

# Bergquist Bulletin



SPRING 2013

## We Stock Over 12,000 Essential Items!

### BASIC ESSENTIALS

- First Stage Regulators
- Second Stage Regulators
- Integral Two Stage
- 2-PSI Service Regulators
- Changeover Regulators
- Hogtails/Pigtails
- Copper Tubing
- Brass Fittings
- Hoses
- Pumps
- Paint
- Internal Valves
- ESVs

### PLASTIC PIPE & FITTINGS

- X-Risers
- Con-Stab Fittings
- PE Tubing

### RETAIL PROPANE

- Cylinders
- Cylinder Cabinets
- Composite Cylinders

### AND MORE!

## BERGQUIST SEMINARS!

Visit the *Bergquist Academy* at [bergquistacademy.com](http://bergquistacademy.com) to view upcoming training programs or call us at 800-537-7518.

## WE'RE HERE FOR YOU!

When you call Bergquist, you get "your questions answered by the people who know propane equipment."



## Introducing our new **Interactive Catalog** at **Bergquistinc.com**

At Bergquist we are excited to introduce our brand new Interactive Catalog! It's easy to use and puts over 12,000 items right at your fingertips — from the convenience of your desktop, tablet, or smart phone! Our new online catalog also gives you more information including complete product descriptions, part numbers, product images, and specification tables.

### Order 24/7

Our updated Online Storefront makes it even easier and faster to place your orders! All stocked items are available for overnight shipping nationwide.

### Talk to people who know the business

Of course, for personalized service just give us a call! Just visit us online to locate the number you need for product specialists, your area sales manager, or our executive team. We're always glad to hear from you and we welcome every call.

**See what's new! Visit us online today!**

*Our new  
Interactive Catalog is  
easy-to-use & packed with  
helpful information!*



Be sure to visit our Bergquist Academy site, which gives you fast access to training videos, product spec sheets, serviceman's guides, and upcoming training seminars

## Mark your calendar for these upcoming **Bergquist Academy seminars & classes!**

- June 13** - PERC Autogas Sales Training Seminar (Minneapolis, MN)
- July 16** - Rinnai Level II Training Class (Toledo, OH)
- July 17** - PERC Autogas Sales Training Seminar (Kansas City, MO)
- July 24** - PERC Autogas Sales Training Seminar (Denver, CO)
- September 10** - Rinnai Level III Training Class (Toledo, OH)
- September 11** - Rinnai Level III Training Class (Bowling Green, KY)
- September 17** - Empire Service School (Bowling Green, KY)
- September 19** - Empire Service School (Toledo, OH)

To learn more visit us at [bergquistacademy.com](http://bergquistacademy.com)!



# Requirements for Dielectric Fittings on Propane Tank Installations

At Bergquist, we are often asked about current codes and use of common safeguards regarding cathodic protection. The fact is, with many of our codes today, what was once recommended is now mandatory.

Recently some major revisions were introduced to the 2011 edition of NFPA 58 (Liquefied Petroleum Gas Code) regarding cathodic protection and dielectric fittings (see the box at right). Please ensure you and your team are aware of these revisions for all new tank installations using metallic piping.

## Dielectric Isolation

The most common dielectric fittings feature a male pipe thread on one side and male POL on the other side. Dielectric isolation in the form of pigtails and hogtails is more popular in underground tank applications where metallic piping is used. When using pigtails and hogtails, dielectric protection is still required where underground metallic piping meets the second-stage regulator.



Dielectric protection will soon be introduced that incorporates a second-stage regulator. These products will isolate metallic piping from electrical current sources and help prevent galvanic corrosion.

Dielectric isolation also offers protection against lightning strikes on stationary tanks relative to the use of corrugated stainless steel tubing (CSST) within dwellings. (Current code also requires that CSST systems be properly bonded.) Having dielectric insulators at the tank and house can prevent transfer of electrical currents through metallic piping into the home.

## Magnesium Anode Bags

Sacrificial magnesium anode bags are the most prevalent way to prevent tank corrosion in underground tank applications. Please keep in mind that an anode bag is used in conjunction with the required dielectric fitting as part of the overall cathodic protection system. Under normal applications:

- One 17# anode will protect a 500-gallon tank
- Two 17# anodes will protect a 1,000-gallon tank



Magnesium Anode Bag

## NFPA 58 2011 Code/Annex Changes

### 1. NFPA 58 6.9.3.16

Underground metallic piping, tubing, or both that convey LP-Gas from a gas storage container shall be provided with dielectric fittings at the building to electrically isolate it from the aboveground portion of the fixed piping system that enters a building. Such dielectric fittings shall be installed above ground and outdoors.

### 2. NFPA 58 A.6.6.6.1(I) Paragraph 6\*

*(Subsection revised by a tentative interim amendment [TIA]).* It is important that, when a cathodic protection system is designed, there is a clear understanding of the limits of the surface area and materials being protected. Electrical isolation of the container from metallic piping may be necessary using a dielectric fitting or other component designed for that purpose. For example, the cathodic system that protects a steel tank that is not electrically isolated from the attached metallic piping system will be forced to provide protection for the connected piping system as well. Therefore, the sacrificial anode will have to be sized to protect both the container and the piping. Additionally, if the piping is of a different material (such as copper) from the container, further complications could result and it is possible that the steel may corrode even though a sacrificial anode is connected to the container.



Insulated Dielectric Union

*\*This is from the NFPA 58 Annex and not part of recent code revisions. However, some jurisdictions treat the Annex as code and compliance is required. It's always best to check with the Authority Having Jurisdiction (inspector) before completing an installation.*

## Current Testing Regulations

NFPA 58 2011 also now includes a testing schedule for new underground tank installations. Section 6.6.6.1 requires you:

1. Test cathodic protection within 180 days of installation.
2. Verify effectiveness 12 to 18 months after initial test.
3. Schedule periodic follow-up testing every 36 months.

The code also requires that the two most recent tests be documented and kept on file.

*If you have any questions on the use of cathodic protection contact us today. We can provide you with additional information or training you may require on the use of dielectric unions, anode bags, or a testing schedule for cathodic protection on underground tank installations.*



# Propane & Recreational Vehicles



## Help your customers and your team understand RV Safety with PERC

As a propane supplier, you are expected to understand propane safety as it applies to all uses of propane. And at this time of year, it's especially popular to use propane for recreational vehicles.

Recreational vehicles have unique maintenance and safety needs that can become complex when RV's are rented, resold, rebuilt, or used by several parties. And because they often use propane for heating, hot water, cooking, and other small appliances, it's very important to make sure proper safety measures are observed before, during, and after using these vehicles.

PERC has always been a fantastic source for propane safety, and RV safety is no exception! Their RV safety brochure contains everything your team and your customers need to know including:

- Understanding the type of propane system on the RV
- Making modifications to the system
- General safety tips before and during travel
- Steps to take if the smell of gas is present
- Winterizing and storing your RV safely

Make sure your customers can count on you for all their propane safety questions! Review all the safety literature available for your use at **[www.propanecouncil.org](http://www.propanecouncil.org)** today.



## Women in Propane Council

*Are you a woman in the propane industry who wants to achieve parity and increase your leadership skills? Are you a man in the industry with the capability to promote women with potential? Are you a woman or man in the industry who has the capacity to mentor someone to achieve her goals? If you answered "yes", you may benefit from joining the Women in Propane Council activities.*

The Women in Propane Council, founded in January of 2012, provides opportunities for industry members to support the advancement and success of women in every scope of business operation and professional development. Benefits include:

- Mentorship programs promoting industry connections for career progression
- Professional development via networking programs and webinars
- Tips for recognizing and encouraging female workers with leadership potential
- Sensitivity training for working with both genders in the workplace and in the field
- Outreach programs to attract more women to our industry
- Education seminars defining the power of women/men leadership boards and their ability to govern more effectively and drive improved profits

The Women in Propane Council offers two types of memberships. Individuals may join at the rate of \$25. Companies may join at the corporate rate of \$500 which includes an unlimited number of individuals from the company.

Membership in the Women in Propane Council is open to any individual (both female and male) or company that is a member of the NPGA. Membership in the Women in Propane Council runs on an annual basis through the NPGA fiscal calendar ending in February. To learn more visit [npga.org](http://npga.org).

## Join us in congratulating Shawn Kaelber on his appointment as President of the NAPCG



Shawn Kaelber, our Bergquist IT Manager, was recently appointed President of the National Application Plus Customer Group (NAPCG).

The NAPCG is a user group focused on the enhancement and integration of A+ ERP software used in distribution companies nationwide. They offer an environment where end users can come together in discussion, networking, and training.

*Please join us in congratulating Shawn on this recent honor!*

# Your Propane Equipment Experts

## HOME OFFICE & WAREHOUSE

1100 King Rd., Toledo, OH 43635  
419-865-4196 • 800-537-7518

## INDIANA

212 W. Market St., Crawfordsville, IN 47933  
756-362-1468 • 800-662-3252

## KENTUCKY

1344 Memphis Junction Rd., Bowling Green, KY 42101  
270-843-6882 • 800-448-9504

## MINNESOTA

327 Marschall Road, Suite 355, Shakopee, MN 55439  
952-941-1620 • 800-328-6291

## MISSOURI

1828 Swift Ave., Suite 350, N. Kansas City, MO 64116  
816-421-8331 • 800-821-3878

## COLORADO

19682 E. 34th Drive, Aurora, CO 80011  
800-821-3878

[www.bergquistinc.com](http://www.bergquistinc.com)

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**Bergquist**  
bergquistinc.com

P.O. Box 351330  
Toledo, OH 43635

## BERGQUIST BULLETIN BOARD



### *Bergquist Open Houses!*

**Toledo, OH** • Tuesday, August 20  
**Bowling Green, KY** • Thursday, August 22

Mark your calendar for this exciting annual Bergquist event! You'll be able to meet our team, see new products from our manufacturers, save big on all take-home equipment items, plus enjoy our delicious Open House lunch buffet! This year, PERC representatives will also be offering a seminar on "Autogas Sales Training."

See us this spring at these trade shows & conventions!

### **Atlantic Region Energy Expo (AREE)**

**April 30-May 2, 2013** • Atlantic City, New Jersey

### **Western Propane Trade Show & Convention**

**May 16-18, 2013** • Reno, Nevada

### **Mid States Propane Expo & Trade Show**

**June 3-6, 2013** • Overland Park, Kansas

### **New England Fuel Institute (NEFI) Energy Expo**

**June 11-12, 2013** • Foxboro, Massachusetts

**For more information visit our website or call us today!**