

Demulsifier Tames Lube Line Flushings

Problem

In the process of switching over from one lube/hydraulic oil to another, line flushing creates highly stabilized water-in-oil emulsions, which can range from a few percent up to 60-70% water. These emulsions resist natural settling and heating, and usually require a range of demulsification chemicals at high doses.

Solution

An oil reclaimer in the South evaluated ECO demulsifiers in over a dozen types of line flushings, and determined that ECO 33* performed on virtually every type. Added to the oil at 3000 ppm at temperatures ranging from ambient (70° F) up to 180° F, emulsions were resolved rapidly, completely and consistently.

Results

The customer now treats 23,000 gallon batches using 70 gallons of ECO 33. Air agitation for 4 hours is followed by settling. After 24 hours/180° F, or 2 days/ambient temperature, fairly clear, almost colorless water is drained, leaving minimum or no interface and bright, orange-yellow or orange-red oil, with less than 1% moisture (usually <0.5%).

Emulsions Control, Inc. 925 Hale Place, A 7; Chula Vista, CA 91914; Tel (619) 656-8899; Fax (619) 656-8895