

# STANDATA interpretation 23-PSI-001

## Private Sewage

### Secondary safety devices – sewage tank access openings

Date Issued: September 2023

Page 1 of 3

#### Purpose

This STANDATA provides clarification on industry concerns and questions regarding the application of material requirements for sewage tanks in relation to access openings, (which are meant to be removed) over chambers with an opening greater than 200 mm in diameter, where there is a risk of accidental entry.

#### Discussion

Articles 3.1.3.1. 1); 4.2.3.1. 1); 5.2.3.1. 2); 6.1.3.1. 1); 6.2.3.1. 1); and 6.3.3.1. 1) of the Private Sewage Standard of Practice (SOP) all reference that tanks shall be certified as meeting or exceeding the requirements of CSA-B66 Design, Material, and Manufacturing Requirements for Prefabricated Septic Tanks and Sewage Holding Tanks as amended or replaced from time to time.

The CSA-B66:21 with amendments was declared in force in October 2021. Clause 4.2.6.3. was a new requirement that all access openings (which are meant to be removed) over chambers with an opening greater than 200 mm in diameter, where there is a risk of accidental entry, shall have a secondary safety device that can withstand 91 kg of dead load.

CSA has two options to ensure compliance with Clause 4.2.6.3 of the B66 Standard when they certify sewage tanks. The first option is the septic tank manufacturers can outsource the secondary safety device from the marketplace, and that supplier would supply the device to the tank manufacturer along with a test report and/or a P. Eng. stamped letter. The second option is where CSA has developed a certification test to evaluate/test the secondary devices for the tank manufacturer, CSA witnesses the test at the manufacturer's facility and include the device as part of the tank certification.

CSA is evaluating the tank manufacturers to CSA Notice No. 361, once the manufacturer has been evaluated and complies with the notice, their tank certification will include the secondary safety devices. Secondary safety devices need to be supplied with the tank by the tank manufacturer.

Unless stated otherwise, all Code references in this STANDATA are to Alberta Private Sewage Systems Standard of Practice 2021

Issued by the Provincial Private Sewage Administrator (Acting)

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The tank manufacturer or an independent manufacturer can produce the secondary safety devices. The devices whether outsourced from the market or manufactured by the tank manufacturer will be included as part of the CSA certification.

The secondary safety device will not carry the CSA mark. Once all tank manufacturers have been evaluated through the CSA Certification notice No. 361, every tank will include the secondary safety device as part of the CSA certification of the tank.

The installation of the secondary safety devices must follow the manufacturer's instructions.

## Code References

### Alberta Private Sewage Systems Standard of Practice 2021

#### 3.1.3.1. General

- 1) A holding tank shall be certified by an accredited testing agency as meeting or exceeding the requirements of CSA-B66, Design, Material, and Manufacturing Requirements for Prefabricated Septic Tanks, and Sewage Holding Tanks, as amended from time to time.

#### 4.2.3.1. General

- 1) A Septic tank shall be certified by an accredited testing agency as meeting or exceeding the requirements of CSA-B66, Design, Material, and Manufacturing Requirements for Prefabricated Septic Tanks, and Sewage Holding Tanks, as amended from time to time.

#### 6.1.3.1. General

- 1) An effluent tank shall be certified by an accredited testing agency as meeting or exceeding the requirements of CSA-B66, Design, Material, and Manufacturing Requirements for Prefabricated Septic Tanks, and Sewage Holding Tanks, as amended from time to time.

#### 6.2.3.1. General

- 1) A Septic tank shall be certified by an accredited testing agency as meeting or exceeding the requirements of CSA-B66, Design, Material, and Manufacturing Requirements for Prefabricated Septic Tanks, and Sewage Holding Tanks, as amended from time to time.

#### 6.3.3.1. General

- 1) A lift station shall be certified by an accredited testing agency as meeting or exceeding the requirements of CSA-B66, "Design, Material, and Manufacturing Requirements for Prefabricated Septic Tanks and Sewage Holding Tanks" as amended or replaced from time to time.

**CSA B66:21****4.2.6.3 Risers**

When risers above the tank access opening are provided, the manufacturer shall construct the tank in such a way that all joints between the tank access opening and the risers, as well as between all riser sections, are watertight.

All access openings (which are meant to be removed) over chambers with an opening greater than 200 mm in diameter, where there is a risk of accidental entry, shall have a secondary safety device that can withstand 91 kg of dead load.

**Note:** See Clause 4.1.3 for requirements for joints made on-site.

**Application**

This Interpretation has been provided to clarify the requirement of secondary safety devices in sewage tank manways.

**Interpretation**

A secondary safety device, as prescribed in the CSA B66:21 standard, is recognized by the Material Requirements prescribed in the Alberta Private Sewage Systems Standard of Practice 2021 for sewage handling tanks.

This INTERPRETATION is applicable throughout the Province of Alberta.