Portable Fuel Containers

These containers commonly known as "gas cans," contribute VOC emissions to the ambient air in several ways, including:

- Permeation of vapors through walls from High Density Polyethylene plastic containers
- Escaping fumes while fuel is being dispensed
- Spillage and / or over-filling as fuel is being poured into equipment
- Spillage and evaporation through secondary vent holes and
- Evaporation through inadequately capped spouts.

To calculate VOC emissions, emissions factors for the above variables were obtained from the Illinois inventory group. Total VOC emissions are the sum of emissions obtained from both commercial and residential for the year which is based on 250 days. Emissions estimates are based on population and consistent with California Air Resource Board Inventory methodology.

References:

Spreadsheet formulation provided by “Buzz” David Asselmeier, Air Quality Planning Section, Inventory Group, Springfield, Illinois

United States Census Bureau. Population Division.

California’s Portable Gasoline Container Emissions Inventory. Air Resources Board Mobile Source Control Division. California Air Resource Board Inventory method (September 23, 1999).