

Refinery Filtration Applications



1 Amine Sweetening

Problem: Liquid hydrocarbon and particulates cause foaming and fouling problems within an amine plant.

Products: Pall Seprasol[®] LG Coalescer to remove liquid hydrocarbons from feed.

Pall NEXIS T* (10–40 μm) filters to remove particulates from recirculating amine.

Benefit: Reduced amine losses, foaming and flaring; improved energy consumption; reduced maintenance, labor and disposal costs.

2 Tail Gas Treating Unit

Note: Many tail gas units contain an amine unit. Products/

Benefit: Same as amine sweetening, see(1).

3 Aromatics

- Problem: Liquid hydrocarbon and particulates cause foaming and fouling problems.
- Benefit: Process similar to amine; reduced solvent losses and foaming; improved energy consumption; reduced maintenance, labor and disposal costs.

4 12 Catalyst Protection*

Problem: Solid particulates plug and deactivate catalyst bed (5–10 μm); water can deactivate some catalysts.

Products:	Pall Rigimesh [®] backwash filters to remove
	solid particulates.
	Pall Epocel [®] or Ultipor filters to remove low
	concentrations of solid particulates.
	Pall AquaSep Plus liquid/liquid coalescer to
	remove water.
Benefit:	Improved conversion efficiency and profitability;
	fewer catalyst changeouts; improved conversion/
	yield; lower maintenance, labor, and catalyst costs.

* NOTE: 4 denotes Pall particulate or backwash filter
 12 denotes Pall AquaSep[®] Plus or PhaseSep[®] liquid/liquid coalescer.

LOCATION OF CATALYTIC PROCESSES:

- Catalytic Reformer
 Dehydrogenation Processes
- Hydrocracker (recycle)
 Isomerization
- All Hydrotreaters

5 11 Final Product Filtration*

Problem: Refinery final products contain particulates and water.

- Products: Ultipleat High Flow filter used to remove particulates. AquaSep Plus liquid/liquid coalescer** used to remove entrained water from gasoline/diesel.
- **Benefit:** Improved product quality; less reprocessing and contamination costs; lower maintenance and disposal costs.
- *NOTE: 5 denotes Pall particulate filter

11 denotes Pall AquaSep® liquid/liquid coalescer

**NOTE: AquaSep is especially effective in removing water from fuels with high concentration of additives and surfactants.

6 Fluid Catalytic Cracking Unit Slurry Oil

Problem: Catalyst fines reduce value of slurry oil.

Products: Pall Backwash filters.

Benefit: Improved product quality and revenue; less downstream equipment maintenance.

7 Amine and Sulfur Recovery Unit

- **Problem:** Carried over amine contaminates catalyst at the sulfur recovery unit. Carried over hydrocarbon and treating chemicals initiates foaming in amine contactor.
- Products: Pall Seprasol LG Coalescer [CC3LGB7 to remove carried over amine] CC3LGA7 to remove carried over hydrocarbons.
- Benefit: Less catalyst changeouts; improved sulfer conversion; less equipment fouling; reduced amine losses, foaming and flaring.

8 Refinery Fuel Gas

Contains light hydrocarbons used to fuel refinery equipment such as furnaces, boilers, and turbines.

Problem: Fuel gas composition changes rapidly and contains condensable hydrocarbons. Liquids and solids will foul and plug burners and combustors.

Low NO_X burners are very sensitive to plugging.

- Products: Pall Seprasol LG Coalescers (CC3LGA7 and CC1LGA7) used to remove heavier (liquid) hydrocarbons and particulates from fuel gas.
- Benefit: Improved reliability; lower maintenance costs; improved burning efficiency.

LOCATION OF LARGE FURNACES:

- · Catalytic Reformers
- Hydrocrackers
- Atmospheric Distillation Unit
 Hydrotreaters
- Vacuum Distillation Unit
- Isomerization Unit
- Hydrogen Generation Unit
- Dehydrogenation Processes
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- OTHER EQUIPMENT:
- · Boilers (check with utilities engineer)
- Fuel Gas distribution compressor (check with utilities engineer)

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9 Hydrogen Compressor Protection

Contains light hydrocarbons similar to refinery fuel gas.

- Problem: Hydrogen composition changes rapidly and contains condensable hydrocarbons. Liquids and solids will foul internals of compressors; must know composition of liquids being recovered by coalescer.
- Products: Seprasol LG Coalescers (CC3LGA7 and CC3LGO2–H13) used to remove heavier (liquid) hydrocarbons and particulates from hydrogen to protect compressor.
- Benefit: Improved reliability; lower maintenance costs; improved efficiency.

LOCATION OF HYDROGEN COMPRESSORS:

- Catalytic Reformer (recycle and production)
- Hydrogen Generation Unit (recycle and production)
- Isomerization Unit (recycle)
- Hydrocracker (recycle)
- · Hydrotreaters (feed hydrogen, in some instances)
- Dehydrogenation Processes
- May be a large hydrogen distribution compressor within the refinery

10 Catalyst Recovery from Gas Streams

Problem:	Catalyst fines discharged into flue or elutriation
	gas causing catalyst losses, opacity problems,
	maintenance problems with downstream
	equipment.
	Particularly a problem in processes where catalyst is continuously regenerated.

- Products: Pall Blowback filters.
- Benefit: Less catalyst losses; less maintenance on downstream equipment; compliance with environmental standards.

13 Treating Processes

- Problem: Caustic or amine carries over into product stream causing off–specification product. Carried over caustic can form a precipitate downstream resulting in equipment fouling.
- Products: Pall PhaseSep liquid/liquid coalescer to remove carried over caustic Pall Nylon Profile to remove solid contaminants.
- Benefit: Improved profitability; lower reprocessing costs, reduced maintenance and labor costs.

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