

Recommendations of the International Joint River Bodies for sealing systems

- 1 The tightness of sealed systems must be in accordance to the physico-chemical properties of the substances handled, and this must be demonstrated by a generally accepted and recognised testing method.
- 2 Where the material of the collecting troughs, secondary containment or containing surfaces is not itself sufficiently tight, suitable sealing methods such as a coating, laminates or covering with foils should be used or an equivalent safety measures taken.
- 3 The installation of the sealing systems must be executed by skilled personnel.
- 4 If the substances hazardous to water are flammable liquids, the sealing systems used for the secondary containment must be fire-resistant.
- 5 In the event of an accident, the tightness must be guaranteed for at least as long as is necessary to detect the leakage, clean-up the substance and repair the leak.
- 6 Verification of the tightness should be subject to recurrent checks by independent experts.
- 7 When handling substances whose behaviour in relation to the sealing system is not known, the surfaces potentially affected are to be inspected regularly for substance leaks and penetration. If this is not possible, additional safety measures should be taken.
- 8 Laying of pipelines and cables through sealing systems on the floors and walls should basically be avoided.
- 9 When assessing collecting trough, secondary containment or surfaces of containments, the criteria should also apply to the joints.