

2.4 Environmental Protection

2.4.1 Environmental Protection

Before choosing the location of a domestic oil storage tank, to show compliance with the Building Regulations and BS 5410 Part 1 a Risk Assessment needs to be undertaken to determine whether or not it is permissible to omit secondary containment.

Secondary containment can be provided either by using an integrally bunded oil storage tank, or by building a concrete or masonry bund to CIRIA Report 163 around a single skin oil storage tank.

OFTEC TI/133D outlines environmental hazards which, if present, would prevent the omission of secondary containment to a domestic oil storage tank. For further information regarding completing an OFTEC TI/133D, please refer to section P5 of the OFTEC Procedures section in this publication.

Every installation will have special features (or hazards) and they must be assessed on each occasion for their likely environmental impact in the event of spillage.

NOTE: Risk Assessment does not apply to Jersey and Guernsey because of a local requirement whereby all oil storage tank installations must have secondary containment.

See Regional Requirements at the back of this book.

For domestic oil storage tanks above 3500 litres the requirements of regional Control of Pollution regulations apply. See regional requirements and OFTEC Technical Book 3 Part 2 for further information.

2.4.2 Secondary Containment (Diagrams 2.2a, 2.2b and 2.2c)

Bunds were, in the past, sometimes referred to as catchpits. They are secondary containment systems within which the primary tank sits. The bund holds 110% of the tanks contents if oil is lost or spills from the tank. Secondary containment can be provided by use of either an integrally bunded steel or plastic oil storage tank or by the provision of a concrete or masonry bund.

For domestic premises (not exceeding 2500L) secondary containment must not be omitted unless it can be shown that this will not create an increased environmentally hazardous situation in the event of oil loss or spillage (see regional requirements).

Any valves, filters, sight gauges, vent pipes or similar equipment that are ancillary to the tank must be located within the bund.

NOTE: An isolating valve or filter installed in a pipe run from integrally bunded tanks are not classed as being ancillary to the tank and are therefore permitted to be installed outside the bund.