

DEWATERING OF STORAGE TANKS

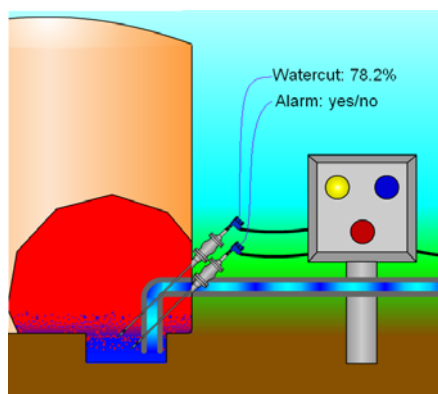
Introduction

Storage tanks containing hydrocarbon feedstocks, intermediates and finished products will, over time, accumulate a **water layer** in the tank bottoms, (exceptions are water soluble hydrocarbons such as alcohols and ethers). Standard industry practice is to periodically drain the water from storage tanks so that the water does not adversely **impact specifications** of the hydrocarbon. Water removal also reduces *corrosion* problems on the floor of the tank.

Manual or other traditional ways of controlling the water draw-off can result in free **Hydrocarbon product in the discharge**. The loss of this free Hydrocarbon product means less product available for sale and increases the cost of wastewater treatment. Additionally, environmental regulation trends may impose large economic penalties for designing water draw conveyance and treatment systems that allow free product in the water draw-off discharge.

Approach

The difficulty in this separation process is the presence of **emulsion** layers e.g. Hydrocarbon/water mixtures. The Agar systems provide however an unmatched ability to optimize for this separation process by utilizing concentration measurement and control. The principle being used is “energy absorption”. Apart from this optimized separation, the same interface measurements are used for overcoming tank bottom **sludge build-up** problems.



Company profile

Kimman Process Solutions B.V. (KPS) was established in 1996 and is located in Rhoon. The firm is a customer focused and service oriented company with key market segments in the petrochemical, offshore, chemical and marine industries.

KPS is capable of designing, fabricating and delivering customer focused turnkey projects that contain not only online analysers but also; automatic sampling, in-line blending, multiphase streams and/or filters/strainers.

The Agar systems already have an installed base of over more than 5000 tanks worldwide. Apart from tank dewatering common applications are Desalters, API Separators, Slop tanks, Amine Columns, Sour Water Tanks, Alkylation, Merox, Overhead Condensers, Acid Settlers, Coker Blow-Down Drums, Sulfur Units, etc.

More info

Kimman Process Solutions B.V. Contact: Mr. Erik Verloop M.Sc.

Tel: +31(0)10-5030077, Email: e.verloop@kpsnl.com, Web: www.kpsnl.com