



Apollo



Tank Cleaning

Complete solutions that are applied throughout its value chain

SITUATION

When crude is stored in tanks, sludge is deposited to the bottom. In addition to containing recoverable crude oil, these sediments gradually reduce the storage capacity of the tank.

Due to the above, it is necessary to carry out a cleaning process in stages. First, by means of thermography the amount of sediment that exists must be verified. Based on the results of this analysis, the necessary peripheral devices are installed: heating systems, piping and extraction pumps.

With the help of chemicals, the hydrocarbon is separated from the water and sediments. Subsequently, the sludge is subjected to a centrifugation process, with which it is possible to recover up to 99% of the crude it contains.

SOLUTION

This type of cleaning process typically takes four to six months. Apollo technology enables a 100,000 barrel container to be cleaned in just 35 effective working days. It is a completely automated process, which also eliminates any risk that may affect the integrity of those who carry out said procedure.

In 2008, Pemex awarded Apollo the cleaning of crude storage tanks, located in the Poza Rica storage and pumping plant. One of the tanks has a capacity of 100,000 barrels. The conditions of this case showed 1,003 cubic meters of sludge, with average height levels of 2.1 meters. After applying this treatment, 4,234 barrels of hydrocarbon were recovered with a delivery of 330 cubic meters of oil-free sediment for final disposal. The treatment drastically reduced the tank's downtime due to maintenance, which restored the customer's production process.

Do you want more information about these services? Contact our experts, who will create a program to help you reduce downtime for your business.



EXPERIENCE

1,003 M³
of sediment to be removed

35 DAYS
maintenance work

4,234 BARRELS
of crude recovered

330 M³
Sediment for disposal

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