

Water Demulsifier Helps Railroad Maintenance Facility

Problem

A railroad maintenance facility in the West was challenged with meeting discharge limits of 100 ppm Oil&Grease. The facility generated approximately 4000 GPD, and had a flow-through below ground basin, but no flotation units. The typical oil content of 400 ppm could not be dealt with by gravity separation alone.

Solution

A water demulsifier, ECA 1350*, widely used for treating bilge/ballast water, oil recycling wastewater and a myriad other applications, was found to give the best results. Within minutes, oil-coated solids were lifted out of the water, over the pH range of 7.2-7.8.

Results

The customer now treats all oily wastewaters from pit-washing, fueling washing, storm water, etc... by pumping through the 5-compartment basin, metering ECA 1350 at 350-400 ppm at the discharge side of the pump. The oily floc is removed with a belt skimmer and combined with other contaminated oils for ECO treatment and recovery. Some solids settle out in the basin and are removed periodically. The clear water analyzing at 35-45 ppm Oil&Grease is then sewerred.

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