

Bergquist Bulletin



SPRING/SUMMER 2014

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
- OPD Valves

AND MORE!

BERGQUIST SEMINARS!

Visit the *Bergquist Academy* at 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."



Together, we're working hard to help your propane company grow

Dear Valued Customer,

It has been a long hard winter, but I'm pleased to say as an industry, we have beaten the challenges and are on a path to growth in gallons. It's during times like these that I'm especially proud to be a member of the National Propane Gas Association (NPGA) Board of Directors and the Propane & Education Research Council (PERC).

The recent meeting of the NPGA Board of Directors made me realize how important it is to have NPGA staff working with the federal government. At the start of the supply crisis this winter, our people pushed for the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to take action. 48 hours later, FERC issued an emergency order for pipeline operators to place propane loads in front of everything else.


Not only has the NPGA been working with the government to improve the current supply situation, but we're also working on ways to prevent future issues. At the most recent NPGA meeting, producers, transporters, pipeline operators, and marketers gathered to explore issues and solve problems. The main fact I took away is that the propane industry is not having a supply issue, it's a logistics problem. The U.S. has propane — it's just in the wrong place and we are trying to transport everything all at the same time. If we could level our usage throughout the year transportation would be easier. This leads us to growing the summertime load.

That's where PERC comes in. PERC is dedicated to growing the use of propane year round, and thanks to dedicated industry volunteers and a \$40 million budget for funding safety, training, and research and development, the council has many exciting projects lined up for 2014:

- **Promoting the commercial mower market.** The economic and environmental advantages to using propane in commercial landscaping are tremendous. This cylinder-based market will be larger than our current forklift market and will be primarily summertime gallons.
- **Developing a handheld detector for odorant.** This portable device, which should be ready for production in November, will measure the level of odorant in a sample of propane.

Please let us know if there is anything we can do to serve you better. We look forward to meeting your equipment, training, and consultation needs throughout the year to come.

Sincerely,


Bob Barry
President

*As a propane company,
you benefit from the initiative,
dedication, and support of
great industry organizations
working hard to help your
business succeed*

Test for Leaks When Service Is Interrupted

by Bruce Montroy, Senior Vice President, Sales for Bergquist, Inc.

It is a well-known practice to perform a leak test on all new propane installations. However, the importance of performing a leak test during all interruptions of service cannot be over-emphasized.

An interruption of service is any time there is not enough pressure for the appliances to operate, including when regulators are changed, a tank is changed out, an "out of gas" situation, or any time the tank valve is turned off.

The National Fuel Gas Code [NFPA 54] is an excellent source for information on this subject. Follow these rules (reprinted from the 2012 edition) and always check with the local authority having jurisdiction for other requirements.

8.1.5 Detection of Leaks & Defects

8.1.5.1 The piping system shall withstand the test pressure specified without showing any evidence of leakage or other defects. Any reduction of test pressures as indicated by pressure gauges shall be deemed to indicate the presence of a leak unless such reduction can be readily attributed to some other cause.

8.1.5.2 The leakage shall be located by means of an approved gas detector, a non-corrosive leak detection fluid, or other approved leak detection methods. Matches, candles, open flames, or other methods that provide a source of ignition shall not be used.

8.1.5.3 Where leakage or other defects are located, the affected portion of the piping system shall be repaired or replaced, and retested.

8.2 Piping System Leak Check

8.2.1 Test Gases. Leak checks using fuel gas shall be permitted in piping systems that have been pressure tested in accordance with Section 8.1.

8.2.2 Before Turning Gas On. Before gas is introduced into a system of new gas piping, the entire system shall be inspected to determine that there are no open fittings or ends and that all valves at unused outlets are closed and plugged or capped.

8.2.3 Leak Check. Immediately after the gas is turned on into a new system or into a system that has been initially restored after an interruption of service, the piping system shall be checked for leakage. Where leakage is indicated, the gas supply shall be shut off until the necessary repairs have been made.

Leak Testing

Briefly, the steps for completing the most common types of leak tests in propane systems are as follows.

At the tank valve, the service valve is closed and a 0-300 psi pressure gauge is installed between the service valve and the inlet of the first stage regulator. The service is opened to pressurize the system, and then closed. Enough pressure is released to lower the gauge reading by 10 psi. If the reading stays the same for three minutes, the system can be assumed to be leak free. If the reading increases, the service valve is not turned off all the way, or is leaking through, it should be replaced. If the reading decreases, that is an indication that there is leak in the system.

Testing downstream of the second stage regulator is done using a water manometer, an electronic manometer, or pressure gauge that measures inches of water column (w.c.) in a port after the outlet of the second stage regulator. In this case, after the system is pressurized, the pressure is bled down to 9 inches w.c. and held for three minutes. As with the test above, an increase in pressure indicates a

leaking service valve and a decrease shows a leak in the system.

For a test between the outlet of the first stage regulator and inlet of the second stage regulators, a 0-30 psi gauge is installed in the line between the two regulators. In this case, the pressure is reduced by 5 psi and observed for three minutes. A pressure increase shows a leaking service valve and decrease readings show a leak in the system.

For detailed instructions on how to perform all of the different types of leak tests, refer to the Propane Education and Research Council's CETP course "Placing Vapor Distribution Systems and Appliances into Operation." You can find it at www.propanesafety.com.

Use Detection to Locate Leak

No matter which method is used, if the test gauge shows a pressure decrease, there is a leak or leaks that must be found, repaired, and retested before the system can be put into service.

Use a combustible gas detector or leak detection solution to locate the leak. Never use any type of open flame or other ignition source. Do not operate any electric switches. Use a safety flashlight to help find the leak(s).

Run the leak test again after repairing any leaks. Once the test holds pressure for three minutes, it is safe to place the appliance into operation. Once a standard testing method is decided upon, a leak test is a relatively simple procedure to perform. After practicing a few times in the field it becomes second nature. In addition to being part of the required code, it is a necessary practice to ensure a leak-free installation and the safety of our customers.

Originally published in the February issue of Oil & Energy Magazine. To read the full article, visit <http://www.nefi.com/oilandenergy.php>.



Make a difference in our industry!



Women in Propane is a business council designed for winners! Show your support today by becoming a Friend of WIP.

Demonstrate your support for the council's positive initiatives by joining as a "Friend" to ensure industry members across the nation benefit from outstanding training, networking and mentorship programs. WIP is open to men and women members. "Friends" are notified of council activities while maintaining a non-voting status.

Membership Categories:

\$25 Individual

\$25 Friend of WIP

\$500 Corporate

*(allows as many employees
to enroll as desired)*

To get started email us today at wip@npga.org or visit us online at www.npga.org/wip.

*Thank you for making
a difference!*

WIP 2014 Calendar of Events

NPGA Expo and Southeast Convention

Georgia World Congress
Center (GWCC)
Atlanta, GA

Saturday, April 12

Training Session: The Power of
Mentoring — Value People and
Maximize Business Impact
2:00 pm

Sunday, April 13

WIP Roundtable Session:
Focus on Work/Life Balance
3:30 pm–5:00 pm

WIP Networking Reception
5:00 pm–6:00 pm

Western Propane Gas Convention

Reno, NV

Friday, May 17

Seminar: Power Networking —
Beyond Golf and Scotch
3:00 pm–4:30 pm

Reception: Power Networking —
Chain Reaction
4:30 pm–6:00 pm

Ray Murray Inc. Open House Lee, MA

Tuesday, June 10

WIP will host a booth at this
day-long, invitation-only event.
Additionally, WIP will present a
keynote speech and customer
service/sales seminar.

Bergquist Open House

Bowling Green, KY

Thursday, August 21

WIP will host a booth at this
trade show/educational industry
open house. Additionally, WIP
will present a workshop on
customer service/sales.
9:00 am–12:00 pm

NPGA Fall Board Meeting

In conjunction with the World
LPG Forum • Miami, FL

Sunday, October 26

WIP Council Annual Meeting
3:00 pm–5:00 pm

Monday, October 27

WIP Networking Luncheon
11:45 am–1:00 pm

Please be aware of the NEW CODE in the 2014 NFPA 58

The NFPA 58 was recently updated for 2014. Make sure you're prepared to meet the new requirements and have the equipment you need to ensure the continued safety of your employees and customers.

2014 NFPA 58 Section 6.19.2.6 (3)

"Where a facility hose is used at an LP-Gas bulk plant or industrial plant to transfer LP-Gas liquid from a cargo tank vehicle in a non-metered service to a bulk plant or industrial plant, the facility hose or the facility shall be equipped with an emergency discharge control system that provides a means to shut down the flow of LP-Gas caused by the complete separation of the facility hose within 20 seconds and without the need for human intervention."

Bergquist currently carries two products that satisfy the new code requirements: the Smart-Hose and GPS2's Lifeguard Safety System. To learn more or place an order, contact us today!

LIFEGUARD
SAFETY SYSTEM

Smart-Hose
TECHNOLOGIES

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Your Propane Equipment Experts

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*See inside for the WIP 2014
calendar of events!*

BERGQUIST BULLETIN BOARD

*Please join us in welcoming Jerry Belknap
to the Bergquist Inside Sales Team!*

Jerry is a 15-year veteran of the propane industry. He has worked for a couple of major propane marketers in northwest Ohio and southeast Michigan, starting out as a bobtail driver and eventually working his way up to district manager.

Before getting into the propane industry, Jerry worked as a paramedic. He attended Wayne State University and Monroe County Community College after high school to earn his qualifications to become a paramedic.

Jerry has been married to his wife Jenifer for 18 years and they have two children, Jessica, 14 and Jordan, 6.

**Join us in welcoming Jerry and his family
to the Bergquist family!**



*Save the Dates of Our
Bergquist Open Houses!*

Tuesday, Aug. 19 • Toledo, OH

The Propane Education and Research Council will be providing a Marketer Technology and Sales Training seminar on *Maximizing Opportunities in Residential Gallons*.

Thursday, Aug. 21 • Bowling Green, KY

The Women in Propane Council will be providing a half-day personal development workshop.

In addition to tabletop displays and our now-famous lunch buffet, you'll also receive a 5% discount plus additional manufacturer's savings for equipment purchased during the Open House!