

United Kingdom

Chemical-free slop unit deployment streamlines operations

Treatment unit allows operator to process and discharge up to 95% of cleaned slops at the source, reduce the need for expensive onshore treatment

CHALLENGE

- Reduce waste shipped to shore from production platform
- Process maximum slop volume on location
- Remain within current permitting framework
- Tight environmental regulations around discharge and chemical permits

SOLUTION

- Deploy a chemical-free slop treatment system to process pit washdown water and rig slops generated from operations

RESULT

- Operator reduced the need to backload up to 95% of slops
- Reduced CO₂e from additional shipping and onshore treatment of waste
- Saved about \$60,000 over three months with the elimination of slop processing onshore, tank cleaning, and scaffolding costs

Overview

A major UK North Sea operator wanted to streamline its operational efficiency on an aging production platform with limited space and budget. The challenge was to enhance waste management solutions to treat more waste on site in an environmentally diligent manner that adheres to UK North Sea regulations and considers CO₂e emissions.

Challenge

The operator focused on multiple areas to improve waste management processes. Opportunities to reduce overall volumes and treat more at the source, while remaining within established operating permits and discharge licenses, were examined. The rig had a large volume of slop fluid stored onboard and was eagerly looking at options to reduce transport to shore for processing. A key global metric was to reduce overall operating costs and CO₂ emissions from all operations. Additionally, a large volume of slops was produced on the rig from cleaning the contaminated skimmer tank.

Solution

The operator had a discharge license in place for the platform's operations in the UK. The Baroid Separation Solutions team deployed the chemical-free slops treatment system with inline discharge monitoring. This deployment aligned with the current regulations for overboard discharge limits for the UK North Sea.

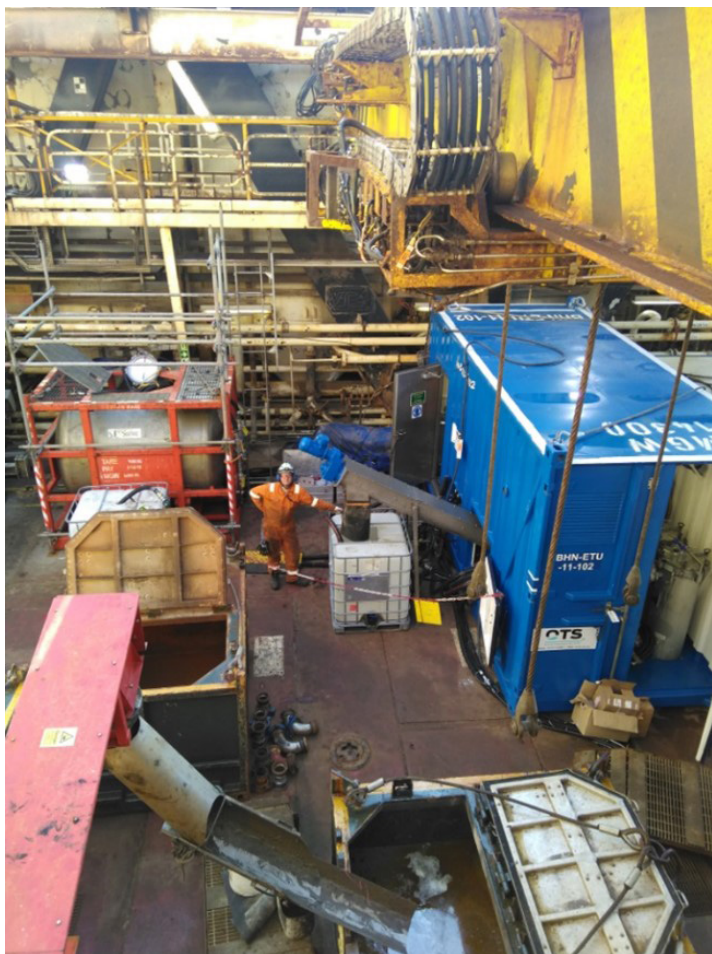
This allowed the operator to process and discharge up to 95% of the cleaned slops at the source, reduce the need for expensive onshore treatment, and eliminate the need for excessive backloads that tie up supply vessel fluid tanks.

The simplified system allowed for a fast plug-and-play install. It increased the volumes processed and reduced the time to action.

Result

As a result of this system deployment, BSS discharged 430 m³ of cleaned slop water. The financial impact to the operator, with the reduction in shipping slops to shore and the processing thereafter, amounted to about \$60,000.

Onsite processing also assisted in the reduction of CO₂e emissions for the operation — a key focus area. Emissions were avoided with the elimination of 18 tanker truckload round-trips to the onshore treatment facility. This equates to 1,152 transportation miles.



The chemical-free slop unit allowed the operator to process and discharge up to 95% of cleaned slops at the source and reduce the need for expensive onshore treatment.

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