



UST Program Update

October 2024

International Code Council (ICC) UST Inspector Exam Trends

The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) recently reviewed data collected from International Code Council (ICC) UST Inspector examinations. The data trends reviewed include the exam test methods and the areas of the exam mostly likely to impact the pass and fail rate.

Data collected over the past three years show the average pass rate for candidates taking the exam online is 46 percent compared to the 68 percent pass rate for candidates taking in-person examinations. Additionally, candidates consistently score lower in the “Periodic Testing & Evaluation of UST Systems” and “UST Installation, Closure, Repair, Upgrades & Modifications” test sections. Based on the outline provided on the [ICC website](#)¹, these two areas make up 27 percent and 17 percent, respectively, of the overall exam content. Candidates should review all exam information on the ICC website, including the exam outline and references, when preparing to take the ICC UST Inspector exam. Links to the appropriate [California Code of Regulations, title 23, division 3, chapter 16 \(UST Regulations\)](#)² and [Health and Safety Code, 6.7](#)³ for the UST inspector examination can be found on the UST Leak Prevention website.

For additional information regarding the ICC UST Inspector exam, contact: Jenna Hartman at (916) 327-8563 or Jenna.Hartman@waterboards.ca.gov

OPW 71SO Installation and Inspection Procedures

Unified Program Agencies (UPAs) and UST service technicians have expressed concerns regarding the OPW 71SO overfill prevention valve (71SO) Appendix A and B procedures. Specifically, UPAs and UST service technicians disagree as to which manufacture provided appendices are used for installing and inspecting the 71SO. Service technicians have also expressed concerns that there are inconsistencies when using Appendix A for installation and Appendix B for the 36-month inspection. OPW’s

¹ <https://www.iccsafe.org/certification-exam-catalog/>

² https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/ust/regulatory/docs/CCR_Ch16_10_2018.pdf

³ https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/ust/regulatory/docs/hsc_6_7_01_2019.pdf

Appendix A utilizes the tank chart to determine the proper length of the upper tube to install the 71SO. OPW's Appendix B utilizes physical measurements of the UST to determine the initial shut off level. Using physical measurements of a UST can create issues due to imperfect tank construction and tank deflection, making the internal diameter of the UST inconsistent with the manufacturer's tank chart. These variations are often over an inch, requiring a new overfill prevention valve to be replaced three years after installation.

OPW's Appendix A, as stated by the equipment manufacturer, must be utilized for the installation of the 71SO. Appendix B specifically notes that it is used as an inspection method for in-tank inspections. The State Water Board has stated that overfill prevention equipment cannot be verified in-situ and must be removed from the UST. Therefore, Appendix A is the only authorized method to perform the installation, and the 36-month overfill prevention equipment inspection for the 71SO.

For more information regarding the OPW 71SO installation and inspection procedures, contact:

Jenna Hartman at (916) 327-8563 or Jenna.Hartman@waterboards.ca.gov.

Universal Valve Company Training

Universal Valve Company has updated their training, installation, and test procedures for their 47-20 overfill prevention valve. Installers and service technicians are required to complete manufacturer's training prior to installing or servicing this equipment in accordance with the manufacturer's installation or test procedures. As with all overfill prevention equipment, UST installers and service technicians installing and inspecting this valve must verify that it shuts off at the proper activation height.

For additional information regarding Universal's training, contact:

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