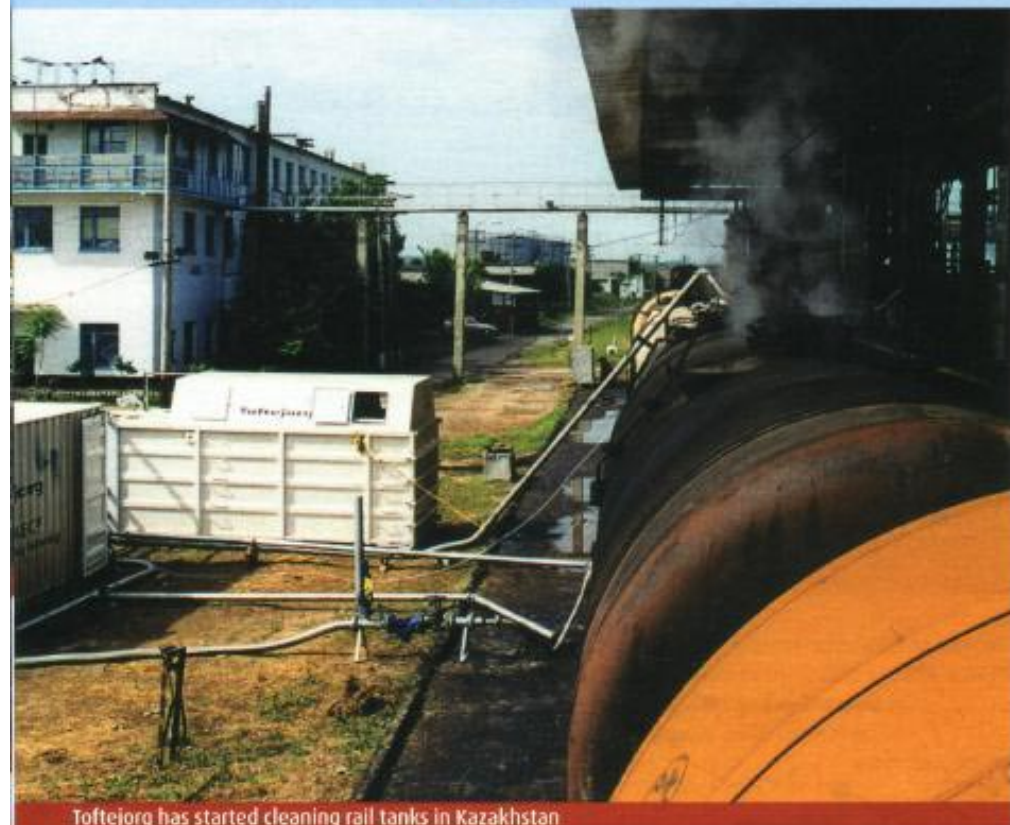


## tank cleaning news



Toftejorg has started cleaning rail tanks in Kazakhstan

"Individual PDX devices can achieve a considerable suction head, depending on the steam pressure applied," the company says, "or additional units can be placed in series downstream to generate a greater suction head. A second benefit of this arrangement is that the extra steam input helps to maintain the reduced viscosity of the sludge."

The PDX system can be incorporated into a complete process package to uplift, transport and treat sludge and, for refineries, to recover the maximum oil content.

"This approach minimises tank farm downtime," says Pursuit Dynamics. "Also the oil content recovery offsets the costs of cleaning."

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### Vecom wares ease green woes

Metal surface treatment specialist Vecom says three new product lines the company has introduced cater to customers adjusting their practices in response to stepped-up environmental regulations in Europe.

The Netherlands-headquartered company has recently introduced a line of hydroxide-free truck shampoos, a line of low-foaming tank cleaning agents and a strong acid traffic film remover. The traffic film remover is absent any pungent acid odour, enabling it to be used in closed cleaning halls.

"The market place is getting mature with respect to environmental regulations and legislation concerning safety and health at work," says the company. "Vecom and its customers are encouraged to invest in safe products and

safe methods for production, storage and handling and wastewater treatment. Our professional staff enables Vecom to meet these ever changing customer needs."

The introduction of the new products coincides with the opening of a new stainless steel treatment facility in North Manchester, UK. The facility has a pickling tank that is 8 m long by 2 m wide by 1.5 m deep, and is covered by a twin-hook 5-tonne overhead gantry crane.

"The UK facility has already attracted business from a number of new customers who have taken the opportunity to use pickling as a surface treatment now that there is a company in the locality that can provide the service," says Vecom.

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### Toftejorg launches rail tanker cleaning system

Toftejorg Technology, makers of automated cleaning systems for aboveground storage tanks in the oil and petrochemical industries, is now diversifying into rail tank car cleaning. The company says it is experiencing an increased interest for automated rail tanker cleaning systems, especially from Eastern European and CIS countries.

Toftejorg has recently finalised a rail tanker test cleaning job for the National Railway Association in Kazakhstan together with the local Toftejorg partner, Trabold-Kazakhstan.

"Trabold-Kazakhstan normally offers tank cleaning services for aboveground storage tanks with the Blabo system," says Toftejorg. "But now it is extending its services to cover rail tankers as well as a result of the growing

demand for automated systems in this market."

The patented Blabo system is a modular, fully integrated process system especially designed to clean large volume, 'difficult-to-clean' oil tanks such as those used for crude oil and heavy fuel oil, catalytic cracker residue and similar materials. Tank sizes normally range from 10,000 to 120,000 m<sup>3</sup>. Blabo is used for cleaning both floating and fixed roof tanks.

The Blabo process system purchased by Trabold-Kazakhstan is being remodelled to fulfil the requirements for both rail tanker cleaning and aboveground storage tanks. The system will then permanently be a dual application system. The system is designed to clean 80 to 90 rail tank cars per 24 hour period.

"The test cleaning turned out very successfully and resulted in Trabold-Kazakhstan obtaining an order for the cleaning of several hundred rail tankers in the coming years," Toftejorg says.

Also on the drawing board at Toftejorg Technology is a stand-alone cleaning system that is specifically designed for rail tankers only. The cleaning time of one oil rail tanker will take about 25 to 30 minutes using the automated technology, the company reports.

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### Tankclean, Tanktainer Thurroclean join forces

Tankclean and Tanktainer Thurroclean Group have formed an agreement to cooperate in the provision of tank cleaning and associated services in the UK and Mainland Europe. The companies say the cooperation will enhance the range of services and geographical coverage they provide and will create the largest single cleaning network in the UK.

The boards of both companies believe that by providing an extensive network that capitalises on the combined strengths of both organisations, they can guarantee continuity and consistency of service to customers.

"For a number of years we have been seeking to align ourselves with a suitable partner to support ambitions to extend our coverage into Europe," says David Giles on behalf of Tankclean. "Tanktainer Thurroclean, with a network of 12 stations in six countries along with its four UK facilities, is a natural fit and provides the European dimension we were looking for."

"This is an important development for us and will provide our customers with wider access to the most extensive network of tank cleaning stations in the UK and the Republic of Ireland," confirms Jonathan Paine of Tanktainer Thurroclean. "It also brings together the two companies who are committed to investing in the infrastructure and resources required to run a high quality operation which can stay ahead of legislation and keep pace with the demands of our customers and the marketplace."

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