

WHY SLUDGE SURVEY



Sludge profiling is needed for the following reasons:



- To quantify and display sludge deposits in crude oil tanks thereby eliminating the major problem of manually quantifying the volume of sludge in crude oil storage tanks
- Survey results will help tank owners to plan and take a decision on de-sludging of tanks for tank cleaning and maintenance, thereby avoiding unnecessary cost associated with uninformed status of sludge in tanks.
- To produce a complete contour model of the sludge/oil interface
- To monitor mixer running patterns
- To determine the quantity of Sludge in a tank
Sludge accumulation can reduce a tank's storage capacity and cause production problems further down the refining process.
- To assess loss of storage space due to the buildup of sludge for capacity accounting
- To assess roof landing safety where a floating roof may be under treat of contact with sludge banks. Large sludge banks are a particularly serious concern when landing the roof of floating roof tanks as they can cause them to tilt and jam. Such incidents can create a hazardous situation that will prove challenging and expensive to rectify
- To facilitate sludge sampling by identifying where the sludge is lying in a tank, more representative samples can be taken
- Emergency situations where there is an unknown operational problem