

California Environmental Protection Agency



Vapor Recovery Test Procedure

TP-201.2E

**Gasoline Liquid Retention in
Nozzles and Hoses**

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California Environmental Protection Agency
Air Resources Board

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Definitions common to all certification and test procedures are in:

D-200 Definitions for Vapor Recovery Procedures

For the purpose of this procedure, the term "CARB" refers to the State of California Air Resources Board, and the term "Executive Officer" refers to the CARB Executive Officer, or his or her authorized representative or designate.

1. PURPOSE AND APPLICABILITY

- 1.1 The purpose of this procedure is to quantify the volume of liquid gasoline retained within the nozzle spout and vapor passage of the hose between refueling events. Gasoline retained on the atmospheric side of the vapor check valve, and/or in the nozzle's liquid path, is subject to potential evaporation and/or spillage and is referred to as "Liquid Retention". It is applicable, during the CARB Certification Process, for determination of compliance with the Liquid Retention standard specified in the Certification Procedure (CP-201).
- 1.2 The procedure also measures the amount of gasoline dispensed if the nozzle trigger is accidentally depressed prior to activation of the dispenser. For the purpose of this procedure, this phenomenon shall be referred to as "Spitting".

2. PRINCIPLE AND SUMMARY OF TEST PROCEDURE

- 2.1 A gasoline-resistant graduated cylinder is used to measure the liquid gasoline retained in the nozzle/hose assembly during each test run. A Baseline evaluation of each nozzle's initial retained quantity of gasoline, subject to liquid retention, is conducted. The Baseline Run is conducted without regard to prior dispenser throughput. After completing the Baseline Run on all nozzles at the GDF the Test Runs are conducted. Each Test Run evaluates gasoline subject to liquid retention at the conclusion of an observed refueling event. The quantity of dispensed fuel and liquid retention measured are recorded and included in each Test Run evaluation. A minimum of ten nozzles must be installed for certification testing of EVR nozzles. A minimum of four nozzles must be installed for certification testing of conventional nozzles. The average liquid retention of all applicable nozzles

tested shall be used to determine compliance with the Liquid Retain standard specified in CP-201.

- 2.2** During the Baseline Run, a gasoline resistant graduated cylinder is used to measure “spitting” at each nozzle. Spitting is defined as the amount of fuel that is “dispensed” by depressing the nozzle trigger **prior to** activating the dispenser.

3. BIASES AND INTERFERENCES

- 3.1** Do not compress the bellows of a balance-type nozzle with a vapor check valve. This will open the valve and may allow gasoline which is not normally subject to spillage or evaporation to be drained from the nozzle and hose.
- 3.2** Do not actuate the dispenser. This will pressurize the hose and may result in the inclusion of gasoline not normally subject to spillage, evaporation or spitting.
- 3.3** “Topping off” will bias the results toward noncompliance. Liquid retention from refueling events that included topping off shall be recorded, but excluded from the calculation of the average liquid retention.

4. SENSITIVITY, RANGE, AND PRECISION

- 4.1** The procedure is capable of determining liquid retention as small as one drop per refueling event.
- 4.2** The sensitivity of the procedure is 1 drop of liquid retention per refueling event and the precision is ± 1 drop per refueling event.
- 4.3** For the purpose of the test procedure, a refueling event shall consist of any vehicle refueling event. The liquid retain results from the filling of gasoline cans and/or motorcycles shall not be included in the test results.

5. EQUIPMENT

- 5.1** Funnel. Gasoline resistant, non-breakable funnel of appropriate size(s) for use with the graduated cylinders.
- 5.2** Graduated Cylinders. Gasoline resistant, non-breakable graduated cylinders with maximum capacities of 10, 25 and 100 ml. The 10 ml graduated cylinder may be necessary to quantify liquid retention of less than two (2.0) ml.
- 5.3** Gasoline Can. Use a portable fuel container of at least one (1.0) gallon capacity intended for reuse that is designed or used primarily for receiving, transporting, storing and dispensing fuel and equipped with a vapor-tight cap.
- 5.4** Stop Watch. Use a stopwatch accurate to the nearest 0.2 seconds to

measure the times specified in Section 6.

5.5 Other Equipment. Gasoline resistant gloves and safety glasses.

6. TEST PROCEDURE

6.1 To ensure consistency between runs, take all graduated cylinder readings at the liquid level meniscus, holding the graduated cylinder vertical and at eye level.

6.2 After each measurement, empty the graduated cylinder(s) into the gasoline can. As needed, carefully empty the gasoline from the gasoline can into the LOWEST OCTANE Phase I product riser.

6.3 Baseline Run

6.3.1 Record the following on the BASELINE RUN FIELD DATA SHEET. See Form 1 for an example form.

- a) Gasoline Dispensing Facility Name and Address
- b) System Manufacturer
- c) Dispenser and/or Nozzle Number
- d) Gas Grade

Note: The steps below must be followed, in the specified sequence, for each nozzle tested.

6.3.2 Verify that the 25 ml graduated cylinder is completely empty. Position the funnel in the top of the graduated cylinder. If a bellows-equipped nozzle is being tested, the funnel used must be wide enough to capture any liquid retained in the bellows.

6.3.3 Remove nozzle from the dispenser holster and hold nozzle in a normal upright position (nozzle pointed up) at approximately waist height.

6.3.4 Carefully tilt the nozzle tip down into the funnel/graduated cylinder assembly. Lower the nozzle as close to the ground as possible and “walk out” the hose while keeping the nozzle tip in the funnel/graduated cylinder. Keep the nozzle lowered and hose “walked out” while any gasoline in the nozzle/hose assembly drains into the funnel/graduated cylinder. Maintain the nozzle in this position and hose “walked out” for at least fifteen (15) seconds, allowing any retained liquid to drain from the nozzle. After the required fifteen (15) seconds, keep the hose and nozzle in this position until there is no flow (or drips) of gasoline for ten (10) seconds. If the flow does not stop, continue to measure drips for an additional two minutes. Remove the nozzle from the funnel/graduated cylinder and return it to the dispenser holster.

6.3.5 Record the following information on the BASELINE RUN FIELD DATA

SHEET.

- a) Nozzle Type
- b) Nozzle Serial Number
- c) Nozzle Date Code (if applicable)
- d) Spout Type, Aluminum (AL) or Stainless Steel (SS)
- e) Total amount of liquid gasoline (ml) in the graduated cylinder.

6.4 Spitting

- 6.4.1 Remove the nozzle from dispenser holster and hold the nozzle in a normal upright position (spout pointed up) at approximately waist height.
- 6.4.2 Keeping the nozzle at approximately waist height, and at arms length from your body, carefully insert the nozzle tip down at least two inches into the 0-100 ml graduated cylinder and tilt both nozzle and cylinder down until the spout and graduated cylinder are vertical. Lower the nozzle as close to the ground as possible, keeping it in the cylinder and pointed down. With the dispenser in the **OFF** position, pull the nozzle trigger and hold in the fully open position. Keep the nozzle in the graduated cylinder with the trigger pulled until there is no flow (drips) of gasoline for ten (10) seconds. Remove the nozzle from the graduated cylinder and return it to the dispenser holster.
- 6.4.3 On the Spitting section of the BASELINE RUN FIELD DATA SHEET record the number of additional milliliters (ml) of gasoline that “spit” into the graduated cylinder when the trigger was pulled.
- 6.4.4 Repeat the steps in Sections 6.4.1 through 6.4.3 until there is no longer tension on the trigger of the nozzle being tested. Use additional lines on the form as needed to record all the measurements.

6.5 Test Run

Note: The steps below must be followed, in the specified sequence, for each nozzle tested. It is not necessary to select nozzles for the Test Run in the same order as for the Baseline Run, as long as the Baseline Run precedes the Test Run for each nozzle.

- 6.5.1 Wait until a customer drives up to the pump and uses the nozzle of interest. Observe the dispensing event. Note whether topping off occurred. Approximately 60 seconds after the nozzle has been returned to the dispenser holster at the end of the refueling event, perform the following procedures.
- 6.5.2 Test the nozzle/hose assembly pursuant to Sections 6.3.1 through 6.3.4.

- 6.5.3 Record the total amount of liquid gasoline in the graduated cylinder on the TEST RUN FIELD DATA SHEET under "Test Run Total, ml". See Form 2 for an example form.
- 6.5.4 Conduct ten (10) test runs for each nozzle. The average liquid retain of all applicable nozzles tested shall be used to determine compliance with the Liquid Retain standard in CP-201.

6.6 Regeneration of Liquid Retention

Certain defects may cause the nozzle to act as self-refilling open container. If regeneration of liquid is suspected, the following procedure can be used to measure the resulting quantity of liquid.

- 6.6.1 Allow 5 to 10 minutes following a test run, with no other fueling activity involving the nozzle. Test the nozzle/hose assembly pursuant to Sections 6.3.1 through 6.3.4. (Note: this test **shall not** directly follow a spitting test.)
- 6.6.2 Record the total amount of liquid gasoline in the graduated cylinder on the REGENERATION FIELD DATA SHEET under "Retained Liquid, ml". See Form 3 for an example form.
- 6.6.3 Repeat, allowing 5 to 10 minutes between repetitions, with no other fueling activity involving the nozzle, until no liquid is found or until regeneration has been sufficiently documented.

7. POST-TEST PROCEDURES

- 7.1 Use Equation 8.1 to calculate the average liquid retain for all the applicable nozzles tested.

8. CALCULATING RESULTS

- 8.1 The average Liquid Retention for all applicable nozzles tested shall be calculated as follows:

$$V_r = \frac{(V_t)}{G_{Tdis}}(1,000) \qquad \text{Equation 8-1}$$

Where:

- V_r = Liquid Retain, mls per 1,000 gallons dispensed
- V_t = Total measured retain, mls
- G_{Tdis} = Total gallons of gasoline dispensed, gallons
- 1,000 = Correction factor from gallons to 1,000 gallons

9. REPORTING RESULTS

- 9.1** Report the liquid retention volumes for the BASELINE and TEST RUN procedures, along with the total gallons of gasoline dispensed, on the applicable of Form 1 or Form 2.
- 9.2** Report the “spitting” volume on Form 1.
- 9.3** Report the average liquid retain for each individual nozzle tested and all the applicable nozzles tested.
- 9.4** If regeneration of liquid was documented, report the quantity and rate of regeneration, in milliliters and milliliters per minute, respectively on Form 3.

10. ALTERNATE PROCEDURES

- 10.1** This procedure shall be conducted as specified. Modifications to this test procedure shall not be used to determine compliance unless prior written approval has been obtained from the ARB Executive Officer, pursuant to Section 14 of Certification Procedure.

