§ 179.220–8 Tank heads.

(a) Tank heads of the inner container, inner container compartments and outer shell must be of approved contour, and may be flanged and dished or ellipsoidal for pressure on concave side.

(b) Flanged and dished heads must have main inside radius not exceeding 10 feet and inside knuckle radius must be not less than 3 1/4 inches for steel and alloy steel tanks nor less than 5 inches for aluminum alloy tanks.

(c) Ellipsoidal heads must be an ellipsoid of revolution in which the major axis must equal the diameter of the shell and the minor axis must be one-half the major axis.

§ 179.220–9 Compartment tanks.

(a) The inner container may be divided into compartments by inserting interior heads, or by fabricating each compartment as a separate container and joining with a cylinder, or by fabricating each compartment as a separate tank without a joining cylinder. Each compartment must be capable of withstanding, without evidence of yielding or leakage, the required test pressure applied in each compartment separately, or in any combination of compartments.

(b) When the inner container is divided into compartments by fabricating each compartment as a separate container and joining with a cylinder, the cylinder must have a plate thickness not less than that required for the inner container shell and must be applied to the outside surface of the straight flange portion of the container head. The cylinder must fit the straight flange tightly for a distance of at least two times the plate thickness, or 1 inch, whichever is greater and must be joined to the straight flange by a full fillet weld. Distance from fillet weld seam to container head seam must be not less than 1 1/2 inches or three times the plate thickness, whichever is greater.

§ 179.220–10 Welding.

(a) All joints must be fusion welded in compliance with AAR Specifications for Tank Cars, appendix W (IBR, see §171.7 of this subchapter). Welding procedures, welders, and fabricators shall be approved.

(b) Radioscopy of the outer shell is not a specification requirement.

(c) Welding is not permitted on or to ductile iron or malleable iron fittings.


(a) Postweld heat treatment of the inner container is not a specification requirement.

(b) Postweld heat treatment of the cylindrical portions of the outer shell to which the anchorage or draft sills are attached must comply with AAR Specifications.
§ 179.220–13 Inner container manway nozzle and cover.

(a) Inner container manway nozzle must be of approved design with access opening at least 18 inches inside diameter, or at least 14 inches by 18 inches obround or oval.

(b) Manway covers must be of approved type. Design must provide a secure closure of the manway and must make it impossible to remove the cover while the tank interior is under pressure.

(c) All joints between manway covers and their seats must be made tight against leakage of vapor and liquid by use of suitable gaskets.

(d) Manway covers must be cast, forged, or fabricated metal complying with subsection § 179.220–7(g) of this section.

(e) A seal must be provided between the inner container manway nozzle and the opening in the outer shell.

[Amdt. 179–9, 36 FR 21341, Nov. 6, 1971]

§ 179.220–14 Openings in the tanks.

Openings in the inner container and the outer shell must be reinforced in compliance with AAR Specifications for Tank Cars, appendix E (IBR, see § 171.7 of this subchapter). In determining the required reinforcement area for openings in the outer shell, t shall be one-fourth inch.

[8 FR 7576, Dec. 31, 2003]

§ 179.220–15 Support system for inner container.

(a) The inner container must be supported within the outer shell by a support system of adequate strength and ductility at its operating temperature to support the inner container when filled with liquid lading to any level. The support system must be designed to support, without yielding, impact loads producing accelerations of the following magnitudes and directions when the inner container is loaded so that the car is at its rail load limit, and the car is equipped with a conventional AAR Specification M–901 draft gear.

Longitudinal .............................................. 7G
Transverse .................................................. 3G
Vertical ...................................................... 3G

(b) The longitudinal acceleration may be reduced to 3G where a cushioning device of approved design, which has been tested to demonstrate its ability to limit body forces to 400,000 pounds maximum at a 10 miles per hour impact, is used between the coupler and the tank structure. The support system must be of approved design and the inner container must be thermally isolated from the outer shell to the best practical extent. The inner container and outer shell must be permanently bonded to each other electrically either by the support system used, piping, or by a separate electrical connection of approved design.


§ 179.220–16 Expansion capacity.

Expansion capacity must be provided in the shell of the inner container as prescribed in § 179.221–1.

[Amdt. 179–9, 36 FR 21341, Nov. 6, 1971]

§ 179.220–17 Gauging devices, top loading and unloading devices, venting and air inlet devices.

(a) When installed, each device must be of approved design which will prevent interchange with any other fixture and must be tightly closed. Each unloading pipe must be securely anchored within the inner container. Each inner container or compartment thereof may be equipped with one separate air connection.

(b) When the characteristics of the commodity for which the car is authorized require these devices to be equipped with valves or fittings to permit the loading and unloading of the contents, these devices including valves, shall be provided with a protective housing except when plug or ball-type valves with operating handles removed are used. Provision must be