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COMPARISON BASED ON UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS

Scale: Negative       Positive

	CONCRETE	FIBERGLASS	
STRUCTURE	Watertight vs. Water Resistant Concrete is a porous material allowing water to penetrate the surface. Even with sealants concrete can leak. Fiberglass is watertight and not just water resistant.		  
	Structural Strength Both fiberglass and concrete are strong materials, but only fiberglass will not degrade or deteriorate over time.		 
	Fabrication Concrete tanks are built in sections requiring field assembly. Each joint is a potential leak even with additional sealants. Fiberglass tanks are monolithic.	 	  
	Expansion and Contraction Concrete expands and contracts causing corrosion and cracks over time. Fiberglass does not expand or contract.		  
CORROSION	Microbial Induced Corrosion (MIC) Fiberglass is resistant to hydrogen sulfide which creates sulfuric acid, a common cause of deterioration in concrete.	  	  
	Bacteria and Algae Resistance Fiberglass has a smooth interior finish and is not porous making it a perfect environment to combat bacteria accumulation and algae from forming.		 
	Rust Concrete often uses steel rebar for reinforcement and the rebar is susceptible to rust from water permeating the surface. Fiberglass simply will not rust.		  
INSTALLATION	Total Weight Fiberglass tanks are lightweight requiring smaller cranes during off loading. Concrete sections require more expensive, larger cranes.		  
	Total Install Time Fiberglass tanks can be transported on a single truck and are delivered to the site as a finished product making installation easier and faster.		 
	Field Repairs or Upgrades Additional appurtenances can be installed directly to the fiberglass tank at the job site and even after burial.		 
MAINTENANCE	Periodic Resurfacing Fiberglass does not require resurfacing for the life of the product.	  	  
	Chemical Additives for PH levels If concrete is not sealed chemicals will have to be added to balance the effects of leached alkalis.	 	  
	Internal Accessory Replacements Fiberglass is easier to clean and keep clean which extends the life of pumps and filtering equipment.		 
	Total Maintenance Cost		 



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