

Refineries: Application Focus

Hydrotreating (HDT)

Process Description

Hydrotreating is a catalytic chemical process to remove Sulfur (S), Nitrogen (N), Oxygen (O), and metals from straight run and cracked products. This "clean-up" also saturates olefins to yield easier-to-process intermediates. Removing the S reduces SO_x emissions when fuels are combusted. Sulfur also poisons downstream noble metal reformer catalysts and must be removed from reformer feeds (<0.5 ppm S is a typical naphtha feed spec).

The reaction is carried out in a hydrogen rich environment over a fixed catalyst bed. The process replaces sulfur or nitrogen contaminants in the hydrocarbon chains with hydrogen, making the process a consumer of hydrogen. Protection of the catalyst beds from fouling is critical to maintaining long term hydrotreating efficiency.

Treated products are then stabilized with heat to remove H_2S and light ends. Use of direct steam injection is common, especially on diesel.

Ensure your hydrotreater reliably supports your daily production quotas and environmental protection needs.



Refinery Needs

- Achieve production quotas of low sulfur gasolines and diesels via reliable hydrotreatment of straight run and cracked products that otherwise become a bottleneck
- Provide consistent transportation fuel quality
- · Protect against fouling of the feed/effluent heat exchanger
- Protect against premature loss of catalyst activity
- Meet steadily increasing clean fuels specifications

Production Challenge/Pall Solution

Challenge	Solution		
Reduced catalyst bed activity and shortened life between	Improve refinery productivity and extend hydrotreater bed life by removing solids from the feed to protect the feed/effluent heat exchanger and/or catalyst bed.		
shutdowns due to bed fouling and associated channeling	 A range of absolute and nominal rated filter elements is available to reduce suspended solids levels in the feed, to protect the exchanger and/or catalyst bed from fouling. 		
Products failing to meet specifications due to solids	Improve product quality making it easier to meet 'clear and bright' clean fuels standards by removal of water and solids carried over from steam stripper.		
and water carryover from direct injection steam stripping	• A range of absolute and nominal rated filter elements is available to reduce suspended solids to <5 ppmw, and extend the coalescer life.		
	 High efficiency AquaSep[®] Plus liquid/liquid coalescers reliably meet the 'clear and bright' product specification and/or reduce the cost for downstream dehydration. 		
Hydrogen recycle and make- up gas compressors requiring	Reduced maintenance of the recycle and make-up gas compressors by removal of liquids and solids in the hydrogen recycle stream from separator.		
excessive maintenance (rebuilds and downtime) due	• KO pots, mesh pads, cyclonic devices and conventional filter-separators may not effectively remove aerosol-sized liquid hydrocarbon droplets or fine solids.		
to liquid and solid carryover from separator causing severe fouling and erosion of compressor internals	• High efficiency SepraSol [™] Plus liquid/gas coalescers and Medallion [™] HP liquid/gas coalescers provide 99.999% removal at 0.3 microns per the DOP test and 1 ppb downstream per the modified ANSI/CAGI-400-1999 test procedure. Both provide excellent compressor protection.		

Process Flow Diagram



Key Applications / Filter Recommendations (other applications not shown)

	Application	Pall Product	Advantages	Customer Benefits
1	Hydrotreater feed filtration	 Ultipleat[®] High Flow filters:¹ 10 μm beta 5000 to protect exchanger 20 μm beta 5000 to protect bed 	Removes scale, rust, and solid particles	Assured HDT profitability by protection from unscheduled reactor downtime or off-spec product due to exchanger fouling, catalyst bed activity loss or high delta P due to bed fouling
2	Hydrotreater feed water removal	AquaSep XS liquid/liquid coalescer	Consistent water removal without disarming	
3	Liquid/liquid coalescer protection	Ultipleat High Flow filters	Removes scale, rust, and solid particles	Low operating costs by ensuring long coalescer life while meeting particulate specifications for final products
4	Water removal from stabilized fuel	AquaSep XS or Plus liquid/liquid coalescer	Removes emulsions of direct steam injection stripping	Reliably meet 'clear and bright' final product specification, and/or reduce costs for downstream salt dryers or desiccant dehydration units
5	Hydrogen recycle and make-up gas com- pressors protection	SepraSol Plus and Medallion HP liquid/gas coalescers	Removes liquids and solids from recycle hydrogen	Eliminate cost and revenue losses due to compressor rebuilds and unscheduled downtime due to fouling

¹The test procedure used is an adaptation of ISO 4572, modified to determine the micron size above which particles are quantitatively removed.

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