Results achieved

- 50% reduction in down time
- Over $600,000 in additional revenue
- Over $100,000 in maintenance cost savings
- No pyrophoric iron deposits
- Better flow rates on start-up, very clean equipment

Chemical profiles

**FQE™ LEL-V**
Rapid absorption of vapour state hydrocarbons in an innovative encapsulant for effective decontamination and degassing of hydrocarbon processing equipment.

**FQE™ Degreaser-L3**
A water-based, modified version of FQE™ Degreaser-L designed for effective removal of surface oil-soluble contaminants.

Case History

A large petroleum company in Brazil used FQE™ LEL-V and FQE™ Degreaser-L3 to chemically clean the vacuum tower and associated equipment and piping in the refinery.

The vacuum tower and all associated equipment were cleaned simultaneously. Typically, the refinery staff would solvent wash and steam the tower for up to 72 hours in a turnaround prior to allowing vessel entry. Our process took 36 hours to clean the equipment saving the refinery 1 ½ days of outage time. The towers are packed with rachig rings and had chimney trays which become encrusted with a high-molecular weight contaminants.

Chemical cleaning had been tried on several previous occasions with nominal success leaving the vessel contaminated with residual hydrocarbons and pyrophoric iron deposits. Typically, the chemical wash was followed by high-pressure water blasting to achieve the level of cleanliness required. After 36 hours of circulation at 60°C (140°F), the tower was drained. Upon opening the manways, the packing was found to be cleaned of the contaminant and was “cleaner than we have ever seen this equipment”. The pyrophoric deposits were eliminated during the washing step.
Improve efficiency and financial performance

At FQE Chemicals, we help our clients improve the efficiency, safety, and financial performance of their assets by creating innovative and unique chemistries that provide superior value and performance. Our award-winning chemistries are distributed globally.

Canada
Suncor Energy Centre, West Tower
#5100 – 150 6th Ave SW
Calgary, Alberta, Canada  T2P 3Y7
Phone: +1 (403) 538-3050

United States
4820 Railroad Street
Deer Park, Texas
United States  77536
Phone: +1 (281) 476-9249