

Management of Hazards Associated with Location of Process Plant Tents

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Management of Hazards Associated with Location of Process Plant Tents

1 Scope

1.1 General

This Recommended Practice (RP) provides guidance for managing the risk from explosions, fires and toxic material releases to on-site personnel located in tents. The term “tent” is used to describe a wide range of structures and is defined in 3.18. This RP was developed for use at refineries, petrochemical and chemical operations, natural gas liquids extraction plants, natural gas liquefaction plants, and other onshore facilities covered by OSHA 29 CFR 1910.119^[1].

The focus of this RP is primarily on process related hazards. However, non-process related hazards may exist which could present risks to tent occupants. Previous incidents have demonstrated that tent occupants are susceptible to injuries from fires originating inside the tent, from tent collapse due to extreme weather, and from falling objects. Some of these hazards are addressed by tent design standards, manufacturer’s recommendations, and local regulations. See 5.3 and 5.4 for additional guidance.

1.2 Guiding Principles

This RP is based on the following guiding principles.

- a) Locate personnel away from process areas consistent with safe and effective operations.
- b) Minimize the use of tents intended for occupancy in close proximity to process areas.
- c) Manage the occupancy of tents in close proximity to process areas.
- d) Design, construct, install, modify, and maintain tents intended for occupancy to mitigate hazards that the tent siting could present to occupants in the event of explosion, fire, and toxic material release.
- e) Manage the use of tents intended for occupancy as an integral part of the design, construction, maintenance, and operation of a facility.

1.3 Relationship with API RP 752 and API RP 753

The requirements and work processes in API 756 are similar to API 752, *Management of Hazards Associated with the Location of Process Plant Permanent Buildings*. API 756 uses a similar zoning concept for design/site selection decisions as API 753, *Management of Hazards Associated with the Location of Process Plant Portable Buildings*. API 756 was written using a similar format as API 752 for consistency between the two documents. In many cases API 756 refers to API 752 and API 753 to avoid duplication.

2 Normative References

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

API Recommended Practice 752, *Management of Hazards Associated with Location of Process Plant Permanent Buildings*, 3rd Edition, 2009

API Recommended Practice 753, *Management of Hazards Associated with Location of Process Plant Portable Buildings*, 1st Edition, 2007 (reaffirmed 2012)