

VECOM'S UNIQUE PRODUCTS: DETECTION PASTES

Corrosion damage in oil storage tanks is generally caused by water that finds its way under the oil.

This water is often condensation water, but it can also arrive in tanks through poorly closed manhole covers or incorrectly installed venting pipes. Because of its higher specific gravity the water always sinks to the bottom in the tanks.

Bacteriological contamination soon originates in this water. In low-oxygen conditions these bacteria form various types of corrosive acids, with (pitting) corrosion as a consequence. This phenomenon is called bacteriologically induced corrosion. Tank bottoms and walls with a thickness up to 3 mm can become rusted through by this pitting corrosion in just a few months. Also see TB 2005/13 for more background information on bacteriologically induced corrosion.

It is accordingly of the utmost importance to regularly check for the presence of water, and to empty tanks of water if necessary. With Vecom's WATER FINDER SPECIAL, applied to the bottom of a dip stick or tape measure, the quantity of water in the bottom of the tanks can be simply established. If there is water in the tanks, the Water Finder Special on the dip stick changes colour from light pink to red.



If a quantity of Vecom's GASOLINE FINDER is also applied to the top of the dip stick/tape measure (approximately where one would expect the surface of the oil), one can read off the level of fuel in the tank. GASOLINE FINDER is specially for the detection of the level in tanks with gasoline and other light mineral oils, that are otherwise difficult to determine as they evaporate quickly.

Discolouration from yellow to red on the dip stick then shows the liquid level. The difference between these measurements can be used to calculate the present quantity of fuel, gasoline or other light mineral oils.

Both products are available in boxes of 20 tubes.

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