REQUIREMENTS FOR THE RETEST AND INSPECTION OF POLY IBC TANKS

An IBC tank that is certified as a UN/DOT marked IBC container, must follow the retest and inspection guidelines set forth in **Title 49 CFR §180.352.** The owner or lessee of the (IBC) Intermediate Bulk Container, should follow a regular inspection program and carefully document the results. To maintain compliance, the owner or lessee must retain records of tests performed, either periodic inspections, retests or any repairs made to the IBC. Records must include design types and packaging specifications, test and inspection dates, name and address of test and inspection facilities, names or name of any persons conducting test or inspections, and test or inspection specifics and results. These records must be made available for inspection by Department of Transportation representative upon request. Any IBC not conforming to the internal and external inspection, pressure or thickness test must be taken out of service for the transportation of hazardous materials until restored to the original design specifications.

The following information is for reference only and IBC owner or lessee should reference eCFR 49 §180.352 for specific inspections & retests, repairs and record keeping guidelines.

Internal Pressure Test:

Each IBC intended to contain solids that are loaded or discharged under pressure or intended to contain liquids must be tested in accordance with the **leakproofness test** prescribed in eCFR 49 §178.813

- Pressure Test to be done every 2.5 years thereafter, starting from the date of manufacture or the date of a repair
- Leakproofness test must be carried out for a suitable length of time using air at a gauge pressure of not less than 20 kPa (2.9 psig) and a maximum of 24 kPa (3.5 psig)
- All relief vents should be plugged or blocked prior to pressure test.
- All seams and joints should be coated with a soapy solution for the purpose of detecting leaks while under pressure.
- IBC must be internally inspected for cracks, warpage, corrosion or any other damages.

External Visual Inspection:

An external visual inspection must be conducted initially after production and every 2.5 years starting from the date of manufacture or the date of a repair.

- The IBC is marked in accordance with requirements in eCFR §178.703, missing or damaged markings, or markings difficult to read must be restored or returned to original condition.
- Service Equipment (lids, gaskets, valves, plugs and other fittings) to be fully functional and free from damage which may cause failure. Missing, broken, or damaged parts must be repaired or replaced.
- The IBC must be externally inspected for cracks, warpage, corrosion or any other damage which might render the IBC unsafe for transportation. An IBC found with such defects must be removed from service or repaired back to its original design specifications.

Repair Requirements:

- Reference eCFR 49 §180.352(d) for requirements applicable to repair of IBCs.
- The repaired IBC must conform to the original design type, is capable of withstanding the applicable design qualification tests, and is retested and inspected in accordance with the applicable requirements.
- Perform a leakproofness test in accordance to eCFR 49 §178.813
- All repairs should be recorded and documented eCFR 49 §180.352(g)