



# GEMC ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS INC. NEWSLETTER

LET'S KEEP IT GREEN

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## CSA B620 Standard on Highway and Portable Tanks Mandatory in Canada

CSA B620 Standard on Highway and Portable Tanks Mandatory in Canada - Changes to the *Transportation of Dangerous Goods Regulations* in Amendment No. 6 require a person who uses a standardized means of containment required by CAN/CSA B621<sup>1</sup> or CAN/CSA B622<sup>2</sup> to offer dangerous goods for transport, to use a means of containment:

- manufactured in accordance with CSA B620<sup>3</sup> if the means of containment was manufactured in Canada on or after 31 August 2008; and
- tested and inspected in accordance with CSA B620 when the most recent periodic re-test or re-inspection is performed in Canada on or after 31 August 2008.

This means that highway tanks manufactured in Canada after 31 August 2008 and used to offer dangerous goods for transport in Canada, must be manufactured to the Canadian standard. Department of Transportation (DOT) specification highway tanks made in the United States continue to be recognized for use in Canada as equivalents to the corresponding Transport Canada specifications. Similarly, it means that highway tanks undergoing periodic testing in Canada must be inspected and tested to the Canadian standard if they are to be used in Canada to offer dangerous goods for transport. This applies to TC, MC and DOT tanks that are inspected and tested in Canada prior to being loaded in Canada. There is no change for tanks that are not loaded in Canada.

**Amendment 8 – Gazette I** - Transport Canada has published an amendment to the Transportation of Dangerous Goods Regulations in Gazette I on May 2, 2009. The two areas affected are: **Section 1.15 150 kg Gross Mass Exemption and Section 7.1 Requirement for an Emergency Response Assistance Plan (ERAP)**. To review the amendments in detail visit [Canada Gazette](#).

**Bell Canada fined record \$280,000 in deaths of two underground workers** – Oakville, ON - Bell Canada has received the largest fine ever for a federally regulated company over a health and safety violation under the Canada Labour Code. The company recently pleaded guilty to three charges in the deaths of two Ontario workers in 2007, reports The Canadian Press. The men were killed in an underground vault in Oakville they had entered through a manhole, they were employed by Wesbell communications Tech. of Mississauga, Ont., and were installing new fibre-optic cables for Bell. The two men were working 15 feet below ground, were inside a Bell manhole inspecting ducts and preparing to run communications wires when they were found unconscious. Both men were overcome by the toxic atmosphere at the bottom of the vault and collapsed.

**THIS WILL BE OUR LAST NEWSLETTER UNTIL SEPTEMBER, PLEASE HAVE A SAFE AND HAPPY SUMMER!**



**A SUMMER JOB SHOULD START A FUTURE, NOT END A LIFE** Every year we like to remind employers of the importance of training summer students. It is the law under both TDG and WHMIS to train even temporary employees if they are going to be handling dangerous goods and controlled substances. Gaining early work experience is a great way for young people to get a head start on their careers. However if their focus is exclusively on learning new job skills and making a good impression, safety can fall by the wayside. It is our responsibility as adults to make sure they think and act with safety in mind.

## **SWIMMING POOLS CAN BE DANGEROUS- FOR BOTH EMPLOYEES AND**

**HOMEOWNERS** - Two employees of a private swim club in Millersville New York were transported to the hospital with respiratory problems after an apparent chemical-mixing mishap ignited a small fire, which created hazardous vapours. The employees were mixing chlorine and another chemical in a small shed at the pool when the fire erupted and caused a vapour cloud. Remember to store your chlorine properly.

## **Who Cleans out the fridge at your office! –**

California. An office worker cleaning a fridge full of rotten food created a smell so noxious that it sent seven co-workers to the hospital and made many others ill. Firefighters had to evacuate the AT&T building in downtown San Jose after the fumes led someone to call 911. A hazmat team was called in. What crews found was an unplugged refrigerator crammed with moldy food. Authorities say an enterprising office worker had decided to clean it out, placing the food in a conference room while using two cleaning chemicals to scrub down the mess. The mixture of old lunches and disinfectant caused 28 people to need treatment for vomiting and nausea. Authorities say the worker who cleaned the fridge didn't need treatment — she can't smell because of allergies.



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