

# Storage Tanks Types In Petroleum Refineries



# Classification

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graph LR; A[Classification] --- B[Open Top Tanks]; A --- C[Fixed Roof Tanks]; A --- D[Floating Roof Tanks];
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Open Top Tanks

Fixed Roof Tanks

Floating Roof  
Tanks

# Open Top Tanks

This type of tank has no roof.

They shall not be used for petroleum product

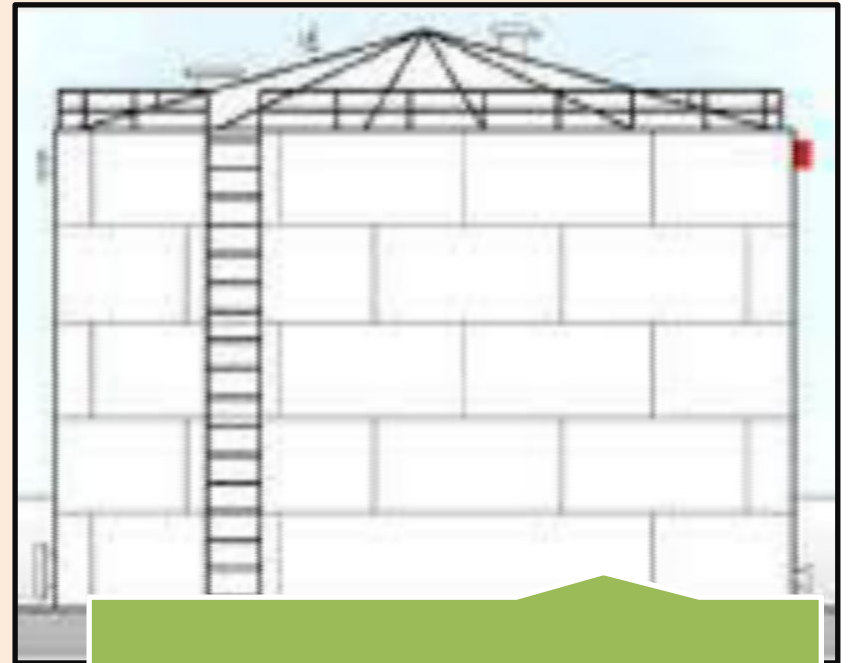
may be used for fire / cooling water.

The product is open to the atmosphere; hence it is an atmospheric tank.

# Fixed Roof

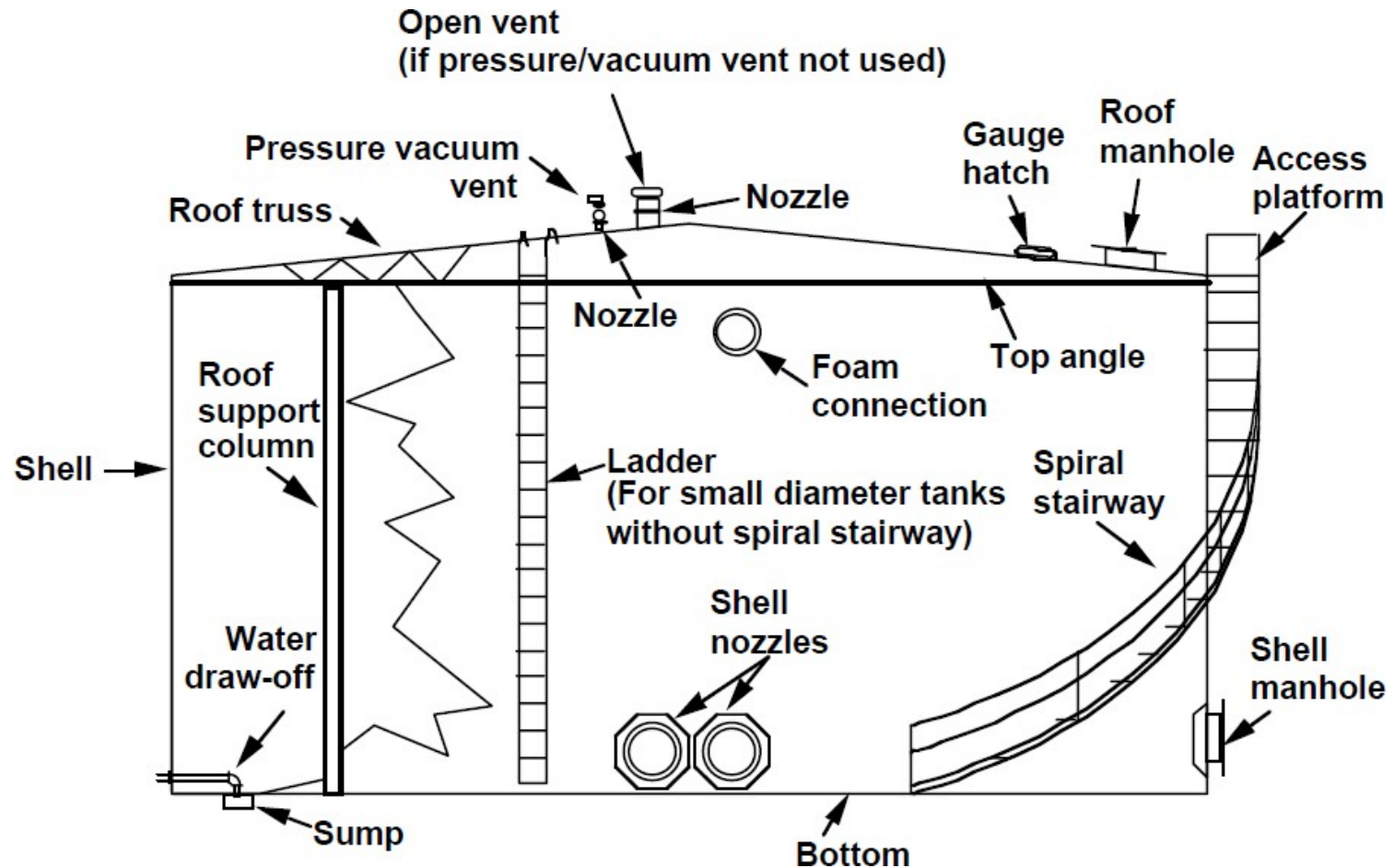


Dome

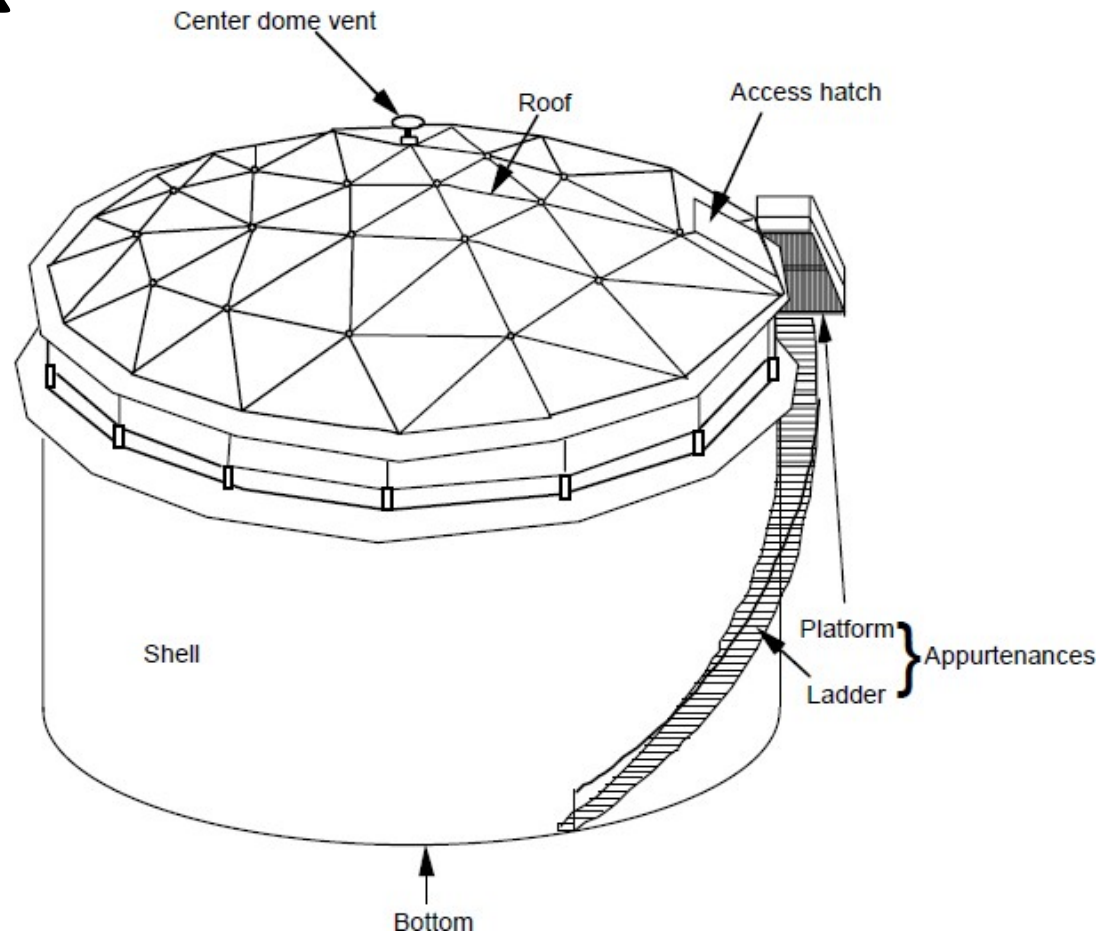


cone

# Supported cone



# Self-Supporting Fixed Roof Tank



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The roof of a self-supporting, fixed roof tank is supported completely from the shell without supplementary structural members.

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.The roof may be either conical or dome

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A dome-shaped roof can support itself at a larger diameter than a cone-shaped roof.

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Self-supporting, fixed roof tanks are practical only where relatively small fixed roof tanks are required.

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It has same characteristics and usages as the supported cone roof tank



# Floating Roof Tanks





where the roof floats on the product in an open tank and the roof is open to atmosphere

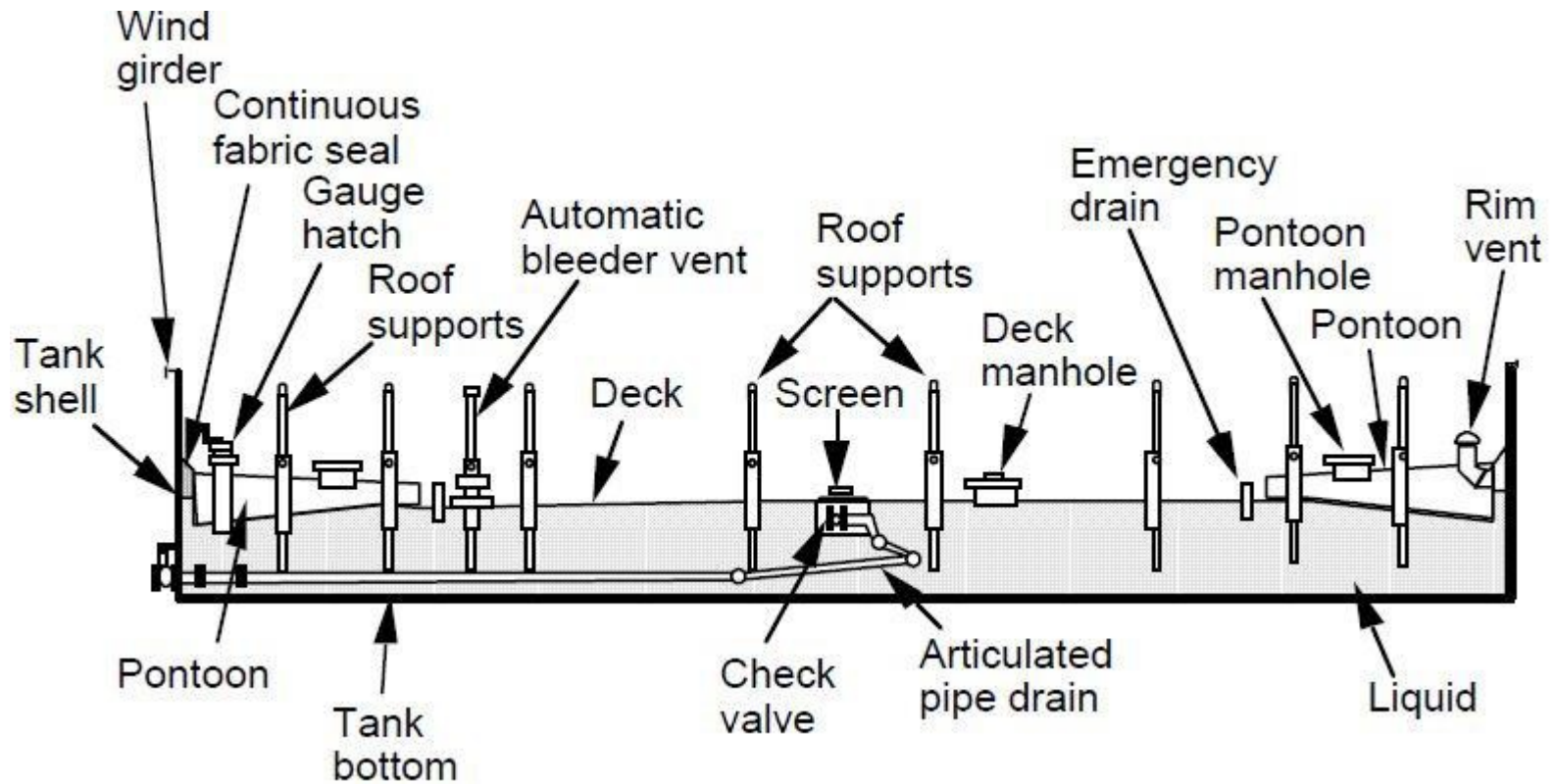
External Floating roof

# usage

floating roof tanks must be used to store petroleum products with flash points below 54°C (130°F) or if the flash point is less than 8°C (15°F) higher than the storage temperature. Examples of these products are gasoline and naphtha

floating roof tanks should not to be used to store products that tend to boil under atmospheric conditions

# Single deck floating





Internal floating roof

where the  
roof floats  
on the  
product in  
a fixed roof  
.tank

# Fixed Roof with Internal Floating Roof

This type of tank is used when the service of an existing fixed roof tank is changed and a floating roof tank should be used for the new service. The tank is prepared for the new service by adding the internal floating roof inside the existing tank

This type of tank also may be required when a floating roof tank needs a fixed roof for environmental protection or product quality. In this case, a fixed roof is often added to an existing floating roof tank

A fixed roof with internal floating roof tank

has the same usage as a floating roof tank

# Why floating roof

floats directly on the

product

there is no vapour  
space and thus  
eliminating any  
possibility of flammable  
atmosphere

It reduces  
evaporation losses  
and hence  
reduction in air

# Support leg

Support leg is the supporting element for the floating roof when the tank is empty where the roof fall to its lowest position.

The roof needed to be supported at a certain height above the floor

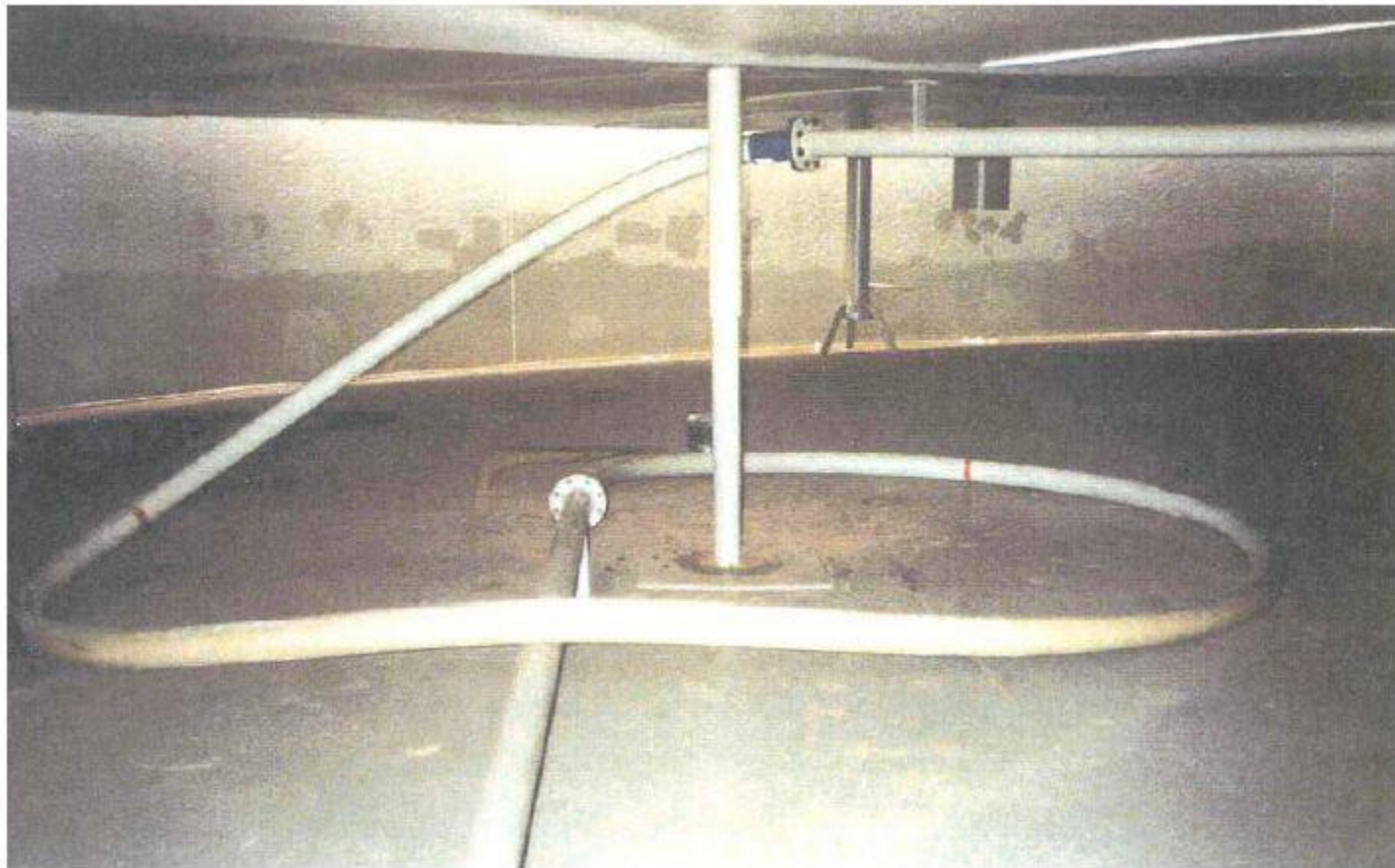
not only that the roof will not foul with any internal accessories that installed at the lowest shell such as heating coil, mixing propeller, it also provide access room for maintenance personnel

# Roof Drain

the roof drains shall be sized and positioned to accommodate the rainfall rate while preventing the roof from accumulate a water level greater than design, without allowing the roof to tilt excessively or .interfere with its operation



# Roof Drain



# Fire Fighting

Fire on the floating roof tanks are common • and it usually happened in the rim space where the vapour escaped, this was called as the floating roof rim fires. The main cause of rim fires is lighting. Most lighting ignited rim fires result from induced charges on the roof and not direct strikes. Fire fighting system is to be designed and installed on the floating roof to fight over and extinguishes the rim

.fire

# Material

Selection



## Corrosion

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## $CO_2$ Corrosion

Carbon dioxide dissolves in water and dissociates to form weak carbonic acid which causes corrosion on carbon steels . Higher temperatures and . pressure increase the corrosion rate

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Corrosion resistant alloys (CRA) are used to avoid corrosion at high CO2 contents, but it would be more economical to use carbon steel with a corrosion allowance and/or chemical inhibitor .treatment

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The presence of CO2 infers that carbon steel will have finite life due to the wall thinning, a corrosion .allowance is practical to accommodate up to 6mm

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## Mercury

Mercury (Hg) is a trace component of all fossil fuels. It is therefore present in liquid hydrocarbon and natural gas deposits. It may transfer into air, water and soil.

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Materials unsuitable for hydrocarbon streams in presence of mercury which will result in crack :are

Aluminum and Aluminum Alloys

Titanium and Titanium Alloys

Copper and Copper Alloys

Zinc and Zinc Alloys

# Foundation

In the early phases of tank foundation engineering, several types of information should be considered and evaluated

- Site conditions like pore water pressures and dewatering quantities
- Condition and settlement of similar equipment in nearby areas

# Soil

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Although many tanks have been built without the soils reports, the advantages of having these reports available are substantial

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Foundation design usually begins with specifications provided in the soils report. The soils report addresses subsurface conditions, soil bearing capacity, and potential settlement

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These are determined from soil borings, load tests and laboratory testing

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In addition, one of the most important bits of information available to the tank foundation designer is the experience with similar structures available from a soils engineer familiar with the area

## Important Elements to Consider in Foundation Design

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The final elevation of the tank bottom is important because the tank shell may sit in moist conditions

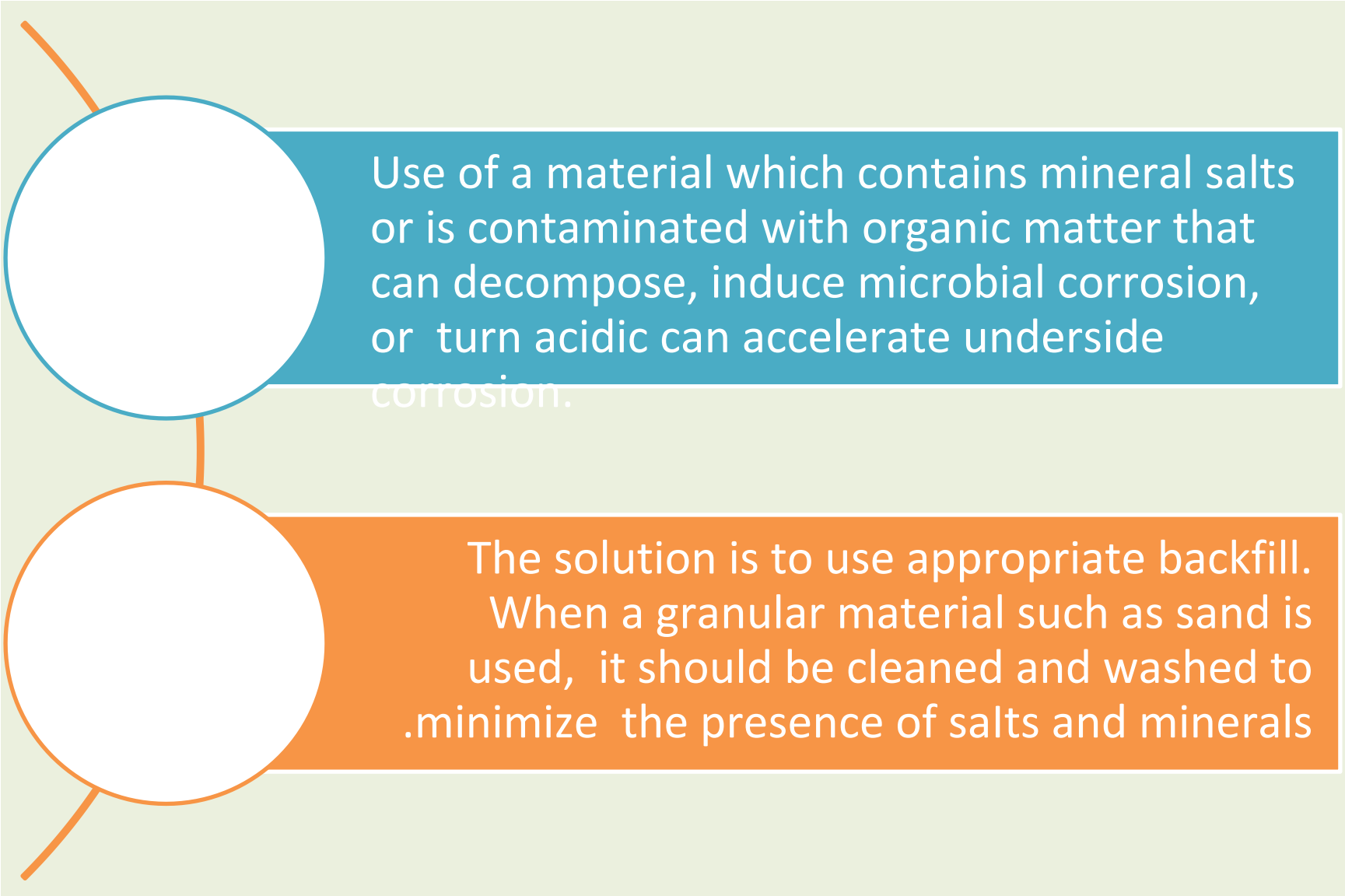
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This results in accelerated corrosion or pitting and a  
reduced tank bottom life

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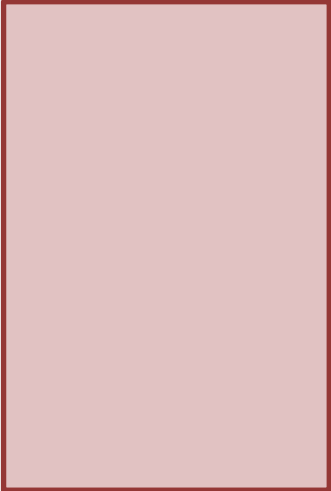
Tanks should be designed to be at least 8 to 12 in  
above the surrounding grade level






Use of a material which contains mineral salts or is contaminated with organic matter that can decompose, induce microbial corrosion, or turn acidic can accelerate underside corrosion.

The solution is to use appropriate backfill. When a granular material such as sand is used, it should be cleaned and washed to minimize the presence of salts and minerals



Another consideration for setting tank foundations is the possibility of buoyancy of the tank due to submergence in water.



Since typical tanks require less than 1 ft of submergence to float off of the foundation. the most likely cause of this is the rainfall. the probability of this . happening while the tanks are empty

# Foundation

## Foundation

### Types

WITHOUT A  
RINGWALL

WITH A CONCRETE  
RINGWALL

WITH A CRUSHED  
STONE  
RINGWALL

# foundation should accomplish the

following:

.Provide a stable plane for the support of the tank

Limit overall settlement of the tank grade to values compatible with the allowances used in the design of the connecting piping

.Provide adequate drainage

Not settle excessively at the perimeter due to the weight of the

shell