



PITSF—PETROLEUM INDUSTRY
TRANSPORT SAFETY FORUM

15th April 2015

Petroleum Industry Transport Safety Forum – Usage of Cork or Cork Blend Gaskets in NZ

Dear Sir/Madam,

Brief overview of the Petroleum Industry Transport Safety Forum (PITSF)

The purpose of the Petroleum Industry Transport Safety Forum (PITSF) is to promote the Safe, efficient and reliable movement of Petroleum Fuel by road, throughout New Zealand.

The PITSF is driven & managed by key Oil Industry representatives from BP New Zealand, Chevron New Zealand and Z Energy Ltd. The PITSF also includes membership from fuel transport operators: Allied Petroleum, Pacific Fuel Haul Ltd and Tranzliquid Logistics Ltd, along with specialist advisory support from appropriate subject matter experts including Tank wagon fabricators and service providers.

NZ Oil Industry – Cork or Cork Blend Gasket Usage in New Zealand

One of the leading causes of product leaks at NZ Oil terminals relate back to tanker gasket failure. Following on from a practice that has been implemented in Australia in recent times, and in the best interest of preventing these incidents, the PITSF endorses banning cork or cork blend gaskets on all tanker fittings that are located below the tanker centre-line.

Effective 30 April 2018 this ban will come into force at all PITSF represented terminals. This timeframe should give all vehicle operators sufficient time to phase these gaskets out of operation.

Effective 1 May 2015, all tankers that require gasket replacements, should have gaskets installed that are constructed using a material other than cork. It is also recommended that all tankers that are manufactured after 1 May 2015, should not use cork or cork blend gaskets in tanker construction.

IMPORTANT: Please ensure you consult with the original tanker or equipment manufacturer to ensure replacement gaskets are fit for purpose.

We also make the recommendation that cork or cork blend gaskets are not used on all tanker fittings **above** the centre-line.

A copy of this notification can be found in the PITSF section of the RTF website: www.rtfnz.co.nz

If you wish to discuss further, or require any further clarification please contact your relevant company PITSF representative, as listed below:

Thanks & Regards, the PITSF

PITSF representative/members & Invitations:

- Corban McKubre (Chevron)
- David Kinnaird (Z)
- Mark Carson (BP)
- Greg Pert (Gull - Tranzliquid Logistics Ltd)
- Kevin Sim (Mobil/Chevron - Allied Petroleum)
- Andy Stanley (Z/Chevron – Pacific Fuel Haul Ltd)
- Mark Allen (MFI Engineering)
- Neil Boys (Tanker Engineering)

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