



18 rue des Sources  
F-37270 ATHÉE sur CHER

Tel. 0 247 502 839

Fax 0 247 502 829

**STAO**

33 rue Léon Bollée  
**53000 LAVAL**

**Mr Alain DELAUNAY**

18 July 2003

## **TECHNICAL REPORT ON MODIFYING A 50 000 LITRE GAS OIL TANK TO MAKE IT CONFORM**

Dear Sir,

Following the order you gave us to check your 50,000 litre GAS OIL tank on the Laval site, please find below the report on this job which was done on 7 July 2003.

Summary of the work done:

- Cleaning, degassing and removal of debris
- Stratification of the tank
- Fitting a flexible internal tank to transform it into a double wall tank

This tank now meets the grade of "reinforced safety tank" (**Standard NFM 88 514**) and permits you to cross the hurdle of 31 December 2010, the date on which the ministerial decree dated 22 June 1998 forbid the operation of single wall tanks.

During the cleaning of the tank we discovered that there was less debris in it than we normally find. In fact we recover between 7 and 10% of fuel and hydrocarbon sediment unfit for use during such an operation.

As far as your storage tank is concerned which supplies the fleet of buses in the town of Laval as well as those used on the routes outside the urban area for the General Council, we would normally have had to "declassify" some 3 to 4 000 litres of product full of sediment and other rubbish from this 50 000 litre gas oil tank for road vehicles which had not been cleaned for more than five years.

We were extremely surprised to only recover about 350 litres (or less than 1%) when the tank was dry.

We would normally have provided 5 containers of 1 000 litres, which were not therefore used. In addition when examining this gas oil closely, we were able to advise Mr Daniel POINTEAU, Technical Manager of STAO to allow it to settle. In fact, although very loaded with foreign matter, this fuel still appeared to us to be usable after settling. After a week of settling, you were able to recover about 200 litres for the tanks of your vehicles.



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Regarding the tank itself, the base and the walls appeared to be relatively clean, without any of the deposits and other harmful materials that we normally find when cleaning tanks.

You advised us that you wanted to have a sample analysed.

We will be very grateful if you would send us a copy of the report when it is issued.

If it is indisputable that the rubbish has been "digested" as we found, a confirmation of the positive action of the product that you use will enable us to fulfil our role as adviser to customers who request this type of product.

While on this subject, could you let me have the address of the company that makes or sells this product?

This enzyme XBEE which we did not know existed until today and which you have used since January 2003 is indisputably able to clean tanks and eliminate all the impurities (sediment, bacteria, algae and fungus, etc.) that are present in some fuels.

In addition, it enables the costs involved in the destruction of the rubbish to be reduced.

As far as you are concerned it is almost 4 000 litres of dirty gas oil, the transport and reprocessing in a specialist unit which have been saved.

Finally, a permanent treatment should avoid the necessity of cleaning the tank which it is advisable to do every three to five years.

Thank you for your business. We should be happy to do further work for you in due course.

Yours faithfully

The Technical Director

**Gilles DECUIGNIERE**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Gilles', written over a long horizontal line that extends across the width of the signature.