

From the Compliance Corner:

by Bill Morris

Tips for using SIR

SIR - (Statistical Inventory Reconciliation)

A customer who has a pressurized or suction system may be using SIR (and is a 3rd party certified method) as their monthly release detection for their tanks, which **also includes the lines** as well. With a pressurized system, the mechanical line leak detector will still need to have a annual performance test done. If they have a VEEDER-ROOT electronic line leak detection system, an annual test is not required, but recommended.

Note: Sometimes, customers think that SIR is just doing inventory control. It's not. SIR uses the data from inventory control and with a special software program determines if the system (tanks & lines) are tight. To meet TCEQ requirements for this method of monthly release detection, it includes inventory control records **and** the SIR reports from the vendor.

Here's the secret

- Stick readings need to be taken to 1/8 inch (TCEQ rules). Be sure the correct tank chart to 1/8 inch is used. **The SIR report is only as accurate as the information submitted.**
- Be sure to take all readings such as gallons dispensed, and accurate stick readings (or in some cases the ATG readings) at the same time each day.
- For fuel deliveries, be sure to use **GROSS** gallons. A common mistake is to use NET gallons.
- If the SIR monthly report says "INCONCLUSIVE", and the cause is not resolved within 72 hours with a pass test from the SIR vendor, this would have to be reported to the TCEQ as a suspected release. If the SIR report says "FAIL", it must also be reported as a suspected release.