

# INFORMATION SHEET

Code of Practice HSNO COP 4-1  
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## Code of Practice for Thermoplastic Stationary Tanks

This industry developed Code of Practice is called:

**Design and Construction of Fabricated Vertical Cylindrical Above Ground Thermoplastic Stationary Tanks for the Storage of Hazardous Liquids with Class 6, 8 and 9 Hazard Classifications**

### Codes of Practice: What are they and what is their significance?

Codes of Practice are able to be approved by the Authority under Sections 78 and 79 of the HSNO Act. In practice they are approved by the ERMA New Zealand Chief Executive under delegated authority.

Codes of Practice are “how to” documents. They tell you how you can meet the requirements of the HSNO regulations and controls, in a way that is legally defensible. However, they are **not** mandatory! If you have other ways of meeting the requirements then you can adopt those instead.

Most Codes will be developed by industry or user groups rather than by ERMA New Zealand.

### Where can you get a copy of this Code?

Code HSNO COP 4-1 was developed by APD Limited. A hard copy of the Code will be held at ERMA New Zealand’s reception in our Wellington Office. You can inspect a copy there.

It is also available for purchase from at:

APD Limited  
4/298 Neilson St  
P O Box 12 663  
Penrose  
Auckland  
New Zealand  
Ph +64 9 636 3441  
Fax +64 9 636 3442  
[bruce@apd.co.nz](mailto:bruce@apd.co.nz)  
[www.apd.co.nz](http://www.apd.co.nz)

## What is this Code about?

Clause 8 of the Hazardous Substances (Dangerous Goods and Scheduled Toxic Substances) Transfer Notice 2004 (as amended) provides standards for the design, construction and installation for above ground stationary tanks for hazardous liquids. Sub clause 8 (2) (h) specifically provides for the adoption of Codes of Practice.

This Code provides for requirements to design and construct vertical above ground tanks that:

1. are constructed from sheet polyethylene or polypropylene; and
2. are for the storage of hazardous substances with 6, 8 and 9 hazard classifications; and
3. are not used for the storage of substances that have a flammable classification.

## What is in the Code?

It is not possible to give a full summary of the Code in this Information Sheet, but the following information will give you a good indication of what is covered in the Code.

### *Context*

Every above ground tank must be designed and constructed in accordance with standards specified pursuant to clause 8, Schedule 8 of Hazardous Substances (Dangerous Goods and Scheduled Toxic Substances).

### *Design requirements*

This Code specifies requirements for the design and construction of these thermoplastic tanks and cites international standards. The Code includes standards for compatibility of hazardous substances with the thermoplastic material and also the de-rating factors to be applied.

### *In service requirements*

As well having appropriate design and installation standards the Code specifies the additional requirements for tank markings and the maximum validity period of Stationary Container Systems Test Certificates.

## Conclusion

This paper has been prepared by ERMA New Zealand to help you decide whether this Code would be of relevance to you. It is **not** in itself a Code of Practice.

## Further information or feedback

ERMA New Zealand publishes information sheets on a range of topics to provide background information on current issue or proposals being dealt with by the Authority. All publications may be viewed and downloaded from our website at [www.ermanz.govt.nz/resources/index.asp](http://www.ermanz.govt.nz/resources/index.asp) or may be requested by contacting ERMA New Zealand, P O Box 131, Wellington. Ph +64 4 916 2426 Fax +64 4 914 0433 Email [info@ermanz.govt.nz](mailto:info@ermanz.govt.nz)