Steel
Water Storage
Tanks
About the American Water Works Association

AWWA is the authoritative resource for knowledge, information and advocacy to improve the quality and supply of water in North America and beyond. AWWA is the largest organization of water professionals in the world. AWWA advances public health, safety, and welfare by uniting the efforts of the full spectrum of the water community. Through our collective strength, we become better stewards of water for the greatest good of the people and the environment.

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Water tanks are a vital part of the water distribution system. Since the late 1800s, thousands of steel plate water storage tanks have been constructed to store potable water in systems throughout the world. Because they were properly operated and maintained, some of those tanks are still in service today.

Storage tanks are a significant asset, and they warrant proper maintenance and operation. In the late 1970s, E. Crone Knoy (past chair of the Steel Tank Committee, a member of the American Water Works Association [AWWA] Hall of Fame, and founder of Tank Industry Consultants) started a series of seminars to educate tank owners and operators about the basics of steel tanks. A comparable seminar series was later offered by the Steel Tank Institute/Steel Plate Fabricators Association (STI/SPFA). Several of the authors who contributed to this volume used their STI/SPFA seminar presentations as a basis for their chapters.

Knoy also led the effort to publish AWWA’s Manual M42, Steel Water Storage Tanks. Published in 1998, M42 was used extensively in the development of this book. Updates to M42 in this work are consistent with the latest AWWA standards and industry practice.

Additional issues of importance to many water utilities that were not addressed in M42, such as security and water quality, are also included in this work.

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Sayed Stoman

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