

# Aboveground Storage Tank Caulking or Sealing the Bottom Edge Projection to the Foundation

API TECHNICAL REPORT 654  
FIRST EDITION, MAY 2019



AMERICAN PETROLEUM INSTITUTE

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# Aboveground Storage Tank Caulking or Sealing the Bottom Edge Projection to the Foundation

## 1 Scope

### 1.1 Scope

The purpose of this technical report is to provide guidance to owner/operators who have tanks that are set on a foundation system with the goal to protect the asset from deterioration by minimizing corrosion and foundation deterioration and allowing for proper support of the tank shell. The asset includes the tank itself, as well as the foundation system.

### 1.2 Applicability

**1.2.1** This technical report does not require that caulking or sealants be installed at the bottom edge projection and the foundation of aboveground storage tanks. It provides guidance in situations in which caulking or sealants may be advantageous and should be considered.

**1.2.2** This technical report applies to situations where an owner/operator is considering caulk or sealant in this area, or if any regulatory agency requires or recommends that an owner/operator installs some type of caulk or sealant. This document will also consider how to inspect existing caulk and sealant, including maintenance procedures, and includes a suggested inspection schedule.

### 1.3 Non-applicability

This technical report does not offer guidance on tanks resting entirely on the ground or earth with no rigid foundation or foundation ring wall.

## 2 Informative Reference Publications

The following documents offer guidance and supplement this technical report.

API Recommended Practice 575, *Inspection Practices for Atmospheric and Low-Pressure Storage Tanks*

API Standard 650, *Welded Tanks for Oil Storage*

API Recommended Practice 651, *Cathodic Protection of Aboveground Petroleum Storage Tanks*

API Recommended Practice 652, *Lining of Aboveground Petroleum Storage Tank Bottoms*

API Standard 653, *Tank Inspection, Repair, Alteration, and Reconstruction*

API Standard 2610, *Design, Construction, Operation, Maintenance, and Inspection of Terminal and Tank Facilities*

## 3 Terms and Definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following definitions apply.

### 3.1

#### **bottom edge projection**

The projection of the tank bottom beyond the shell.