

5.4.1 Container Level 1 Controls

In order to use Container Level 1 controls, the container must be less than or equal 0.46 m³. Containers greater than 0.46 m³ may be used if it does not contain light materials. Light material is defined as a waste stream will contain one or more compound which have a vapor pressure greater than 0.3 kiloPascals (KPa) at 20°C. The organic constituents with vapor pressures exceeding 0.3 KPa must make up at least 20 percent by weight of the waste steam. Heavy material service is anything that is not light liquid or gas vapor service. No waste

stabilization may occur in the container. Level 1 controls may not be used for waste undergoing stabilization.

For additional guidance on containers in light material service consult: [In-Light Material Service Determination for Containers](#).

Once the owner or operator has determined that a Level 1 container may be used, one of three options of controls may be selected. The three Container Level 1 controls that may be used are:

- Use a container that meets the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) regulations on packaging hazardous materials for transportation;
- Use a container equipped with a cover and closure devices which provide a continuous barrier over the container openings so when the cover and closure devices are in the closed position there are no visible gaps, holes or openings. The cover may be a separate cover installed on the container or it may be an integral part of the container structural design. The covers and closure devices must be constructed of suitable materials to minimize exposure and to maintain the equipment integrity for as long as it is in service;
- And use an open-top container with an organic-vapor suppressing barrier placed on or over the hazardous waste in the container so that the no hazardous waste is exposed to the atmosphere.

The covers and closure devices must be secured in closed positions any time hazardous waste is stored in the container. The opening of a closure device or cover is permitted to add hazardous waste to the container. The addition of waste to a container should be done in a continuous manner and, once finished, the owner or operator must promptly secure the closure devices in the closed position and install the covers. When the waste is added in an intermittent manner, the owner or operator must promptly secure the closure device in the closed position and install the covers as soon as the container is filled or, if it is not filled, the container must be closed if no additional waste has been added to the container within 15 minutes. Also, the container must be closed if the person performing the loading operation leaves the immediate vicinity of the container or if there is a shutdown of the process generating the material being added to the container.

Opening a closure device or a cover is permitted to remove hazardous waste from the container. When discrete quantities

of material are removed from the container the owner or operator must promptly secure the closure devices in the closed position and install covers after no additional material will be removed from the container within 15 minutes or the person performing the unloading operation leaves the immediate vicinity of the container.

The opening of a closure device or a cover is also allowed when access inside the container is needed to perform routine activities other than the transfer of a hazardous waste. Some examples of routine activities are collection of samples, a measurement of the depth of the liquid in the container, or the monitoring of equipment inside the container.

A spring-loaded pressure-vacuum relief valve, conservation vent or similar type of pressure relief device which vents to the atmosphere is allowed to open during normal operations in order to maintain the internal pressure of the container in accordance with the container design specifications. The relief device must be designed to operate with no-detectable emissions when in the secured closed position. The setting at which the device opens must be established so that the device remains in the closed position whenever the internal pressure of the container is within the internal pressure operating range. The internal pressure operating range must be determined by the owner or operator based on the container manufacturer recommendations, applicable regulations, fire protection and prevention codes and practices and other requirements for the safe handling of flammable, ignitable, explosive, reactive or hazardous materials. The opening of a safety device is permitted at any time conditions require doing so to avoid an unsafe condition.

The owner or operator using Container Level 1 controls must inspect the containers and their covers and closure devices upon completion of filling. If a hazardous waste is already in the container at the time the owner or operator first accepts the possession of the container (i.e., once the owner or operator signs the Uniform Hazardous Waste manifest) the owner or operator must visually inspect the container within 24 hours of acceptance. The container must be inspected for visible cracks, holes, gaps or other open spaces into the interior of the container when the cover and closure devices are secured in the closed position. If a defect is noted, the owner or operator must repair the defect within five calendar days. A first attempt at repair must be made within 24 hours of detection.

RCRA SUBPARTS AA, BB AND CC REGULATIONS BODY OF KNOWLEDGE

The owner or operator must maintain a copy of the determination that containers with capacity greater than 0.46 m³ are not managing hazardous waste in light material service.