Dry Cleaners: Delivery of Perchloroethylene Solvent

Background
Oregon statute requires all Perchloroethylene (perc) dry cleaning solvent to be delivered to dry cleaning facilities by means of closed, direct-coupled delivery systems. The purpose of this requirement is to reduce or eliminate accidental spills and releases of perc during delivery. This requirement does not apply to any other dry cleaning solvent.

Complying with the requirements described in this fact sheet is necessary for your facility to be eligible to be cleaned up using funds from the state’s Dry Cleaner Environmental Response Account.

What is a closed, direct-coupled delivery system?
For the purpose of complying with this requirement, a closed, direct-coupled delivery system must have ALL of the following features:

- The dry cleaning machine is fitted with closed, self-sealing couplings for input of solvent into the dry cleaning machine and closed, self-sealing couplings on the vapor displacement outlet that captures perc gas vapors and returns the vapor to the delivery container.
- The line used to deliver solvent must have a self-sealing coupling on the input port of the dry cleaning machine solvent tank, so no leaks can occur either while solvent is being delivered or when the delivery line is being put on or taken off.
- Vent gases from the filling of the dry cleaning machine’s storage tank must be captured and not released to the environment.

What if I store perc onsite?
The closed, direct-coupled delivery system requirements also apply to onsite perc transfer, such as topping off a dry cleaning solvent tank from a container. However, in order to avoid spills, this type of product transfer should not be done. Under no circumstances can perc be poured into a dry cleaning machine.

What about other solvents
Oregon law does not specify similar requirements for delivering other solvents into dry cleaning tanks occurs within the containment area in case a spill occurs.

Who do I call with questions?
For any questions about containing solvents at your facility or about the Oregon Dry Cleaner Program in general, contact the Dry Cleaner Program Coordinator, Nancy Cardwell at 503-229-6240, or call toll-free in Oregon at 1-800-452-4011 or e-mail drycleanerinfo@deq.state.or.us.

Dry cleaner fact sheets and rules
DEQ has several fact sheets explaining in more detail all aspects of the Oregon Dry Cleaner Program, its rules and regulations. All are available on DEQ’s dry cleaner program web page at: www.oregon.gov/deq/Hazards-and-Cleanup/Pages/Dry-Cleaners-QA.aspx

Alternative formats
Documents can be provided upon request in an alternate format for individuals with disabilities or in a language other than English for people with limited English skills. To request a document in another format or language (including Vietnamese and Korean), call DEQ in Portland at 503-229-5696, or toll-free in Oregon at 1-800-452-4011, ext. 5696; or email deqinfo@deq.state.or.us.