

# SHROPSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

## FIRE SAFETY ADVICE SHEET

### STORAGE OF LPG IN FIXED TANKS ON CARAVAN SITES

#### INTRODUCTION

Where LPG is supplied from fixed storage tanks, the installation should comply with the LP Gas Association's Code of Practice 1 – Bulk Storage at Fixed Installations, Part 1: Design, Installation and Operation of vessels Located Above Ground.

Where LPG is supplied from cylinders, the installation should comply with the LP Gas Association's Code of Practice 7 – Storage of Full and Empty LPG Cylinders and Cartridges

Exposed cylinders should not be within the separation boundary of an adjoining unit.

This advice sheet gives only a brief overview of the precautions required for fixed tank LPG installations at caravan sites

#### TANK SITING

- Tanks should be installed in a well ventilated position in the open air and not in a pit or depression
- Tanks should be installed on a concrete base with a slight slope away from under the tank and away from the caravan
- Tanks should be installed at least 3 metres from any caravan
- Tanks should be at least 1 metre apart
- Tanks should be sited so as not to inhibit the means of escape from a caravan in the event of a fire at the tank
- If there is any risk of damage from vehicles, tanks should be protected by bollards or similar devices

## PIPELINES

- All pipeline systems should be tested and proved free of leaks (at not less than the maximum operating pressure) following installation. In addition, any underground pipework should be visually inspected every five years
- Running pipework under caravans should be avoided. Where this is not possible, pipework should be kept as short as practicable with no valves or unnecessary connections in the pipework under the caravan
- Where pipework does run under caravans, the space below the caravan should not be fully enclosed so as to provide good low level ventilation
- LPG should be piped into caravans at a pressure not exceeding 35 millibars

## TANK FILLING

- Drivers of bulk delivery vehicles should be present throughout the entire filling operation
- Drivers of bulk delivery vehicles should advise the caravan site owner or his representative, that he is delivering bulk LPG prior to connecting any delivery hoses and also advise them when filling is completed
- Drivers of bulk delivery vehicles should ensure that casual passers-by and moving vehicles do not approach within 6 metres during filling operations. If requested by the driver, the site owner should provide warning notices to assist the driver in meeting this requirement
- The site owner or his representative should ensure that at least 2 4.5kg Dry Powder fire extinguishers are available near the tank during the filling operation. These extinguishers are normally present on the delivery vehicle
- Suitable access to the tank for the bulk delivery vehicle should be provided by the site owner
- Under no circumstances should a tank be overfilled. Filling should cease as soon as the tank is shown to be full by the contents gauge or maximum level indicator
- The LPG delivery pipework to caravans should be fitted with an isolation valve that is capable of being locked in the closed position during delivery. Any cover provided for the isolation valve should not be locked while the valve is in the open position

For further information regarding the storage and use of LPG is available from the LP Gas Association at [www.lpga.co.uk](http://www.lpga.co.uk)

Or for general fire safety matters, Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service can be reached on **01743 260260** or via our web site at [www.shropshirefire.gov.uk](http://www.shropshirefire.gov.uk)