

Application story



Cleaning Latex Tanks

Location	Netherlands	Hydra-Cell model	G35EKSJHFTMH
Type of application	High Pressure Removal of Hardened Latex / Resin Deposits	Flow rate	75 l/min (20 gpm)
Liquid	Sodium Hydroxide	Pressure	75 bar (1090 psi)
Application details	Together with a leading tank cleaning company, Hydra-Cell distributor PromoTec BV developed a new concept for cleaning internal tank surfaces on which latex or other resinous deposits have hardened through exposure to air. Using a G35 pump to circulate hot paint stripper at high pressure, the new system has been able to cut cleaning times by well over 50% in some cases. It leaves tank internals entirely free of residual deposits, making scraping or scrubbing unnecessary. Latex tank cleaning systems usually rely on repeated circulation of 85°C sodium hydroxide solution (lye) at 8-9 bar. They remove most of the encrusted deposit - but for the tank to qualify as 'clean' under EFTCO Cleaning Codes, no trace of previous content must be visible. Delay in cleaning, sometimes unavoidable, makes it likely that a low-pressure cleaning must be supplemented by manual/mechanical cleaning and polishing to shift final traces of hardened resin and restore the surface. PromoTec's concept uses cleaning liquid (in this case a paint stripper) at both high temperature and pressure high temperature, resulting in much faster cleaning. For example, a system with centrifugal pump delivering very hot sodium hydroxide solution at 9 bar could take 18-32 hours (including mechanical work) to clean a tank in which deposits have hardened down to the metal. The new system, with Hydra-Cell pump delivering hot paint stripper at 70 bar, could reduce this to under 2 hours. The new approach is made possible by using pumps with seal-less design – a mag-drive pump boosts inlet pressure to the high pressure seal-less Hydra-Cell pump operating at 70 bar. Without cooling, the pump handles aggressive cleaning liquid at the high temperatures required. And, say PromoTec, it is guaranteed to be leak-free.		
Advantages of Hydra-Cell pump on this application	High pressure capability. Seal-less design. High pressure (cf. centrifugal pumps). Can operate uncooled up to 90°C (cf. piston pumps).		

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