

Safety Advisory

IMMEDIATE ACTION REQUIRED

To: All Owners and Operators of **COMPTANK** cargo tanks operated under *DOT-SP 9166* and *DOT-SP 11903*

From: **COMPTANK** Corporation and North American Transportation Consultants, Inc.

Cause: On 12-31-09 a cargo tank operated under *DOT-SP 11903* split open while enroute resulting in the release of the entire shipment of DOT regulated Class 8 Material. This incident is currently under investigation by the US Department of Transportation, **COMPTANK** and several other entities.

Our initial investigation show that the material was an extremely strong Class 8 waste liquid consisting of a mixture of several materials. This product was being transported in an insulated vessel which was approximately 14 years old with the original inner barrier. Several other cargo tanks also used to transport this material show sever damage to their inner barriers.

Requested Action: While we believe this incident is a product specific issues and not a design or maintenance issue, we believe that the following steps should be **taken immediately** to verify that all operational vessels used to transport material on public highways operated under *DOT-SP 9166* and *DOT-SP 11903* remain safe to do so.

The following action should be **taken immediately** and no later then 30 days from the date on this advisory.

1. Review the last internal inspection report on all vessels for **any signs of cracking** or defect in the inner barrier. If any were discovered have another inner inspection performed to see if these are signs of inner barrier deterioration beyond normal wear and tear.
2. Perform a pressure test on any **insulated vessel** not pressure tested under 49 CFR 180.407 within the previous 12 months.
3. All **insulated cargo tanks** not used for **dedicated service** should be pressure tested annually going forward to ensure that mixing products has not negatively affected the inner protective barrier or the integrity of the vessel.
4. Verify that product compatibility testing has been performed as required under Paragraph 7 of the applicable special permit.

It is recommended that the attached inner barrier inspection form be used to perform and record the internal inspection required under 49 CFR 180.407(e).

Contact Information: Any questions concerning this Safety Advisory or defects discovered should be directed to *519-695-2915* or *609-426-0555* or faxed to *609-443-0004*.