



To ensure the quality, consistency, and compliance with testing standards and State Regulations and Rules, as well as to prevent fraud, the State of Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM) requires all individuals and companies who perform tightness testing on any UST component to be licensed by RIDEM. This document outlines basic information on the licensing process as well as some of the requirements for licensed testers. Please note that this document is not exhaustive, and additional requirements may apply

Licensing Requirements

- In order to perform tightness testing of sumps, under-dispenser containment, spill containment basins, and UST and product piping primary and walls and interstitial spaces, you must be a licensed tester in good standing with RIDEM
- **All licensing applications, supporting materials, and fees are due by August 31st, 2021.** If your complete application is not received by this date your license will lapse, you will not be able to perform testing, and you may be subject to a late fee
- Testers may be licensed in multiple methods and may only perform the tests that they are licensed in;
- For the Low-Level Hydrostatic and Dri-Sump Methods **you are required to follow the RIDEM Methods.** All methods are available on our website and are in addition to the requirements set by the manufacturer.
- Applicants are required to obtain and provide a certificate from the method developer which demonstrates adequate training in the test methods included on the application. For methods with an insufficient training program, or where the RIDEM requirements are substantially different, applicants must take the RIDEM certification exam as part of the licensing process. This includes low-level hydrostatic testing and the Dri-Sump Method. The exams are available on our website at <http://www.dem.ri.gov/ust>.
- Licensing requirements for primary wall tightness testing of USTs and piping remain unchanged. You must submit documentation that you have been trained by the method developer and equipment calibration documentation.

Please Remember:

- You are encouraged to report all test failures via our website. Visit <http://www.dem.ri.gov/ust> and look for the link that says "Report a Test Failure"; This method is quicker and more accurate than calling to notify us, and you will receive an email receipt showing that you reported the failure.
- Routine testing of the primary wall of double-walled tanks and product piping is allowed, however not required unless the system has failed an interstitial test. Testing of the primary wall is not a substitute for testing of the interstitial space, and interstitial testing is always required once a UST or product piping has reached 20 years of age and every 2 years thereafter
- Any modification to install or activate equipment for low-level testing requires prior approval from RIDEM
- All licensees are required to follow the requirements of Section 1.16 of the *Rules and Regulations for Underground Storage Facilities Used for Hazardous Materials and Regulated Substances* (250-RICR-140-25-1). Failure to comply with any Rule of 1.16 may result in suspension of license and administrative, civil, or criminal penalties.
- When submitting test reports they must be signed, complete, and include a diagram of the site with proper tank numbering. **Passing tests must be submitted within 30 days and any failed tests, tightness tests or others, must be submitted within 7 days.** Please use the website to find the most up-to-date versions of all test forms.

Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management
Office of Land Revitalization and Sustainable Materials Management
Underground Storage Tank Program

Questions?

Please contact Clare O'Connor at clare.oconnor@dem.ri.gov

Test Methods

Test methods must be followed **exactly** as written by the manufacturer, with the following exceptions:

Sump, UDC, SCB Low-Level Hydrostatic Test

- Low-level hydrostatic tests cannot be performed at all sites. In order to qualify, the site must receive pre-approval from DEM and have certain equipment installed. The list of facilities where low-level testing can be performed is available on our website at: <http://www.dem.ri.gov/programs/benviron/waste/ust/lowleveleligibility.pdf>.

Dri-Sump Sump, UDC, and SCB test

- DEM requires a modified method, available here, <http://www.dem.ri.gov/programs/benviron/waste/ust/drishump-method.pdf> for the Dri-Sump method that must be followed by all testers.
- Method can only be used from April 1st – October 31st
- Testing cannot be performed for a minimum of 6 hours after any precipitation event;
- Method can only be used on single-walled components
- The water table at the time of the test must be at least 3” below the lowest point of the component being tested.
- The method cannot be used at any site undergoing active Soil Vapor Extraction treatment
- The method cannot be used in saturated soil conditions; if the tester has any reason to believe the subsurface may be saturated, this method cannot be used
- The method may only be used if the concrete or pavement surrounding the component being tested and the VST is in good condition with no cracks or other damage

Incon TS-ST5 Sump Test System

Hydro-Tite Leak Detection System

- While approved, there are no testers currently licensed to perform these methods in Rhode Island. If you wish to become licensed for these methods, please contact our office to discuss the method limitations and acceptance criteria

New in 2021:

**Online exams are only required for low-level hydrostatic testing and Dri-Sump methods
You do not need to take or submit an online exam for any other method!**



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