help you on the back end with product removal, tank cleaning, tank decommissioning and demolition, tank system removal, delineation of soil/groundwater impacts, and UST closures-in-place.

### Site Remediation

Increasingly stringent enforcement actions often prompt site remediations. The extent and cost of a remediation project, however, can vary dramatically. However, we can help you design and implement the most appropriate and cost-effective remedial action. And reputation for accuracy and credibility with the regulatory community can help expedite approvals and successfully close your sites, should the need arise.

To effectively address soil and groundwater remediation experience includes in-situ and ex-situ bioremediation, soil vapor extraction, groundwater pump and treat, dual-phase extraction, air sparging, and free product recovery. By pairing that expertise with our telemetry monitoring and control systems, we can also help you reduce your operation and maintenance costs.

### About Apex

Established in 1988, Apex is a national multidisciplinary consulting, engineering, and field services firm with a robust portfolio of capabilities in water resources, environmental services, health & safety, construction management, transportation, and compliance & assurance. Rated #16 as an *ENR* All-Environmental firm and #68 in the top 200 overall, we are known for our technical expertise, rapid response, operational integrity, and exceptional client satisfaction. We operate in all 50 states and maintain a highly capable and diverse team of scientists, engineers, technicians, and information management specialists. For more information, visit [www.apexc.com](http://www.apexc.com).

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