



## Industry Service Announcement

Tank swelling will occur and is associated with a New “*Low Permeation Compliant*” Portable Outboard Marine Fuel Tank!!!

*Many boaters this year are seeing swelling of their new portable outboard fuel tanks, which they have not seen in the past. New EPA regulations have eliminated the traditional venting in these tanks. New portable outboard marine fuel tanks will not vent below 5 PSI with noticeable swelling.*

Tank swelling is the new standard condition as a result of Section 213 of the Clean Air Act implemented by the EPA. All manufacturers of Portable Outboard Marine Fuel Tanks must certify compliance with the EPA standard: (73 FR 59034, October 8, 2008) 40 CFR Part 1060.

Portable Outboard Marine Fuel Tanks being produced and sold into commerce must be tested and certified to these new requirements. In addition, the tank must meet the ABYC H-25 standard, which is the industry design safety standard for these increased pressures.

Since the manufacture of the “old style” twist vent caps are now banned, a newly designed cap is required. The new caps must have: a tether, provide an audible “click” for closure, and seal up to 5 PSI out, but allow vacuum in. Plus the cap needs an external or integrated means to temporarily relieve pressure within the tank prior to fuel filling or connection to the engine.

The new compliant cap will cause the portable outboard marine fuel tanks to swell. The swelling is a result of the fuel vapor building pressure, because the cap must stay sealed up to 5 PSI. Some tanks may vent to atmosphere when pressure reaches 5.1 PSI, some remain sealed beyond 5PSI. All tanks must remain sealed beyond 5PSI during storage and transportation. The new tanks have been tested to remain sealed and safe at these pressures even when swelling is visible.

Additionally there are two other cautions for the user:

### 1. Fuel Spray

Fuel spray is a very dangerous event that can result from the fuel vapor building pressure within the portable outboard marine fuel tank. Users should relieve all fuel pressure within the tank prior to disconnecting or connecting fuel fittings in order to avoid fuel spray. New portable

outboard marine fuel tanks include means to relieve pressure prior to filling or connecting fuel fittings.

## 2. Engine Flooding and Fuel Spillage

Engine flooding or fuel spillage can occur if a portable outboard marine fuel tank is left connected to an engine. Users should disconnect fuel lines from engines during storage or transportation or take other measures to ensure that pressurized fuel does not reach the engine in accordance with the engine manufacturer's instructions. Disconnecting the fuel line from the engine is a simple action users can take to prevent engine flooding and fuel spillage.

### **WARNING – CONTENTS ARE FLAMMABLE AND MAY BE UNDER PRESSURE**



Flammability Hazard



Spray Hazard

**Be sure to read the manufacture supplied operation information that comes with each portable outboard marine fuel tank!**