

GUST TRUST FUND

What is the Georgia Underground Storage Tank (GUST) Trust Fund and why it is beneficial for your business to be a part of the Fund?

What is the GUST Trust Fund?

- ✓ Ensuring that your business is financially sound is a requirement of the United States Environmental Protection Agency's federal law. The Georgia Underground Storage Tank (GUST) Trust Fund was established by law as Georgia's underground storage tank financial mechanism option. It is a business-friendly option for facility owners in Georgia to operate underground storage tanks.

How much does it cost to participate in the Fund?

- ✓ The GUST fee is set at \$0.0075 per gallon purchased for sale or use and is referred to as an Environmental Assurance Fee (EAF). It was established to guarantee that funding is available if emergency and/or corrective action is required in the event of a petroleum release.

How are the fees collected?

- ✓ If you opt into the GUST Trust Fund, it is your responsibility to tell your jobbers. Once your jobbers are aware of your participation, EAFs are automatically submitted to the Environmental Protection Division, UST Management Program. As long as you stay in compliance with the rules and regulations, there are no other requirements to retain coverage.

Benefits of participating in the GUST Trust Fund:

- ✓ The Application process is easy. For existing facilities that want to begin participating in the GUST Trust Fund only a Phase II is required, regardless of the age of the tank.
- ✓ Under the GUST Trust Fund the deductible is \$10,000 regardless of tank age and has not increased since 1988.
 - Insurance fees are subject to change. Tank insurance rates may inflate every year or several years. Old tanks may not qualify for private insurance coverage.
- ✓ It is easy to show financial assurance for that \$10,000 deductible in the GUST Trust Fund. All financial mechanism documents are user-friendly and streamlined for your convenience.
 - If you opt for private insurance, documents must be reviewed by USTMP and may require additional steps.
- ✓ It is easy to file to a GUST Trust Fund claim if a release occurs.
 - If you are covered by private insurance, documents must be submitted to both USTMP and your insurance company separately.
 - Many insurance policies have exclusion which would deny coverage if your facility is out of compliance at the time of release.

**We are here for you. If you have questions or concerns,
please call 404.362.2687**

