



### Minimizing Risk through Technical Innovation



### Introduction

Abstract –

"Discuss the minimization of risk to personnel and equipment through the use of technical innovation with respect to industrial services applications". Authors – Lee Coll and Tom Niles



### **Cleaning of Field Storage Tanks**

### Reducing the Risks of Injury by Reducing the Exposure to Personnel



### **Benefits of Today's Tank Cleaning Approach**



#### Safety first!

- Reduced personnel exposure
- Reduced confined space entry duration
- Typically reduced manpower requirements
- Typically reduced LELs when making entry
- Environmental
  - Maximize product recovery
  - Minimize waste quantities for disposal
  - Reduce environmental exposure
- Financial
  - Reduce time and cost





### **Key Components Offered with Technology**



- **Reduced personnel exposure** by keeping the cleaning process remote from project manpower, exposure to the process hazards are minimized.
- Reduced confined space entry duration A more effective process application will minimize or eliminate hazards before confined space entry is considered.
- Typically reduced manpower requirements elimination of *laborous* tasks with innovative process enhancements will reduce a staff made up of *laborers*. Let machines and chemistry do the hard work.
- Typically reduced LELs when making entry specific decontamination processes drive down hazardous contaminants to permissible and safe exposure levels.





### Applying Mechanical Advantage: Non entry tank cleaning technologies



- Matrix T300 hydraulic nozzles can be bolted to one or more existing shell manways
- Able to apply over 3,000 gpm at up to 300 psi per nozzle to impart the flow and pressure needed to fluidize tank bottoms (flow reduced in photo)





# Non entry tank cleaning technologies

**Applying Mechanical Advantage:** 











### Applying Mechanical Advantage: Non entry tank cleaning technologies









#### Tank spin nozzle

### **Introduction of HG3000 Chemistry**

- A proprietary fluidization agent used in removal of heavy hydrocarbons
- High flash point
- Hydrocarbon/polymer based
- Non-emulsifier
- Low/no foaming







- Compatible with unit processes
- No waste water issues
- Can be applied at ambient temperatures
- Applications
  - Tank Stripping/Cleaning
  - Exchanger cleaning
  - General equipment cleaning



Additional Innovations to Reduce Risk During Industrial Cleaning Projects



### **Simple Solutions for Effective Results**



 HF Alkylation Units – specialty acid cooler manway adapters allow stagnant areas of acid cooler bundles to be fluidized. This eliminates the likelihood of acid coolers "sticking" during extraction from unsolubilized iron fluoride residuals.





### **Keep Personnel Out of Hazardous Environments**

 Olefins Plants- Remotely applied mechanical energy on Quench Tower and Settling Drums eliminate potential "mining operations." Equally applicable to heavy oil units in refineries, styrene stilling vessels.



#### Applying Mechanical Advantage: Non entry vessel cleaning technologies



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#### **Control the Process**





• Air Cooled Condenser- adequately sized ejectors to match steam flow assures rupture disc or PSV capacity not exceeded.



#### **Combine Cleaning Processes for Best Results**



#### **Refinery Flare Systems-**

- Use vapor phase technology to apply the chemistry without having to fluid fill systems.
- Use circulation methods that minimize water requirements while exposing more contaminants to cleaning activities
- Treat deposits with cleaning systems that don't increase the hazard
- Combine knock-out drums with all adjacent piping systems





### **Engineer Away the Hazard**





## Neutralization of

### **Reactive Materials**

- Sulfuric Acid Tanks
- Sour Water Systems where H<sub>2</sub>S and Iron Sulfide are present
- Butadiene Systems
- Reactive Metal (Sodium and Lithium) Systems

#### Kleen Energy LLC February 7, 2010





- Catastrophic Explosion during "gas blows" to turbines
- 7 Fatalities



#### **Do a Better Job - Differently**



FastFroth<sup>™</sup> Process: Piping System Flushing

- Use FastFroth<sup>™</sup> method to fluidize contamination
- Replaces pigging of smaller systems
- Applicable to piping up to 36" diameter
- Eliminates hazards of gas blowing on fuel gas lines





### •Thank you!

### •Questions?

