



Oily Tank Washings Effective Treatment with Demulsifier Offers High Oil Recovery

Problem

A Naval facility accumulated several thousand barrels of interface from tank/tanker washings, which had resisted separation by heat and settling alone. The value of the oil and the need for tank space made it necessary to treat the oil/water emulsion.

Solution

RECOVEROL* ECO 9 at a concentration of 1500 ppm was found to give rapid water and solids removal. Although acceptable oil recovery was possible in the cold, optimum results were obtained by heating the emulsion to 150°F.

Results

This Naval facility regularly treats accumulated and freshly generated emulsion with impressive results. Typically 1000 barrels of emulsion (10-50% BS&W) are transferred from a holding tank to a settling tank while metering in ECO 9 at 1250-1500 ppm. Once full, the tank is heated to 140-160°F, then allowed to cool. Oil recovery is consistently greater than 90%, and analyzes at 0.5-2% BS&W.

Success Hint

Consistent oil recovery is attributed to the method of demulsifier addition, and to the ability of ECO 9 to handle wide variations in concentration and temperature. The unique formulation of ECO 9 enables it to cope with virtually all initial BS&W.

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