

# UNDERSTANDING CUSTODY TRANSFER

## IN OIL & GAS

WHY STANDARDS & CERTIFICATIONS  
MATTER MORE THAN EVER



In the world of terminal operations, every drop counts. Custody transfer metering systems are the backbone of commercial transactions in oil & gas, ensuring that what's measured is what's paid for. But accuracy alone isn't enough. Compliance with global standards and certifications is what transforms a good metering system into a trusted one.

### What is Custody Transfer?

**Custody Transfer refers to the transaction where hydrocarbons are officially transferred from one party to another. This transaction must be:**

**Legally Binding**  
acked by  
regulatory  
standards and  
documentation

**Technically Precise**  
measured using  
certified, calibrated  
metering systems

**Commercially Fair**  
ensuring both buyer  
and seller are  
compensated  
accurately

Even minor discrepancies can trigger contract disputes, financial penalties, or lengthy legal battles—making precision and compliance critical.

### Why Standards are Non-Negotiable

Custody transfer involves the legal and financial handover of hydrocarbons. Even a 0.1% error in measurement can result in multi-million-dollar discrepancies. That's why systems must adhere to internationally recognized standards such as:

**API MPMS  
Chapters 4, 5, 12**

**OIML R117**

**NIST, and other  
Weights & Measures  
(W&M) Approvals**

These standards ensure:

**Traceable  
calibration**

**Legal  
defensibility**

**Global  
interoperability**

**Audit trail  
integrity**

## LIQUID CONTROLS

**Built for Compliance. Trusted for Custody**

As a global leader in PD metering systems, Liquid Controls delivers:

- Accuracy and repeatability that meet all global standards
- Tri-Rotor design with no metal-to-metal contact—ensuring long-term stability
- Dual quadrature pulse output for API-compliant security
- Certified systems with OIML, W&M, ATEX, PESO approvals

Whether its terminal automation, aviation fueling, or biofuel custody, our systems are engineered for accuracy, reliability, and compliance.



At Liquid Controls, we don't just build metering systems— engineer **confidence, compliance, and continuity.**

#### 100% Regulatory Compliance

Our systems meet and exceed global standards including API, OIML, ISO, ATEX, PESO, and W&M certifications—ensuring legal defensibility and operational integrity.

#### Lifetime Reliability, Lower Ownership Costs

Built for durability, our PD meters deliver sustained accuracy with minimal maintenance, reducing total cost of ownership over decades.

#### Optimized Performance, Controlled Execution Costs

We help terminals achieve peak metering efficiency while keeping implementation and operational costs in check.

#### Proven in Challenging Environments

From harsh climates to high-demand terminals, our systems perform reliably under pressure—because we've been there.

#### Decades of Custody Transfer Expertise

With a legacy of precision and innovation, Liquid Controls is a trusted partner for mission-critical custody transfer applications worldwide.



### Best Practices for Terminal Operators

To ensure robust custody transfer:

- Validate your system against API/ISO/OIML standards
- Use certified meters with traceable calibration
- Implement flow computers with tamper-proof audit trails
- Schedule periodic proving and third-party audits

Custody metering isn't just about measuring flow—it's about protecting revenue, ensuring fairness, and building trust. With Liquid Controls, you're not just compliant—you're confident.

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