

## Basic Fuel Tank Types

There are five basic types of Generator-Base Tank designs that can be Underwriters Laboratory (UL) Listed as "Special Purpose Flammable Liquid Tanks". The basic "standard" for these tank designs is Underwriters "UL-142 Steel Aboveground Tanks for Flammable and Combustible Liquids" listing. Each of these tank designs have been known by various *industry slang* names, and in some cases the same name is applied to several different types of tank. This, of course, has been very confusing and misleading. The five different tank designs described below are the UL categories with their "official" names. This list is given in order from the very basic UL-142 Listed "Generator Base Tank" to the newest design, the UL 2085 Listed "Protected Secondary Containment Generator Base Tank".

### 1. Generator Base Tank

Aboveground steel rectangular tank for use as a sub-base for diesel engine generators intended to be installed in accordance with the Standard for Installation and Use of Stationary Combustible Engine and Gas Turbines, NFPA 37, and the Standard for Emergency and Standby Power Systems, NFPA110.



Single-Wall  
Tank

### 2. Open-Top Diked generator Base Tank

A generator base tank with an integral steel open-top dike intended to contain liquids resulting from a spill, tank leak or rupture.

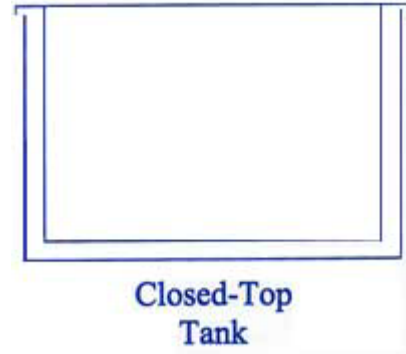
**Note:** This type tank offers little protection against falling debris or precipitation from entering the containment basin. Generally this tank is installed indoors and out of the weather.



Open-Top  
Tank

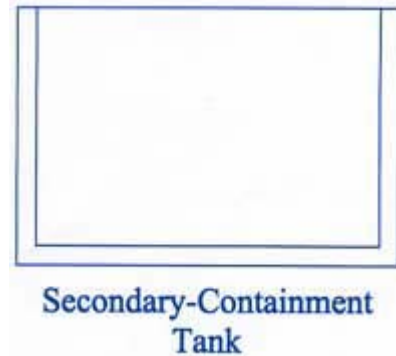
### 3. Closed-Top Diked Generator Base Tank

A generator base tank with an integral steel dike intended to contain liquids from tank leak or rupture. The dike has integral protection on the top to prevent precipitation, debris, or other elements from entering the diked area.



### 4. Secondary-Containment Generator Base Tank

Aboveground steel secondary containment rectangular tank for use as a sub-base for diesel engine generators intended to be installed in accordance with the Standard for Installation and Use of Stationary Combustible Engine and Gas Turbines, NFPA 37, and the Standard for Emergency and Standby Power Systems, NFPA 110. These tanks have provisions for monitoring the annular space for leakage.



### 5. Protected Secondary-Containment Generator Base Tank

UL 2085 Protected Aboveground steel secondary containment rectangular tank for use as a sub-base for diesel engine generators intended for stationary installation and use in accordance with the Standard for Installation and Use of Stationary Combustible Engine and Gas Turbines, NFPA 37, and the Standard for Emergency and Standby Power Systems, NFPA 110. These tanks are also intended for use in accordance with the Uniform Fire Code, published by the International Fire Code Institute. These tanks have provisions for monitoring the annular space for leakage.

