

Industrial Water & Wastewater Treatment











About the Company

akvola Technologies is a water technology company that provides cost-effective and environmentally-friendly solutions based on akvoFloat™ – a proprietary flotation-filtration process— to clean hard-to-treat industrial wastewater containing high concentrations of oil (free, dispersed and emulsified) and suspended solids. These solutions can be implemented in six major water-using industries: Oil and gas, Refining and petrochemicals, Metalworking, Steel, Food and beverage and Pulp and paper.

In a world of increasingly stringent environmental regulations and increasing wastewater discharge and disposal costs, our goal is to enable industrial users to become excellent water stewards by reducing their water footprint and ensuring compliance at minimal costs in an environmentally-friendly manner. akvoFloat™ was designed to accomplish this goal.

VISION

The only way to achieve a sustainable freshwater supply in the long-run is by making wastewater reuse affordable — a complex process that requires increasing amounts of energy. At the same time, energy generation, storage and transformation also requires increasing amounts of water. This mega trend, known as the Water-Energy Nexus, poses one of the main challenges of the 21st century. Both industrial and municipal markets require innovative technological solutions for water treatment which are both efficient and sustainable.

At akvola Technologies we believe that making wastewater reuse an affordable and sustainable water source is essential to the future development of mankind in terms of economy, environment and society.



VALUES

Sustainability

The triple bottom line (Planet, People, Profit) sets the tone in the way we do business. Our products, services, communication and management measures are all designed to optimize and reduce costs, environmental and societal impacts for ourselves and our stakeholders.

Technological Innovation

We deploy computer-aided design, process intensification and integration schemes, advanced materials and intelligent automation and control to achieve technological superiority.

Agility

As a highly agile organization we are alert to change and move quickly and decisively to meet the challenges that emerge from such change. This allows us to react quickly to changes in the customer's requirements and environment to deliver an effective and timely solution.

Inclusion

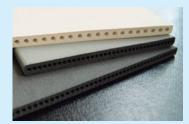
In our team each gender as well as many age groups and ethnic & cultural backgrounds are represented. Our talent pool is equally diverse in terms of professional background, experiences, insights, strengths and special skills. Inclusion puts our diversity into action, enabling a multifaceted mix of people to complement each other in cohesive, high-performing teams.

akvoFloat™ Technology

akvoFloat™ is a separation technology based on a proprietary flotation-filtration process. The process leverages the **akvola MicroBubble Generator™** and **novel ceramic membranes**, resulting in the most energy-efficient design on the market for oil, algae and suspended solids removal in hard-to-treat waters.

Package **akvoFloat**[™] system





Flat sheet ceramic membranes



akvola MicroBubble Generator™



Large-scale system



Oily Water Treatment Applications



1. Wastewater Discharge

Problem: Non-compliance with discharge limits due to oil, TSS, organics, metals or any hard-to-treat contaminants.

Solution: Use akvoFloat™ to improve primary or tertiary treatment with the most cost-effective technology.

2. Tank Dewatering Effluent

Problem: High crude oil concentrations from tanks endanger WWTP performance.

Solution: Use akvoFloat[™] to remove excessive oil from segregated effluent, previous to sending it to the WWTP.

3. Desalter Effluent

Problem: Oill carry-over in desalter brine. High hydrocarbons (i.e. benzene) and oils in this effluent create problems in the operation of the WWTP.

Solution: Use akvoFloat[™] to remove excessive oil/emulsions of the segregated effluent previous to sending it to the WWTP.

4. Biological contamination

Problem: Ineffective oil and TSS removal create problems for the Biological Treatment.

Solution: Use akvoFloa t[™] to improve removal of oils and TSS.

5. Wastewater Reuse

Problem: Pretreatment before desalination (RO/EDR) doesn't meet required feed water quality.

Solution: Use akvoFloat[™] as a pretreatment technology in order to eliminate oils, TSS, metals and other contaminants with the right CAPEX/OPEX balance.

6. Reformer Performance

Problem: Poor water separation in the low pressure separator.

Solution: Use akvoFloat™ to improve water separation (demulsifier).

7. Slop Re-Processing

Problem: Low hydrocarbon recovery from slop water.

Solution: Use akvoFloat[™] to recover free, dispersed and emulsified oils.

akvoFloat™

Technology Benchmarking

akvoFloat™ is separation technology based on a proprietary flotation-filtration process. It has been designed for the treatment of the industrial process water and wastewater in the most challenging operating conditions.

Our technology can handle any refinery effluent –regardless of the oil and TSS concentration– as a one-stop pretreatment solution for the biological treatment, acting as a reliable absolute barrier. Unlike conventional technologies, akvoFloat™ can remove dispersed and emulsified oils.











	Conventional	Advanced	akvoFloat™ Technology
Standard Technologies	Coagulation/Flocculation, Flotation (DAF, IGF,), Media Filter (DMF,)	Membrane: Polymeric MF/UF, MBR Ceramic cross-flow MF/UF	
Operational Limits	N/A	Polymeric: pH 6 – 7, T < 30°C Ceramic: pH 2 – 13 , T. < 90 °C	pH =2-13 Temp up to 90 °C
Influent Quality Limits	< 3.000 ppm Oil (technology-dependent)	Polymeric: < 20 ppm Oil Ceramic: < 300 ppm Oil	< 10.000 ppm Oil
Influent Quality Variability	medium	medium	high (integrated pretreatment)
Removal Efficiency	medium – high - 60 – 90% Oil (technology-dependent) - low removal of emulsions	high > 90% Oil > 99% TSS	very high > 95% Oil > 99% TSS
Recovery Rate	< 85%	80-85%	95%
Footprint	very high	high	low
CAPEX	medium	Polymeric: high Ceramic: very high	medium
OPEX (chem+energy)	> 0,2 - 0,3 €/m³	0,15 - 0,25 €/m³	0,05-0,07 €/m³
Payback Period	> 5 years	1,5-3 years	< 1,5 years



Case Study

Desalter Effluent Treatment



Customer: BP Lingen Refinery Lower Saxony (Germany)

Conditions:

Parameter	Value
Temperature	40°C
рН	7,5
TDS (mg/l)	43.551
Oil (mg/l)	800
TSS (mg/l)	500

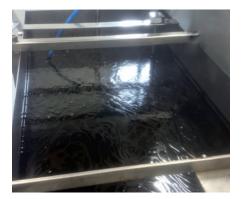


CHALLENGE

Managing the high oil content of wash water associated with the desalter unit as well as tank bottom draws from crude oil reception operations is becoming more challenging for refining companies. BP Lingen refinery has to manage oily hard-to-treat desalter brine that can disrupt the operation of their wastewater treatment plant and negatively impact the bottom line.

Handling oily wastewaters with high and variable contents of oil and TSS with conventional technologies requires complex and costly treatment trains.

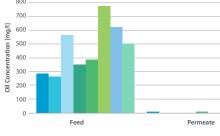
BP Lingen wanted to reach minimum oil concentration in desalter brine before sending it to biological treatment with minimal operating costs.



SOLUTION

Pilots tests were done with flowrates of 100-200 l/h. Different membrane materials and geometries were tested, i.e. $\mathrm{Al_2O_3}$ and SiC, hollow fiber and flat sheet.

All membranes removed the oil concentration to below 5 mg/l.



-0,1 -0,2 -0,3 -0,4 -0,00 01:00 02:00 03:00 04:00 05:00 06:00 07:00 Filtration time [hh:mm]

RESULTS

- High removal efficiency:
 - Oil: from 800 mg/l to 2 mg/l (> 99,75 %)
 - TSS: from 500 mg/l to 2 mg/l (> 99,6 %)
- ✓ High recovery (> 95%)
- ▼ 8 hours of stable operation (TMP < 30 mbar/h)
 </p>
- ✓ High flux (120 lmh)





Case Study

Refinery Wastewater Reuse





Customer: TOTAL Refinery
Location: Europe

Technology: Physical, chemical and biological treatment.

Conditions:

Parameter	Value
COD (mg/l)	35
Oil (mg/l)	5
Turbidity (NTU)	17
TOC (mg/l)	10
TSS (mg/l)	10
CFU (CFU/ml)	10.000



Total wants to do

Total wants to decrease its water consumption in order to further improve their environmental footprint. In order to achieve this, it is necessary to implement a treatment train that can treat the effluent of the wastewater treatment plant (250 m³/h) for reuse as boiler feed.

A polymeric membrane-based MBR tested previously could not cope with the high fouling potential of complex and highly varying refinery wastewater, rendering it economically infeasible. Total was looking for a solutions that provided:

- High resistance to influent variabilities
- Reliable and simple operation
- Meet RO feed quality requirements



SOLUTION

In the first phase of the project a technology benchmarking study was conducted comparing all suitable technology trains in terms of Capex, Opex, removal efficiency, reliability and ease of use. In the second phase, field trials with akvoFloat™ were carried out in order to validate the results of the study and find the optimal operating

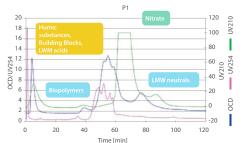
parameters for the design of the fullscale solution.

In Q3 2016 a containerized 2 m3/h pilot unit was installed at the refinery and operated for 4 months. The treatment train piloted consisted of akvoFloat™, activated carbon and RO.

RESULTS

"After several unsuccessful field trials with other technologies −including polymeric MBR− only akvoFloat™ has been able to show the required performance and reliability in the field. akvola Technologies conducted the pilot for 4 months and we are extremely happy with the quality of the results and the collaboration."

Senior Process Engineer, TOTAL Refinery



- 4 months field trials
- High flux (up to 160 lmh)
- Membrane permeability fully recoverable at all times
- Achieved RO Feed quality
- CAPEX and OPEX of full-scale solution validated and lower than previously considered polymeric MBR technology.

Business Case

Project: Petrobicentenario

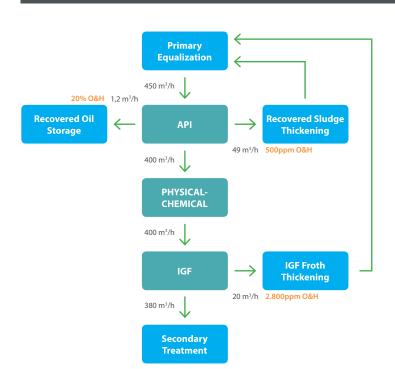
Refinery, (greenfield project)

Location: Venezuela **Capacity:** 320.000 BPSD

Description:

This business case analoyzes the substitution of the conventional treatment train (API + Physico-Chemical + IGF) by **akvoFloat** $^{\text{TM}}$. Consequently, the sludge and oil recovery systems are reduced in number and capacity.

CONVENTIONAL SOLUTION

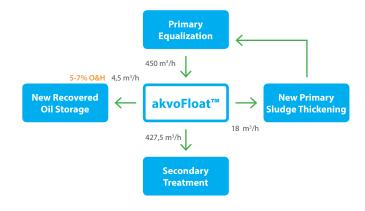


Economical	
CAPEX*	€3,7 M
OPEX**	0,22 €/m³
Technical Performance	
TSS	from 1.820 to 100 ppm
Oil	from 725 to 90 ppm
COD	from 7.250 to 340 ppm
BOD5	from 3.625 to 200 ppm
Includes only ADL - Physica Chemical - ICE and necessary studge /froth	

- Includes only API + Physico-Chemical + IGF and necessary sludge/froth thickening and oil recovery systems. Only equipment is included, not engineering, installation and civil works.
- ** Includes energy and all necessary chemicals for the treatment chain.

 O&H: Oil and Hydrocarbons

akvoFloat™-based SOLUTION



Co-developed with







Economical		
CAPEX*	€3,8 M	
OPEX**	0,06 €/m³	
Technical Performance		
TSS	from 1.820 to < 10 ppm	
Oil	from 725 to < 20 ppm	
COD	from 7.250 to < 150 ppm	
BOD5	from 3.625 to < 75 ppm	

- * Includes only akvoFloat™ and necessary sludge/froth thickening and oil recovery systems. Only equipment is included, not engineering, installation and civil works.
- ** Includes energy and all necessary chemicals for the treatment chain.

 O&H: Oil and Hydrocarbons

You see Wastewater. We see potential Savings.





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