



Demulsifier Aids Centrifuge in Treating Paraffinic Slops

Problem

An environmental service company was awarded a contract to clean up accumulated slops in North Dakota. The mobile unit featured a 3-phase decanter which was unable to effect acceptable separation owing to the high paraffin content of the crude, and the nature of the solids-stabilized emulsion.

Solution

RECOVEROL* ECO 100Y was selected as the optimum demulsifier for this application. The dosage used was 1500-2000 ppm at 180-190°F. The mixture required a one-hour retention before it was ready for centrifugation.

Results

Slops, which analyzed at 30-40% water and solids, were successfully processed at two locations using ECO 100Y. After contact in a heated batch tank, the destabilized emulsion was pumped to the decanter. Oil with less than 0.5% BS&W was recovered. Solids were landfilled and the water layer was disposed down an injection well. The "rag" layer where the heavy organics were concentrated was sold to a reclaimer for its paraffinic content. Overall, volume reduction of the waste stream was around 80%.

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