

# דרך קצרה

Brief summaries of cRc Kashrus Policies

## TRUCKING [Part 1 – Ta'am Transfer]

Tanker trucks are used to transport liquid products such as oil, alcohol, milk, or fruit juice. Each tanker can hold approximately 6,000 gallons of liquid, and there is no package or lining between the stainless-steel walls of the tanker and the product. That said, most tankers are constructed of two "shells", an inner shell and an outer shell. Product sits in the inner shell which is encircled by metal support "rings". The space between the support rings is filled with insulation, and then the outer shell is clamped on top.

The support rings are welded onto the inner shell and therefore it is assumed that *ta'am* transfers from the product into the (shell and) support rings. Most tankers used for food are "frameless" which is to say that the support rings are welded onto "braces" which are then bolted onto the fenders and the coupler (the device that connects the tanker to the tractor). In contrast, tankers used for chemicals and non-foods (e.g., petroleum) will be "full frame" which means that the support rings are welded onto a large I-beam that spans the entire length of the tanker.

Based on the principles noted in *Derech Kitzarah* 50, we would assume that *ta'am* cannot transfer into the fender, coupler, and outer shell since those are just clamped or bolted together without any welding, but *ta'am* would transfer into the support rings and braces (or the I-beam in

a full frame tanker) since those are connected with welds. However, different ideas were suggested for why *ta'am* would not transfer beyond the support rings.

- Rav Belsky said that although *ta'am* transfers through a weld, it will not transfer through two welds. Therefore, *ta'am* spreads into the support rings but not into the braces.
- Rav Schachter thought that the product's heat will not spread to the braces – which are outside the insulation and exposed to the atmosphere – such that *ta'am* cannot transfer to them.
- Rav Schwartz suggested that welding only causes two items to become "one" when the bond material used for welding is the same as the base material of the items in question. However, a welder told Rav Schwartz that in a tanker the bond material would surely be different than the stainless steel used to create the shell and rings; therefore, he said that *ta'am* would not transfer at all through the weld.



## CRC POLICIES

[The coming two questions assume *ta'am* transfers through a weld; see Question #97]

98. Item A is welded onto Item B, and Item B is welded onto Item C. All parts are hot and hot food comes into contact with Item A. Does *ta'am* transfer to Item C?

Yes

99. A stainless-steel handle was welded onto a copper *pot* using a silicon bronze bond material. Can *ta'am* transfer from the pot into the handle?

Yes

### מראה מקומות

שולחן ערוך סימן תנ"א סעיף י'