



CASE HISTORY

Recovered hydrocarbon liquids provide \$400,000 in unexpected revenue when a crude storage tank is cleaned using FQE® LEL-V and FQE Solvent-H

Project Overview	
Tank Size	240 ft. (73 m) diameter
Tank Design	External floating roof
Service	Vacuum resid
Sludge Volume	16,200 barrels (2,575 m ³)
% Oil Recovered	94.8%
Time Required	6 weeks



Results Achieved

Recovered hydrocarbon liquids provided \$400,000 in unexpected revenue for the client

Contaminated soil reduced from >51,000 ppm total petroleum hydrocarbon to less than 1,000 ppm

Chemicals Utilized

FQE Solvent-H

FQE LEL-V

A large Gulf Coast petroleum refining company in the United States had a floating roof tank that required cleaning.

This tank was in heavy, crude service with a heavy paraffin content sludge on the bottom. A serpentine heater coil system had been previously fitted in the tank, and was non-functional due to corrosion. Additionally, the floor was also expected to be damaged and leaking. The company had previously cleaned a sister tank of similar size and debris/sludge volume by cutting access doors in the tank shell and excavating the sludge from the vessel with backhoe equipment, which damaged the tank floor. The solids were disposed by incineration at a fee of \$400 per ton. Approximately 3,000 tons of crude solids was expected.

In this case the debris removal was completed with side-mounted circulation tools that carried a proprietary product chemical package (FQE® Solvent-H) and cutter stock to facilitate the dissolution of the recoverable solids. Over 94% of the available oil and diluent volume was salvaged as recoverable hydrocarbon. The tank was then treated with FQE LEL-V degassing product, leaving it clean and vapour free. The recovered hydrocarbon liquids were sold as marine diesel fuel for \$28.00 per barrel, giving the client over \$400,000 of unexpected revenue.

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The soil surrounding the tank was contaminated by hydrocarbon liquids (>51,000 ppm total petroleum hydrocarbon) from the damaged floor. The soil was treated with FQE Clean Earth chemical to facilitate remediation. Following this treatment, the soil was tilled. After three weeks of follow-up, the contaminated soil TPH was less than 1,000 ppm.

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