

Ongoing Sheen Problem Solved Inexpensively

Milwaukee, WI – October 2008

A Milwaukee, Wisconsin substation had a containment system of 12 inches of stone and drain tile. A leak of about 20 gallons of oil occurred after maintenance on one of their transformers. The leak had made it through the stone and into the drain tile. The tile flows into a 1,000 gallon sump located at the substation. This sump has an automatic pump that pumps water out into a crock located about eight feet outside the substation. From the crock the water runs off their property and into the storm sewer. While most of the oil was cleaned up, there was a persistent sheen that kept occurring in the sump, which was the result of trapped oil/sheen in the drain tile.

Only clean water can be pumped out of the substation and into the storm sewer. The owners of the substation would call their local clean up contractor who usually charged them \$1,500.00 to clean up the sheen plus 0.32/gal to containerize and dispose of the water. Typical costs using this method were between \$1,800 and \$2,100 depending on how much water was in the sump (max. capacity of sump = 1,000 gallons).

The owners of the substation chose to try C.I.Agent® Granules along with an EVAC Filter to clean up the water. The procedure consisted of disbursing C.I.Agent® Granules into the sump, agitating the water, scooping out the solidified sheen particles with a pool skimmer, and pumping the rest of the water through an EVAC Filter located outside the substation.



C.I.Agent® Granules were placed in the sump to solidify the sheen.



After removing the solidified sheen, the water is pumped outside the facility and through an EVAC filter.



Water sample from the EVAC Filter was lab tested and showed "non detect" for hydrocarbons.

C.I.Agent® Costs Comparison

	C.I.Agent®	Conventional Method (had they not used C.I.Agent®)
Clean Up Period:	30-40 minutes	2-3 hours
Materials:	5 gal. Pail C.I.Agent® Granules (\$206) EVAC FILTER (\$350)	Absorbent Pads
Retrieved:	Sheen	Water and Sheen
Total Cost:	\$556.00	\$1,500 - \$2,100

Benefit Summary: The sheen is an ongoing occurrence at this substation. But, instead of paying a clean up contractor thousands of dollars for each occurrence, they can now use their own personnel and equipment. They have C.I.Agent® Granules left for several more applications and can reuse the EVAC Filter bringing their overall cost even lower the more they clean out the sump.