

Subject:
Re:JBF Skimmer efficiency
Date:
Mon, 07 Aug 2000 08:05:18 -0800
From:
Ismael Roberto Lizardi <tito@alaska.net>
To:
damo461@ecy.wa.gov
CC:
Dan Beyer <Dan@slickbar.com>

Dear David G. Mora,

I was an operator of JBF DIP equipment for 6 years at the Alyeska Pipeline Terminal in Valdez. And I was referred to you by Dan Beyer of Slickbar.

During those years and still today, the JBF DIP Skimmers are considered the first line of defense. This equipment is the first called out in EVERY on water incident.

We have on the terminal other equipment ready to deploy and just as accessible. JBF is the equipment of choice however. The reasons are many.

1-The equipment picks up a wide range of product viscosity like no other.

2- It works extremely well in all kinds of weather and we have weather here.

3-The platform is stable and well laid out

4-Sea states affect not at all most of the time and less that the other equipment we have. We have a great variety of equipment at the terminal.

5-The recovery rate is higher than any other equipment we have, bar none.

6-The DIP system is safer to operate than any other equipment we have.

7-At the terminal there have been thousands of spills of varying sizes and in all those spills I cannot recall a breakdown. That is not to say
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they do not require maintenance. they do, as they are started and run every day with training sessions weekly.

8- Maintenance is minimal, normal greasing of bearings, minor adjustments to the belt that is easy to do, replacement of zincs, paint, etc.

9-The equipment is unstoppable in my opinion. The debris rake and the debris basket catches about 99% of the debris. The grinder takes care of the rest.

10- The JBF DIPs have a much greater capacity than comparable systems because of it minimum water recovery.

11- The JBFs can stay out longer skimming because of less water recovery mixed in with product. It's as if having two of the other skimmers deployed, at least.

12-We use the JBFs with small barges easily increasing recovery capacity.

13-The JBF can be used as a transfer platform for lightering between other vessels and crafts.

14-Current speeds do not affect the JBF DIP system as much as the others brands (systems) we have available to use.

15-The units are very compact and well thought out.

16- The design engineering, construction, materials and accessories are of the highest quality providing reliability and long life (10 years to date at the terminal)

17-The JBF is not only safer for personnel but less fatiguing on the crew. Because of the location of the actual recovery and the storage with it's off loading pumps, the decks stay clean and personnel cleaner and comfortable. Under extended periods of operation this is a hidden efficiency factor.

18-We can get into tight spaces and shallows recovering product as well as in the open water. Over the years of operating the JBF DIPs I have
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NEVER encountered any product that it would not recover at a high rate.

19-We have skimmed and off loaded without having to stop ever.

20-When the skimmer skims no telltale oils is seen trailing. It is that good.

Over the years I have run this equipment in all kinds of practical weather. At the terminal all loading and off loading stops if we have any spills. This means millions are lost not to mention the stacking up of vessels at anchorage some times. We have to get the spill under control and product recovered ASAP. JBF equipment is a key factor in getting back into production.

Once I ran over a dead head. I saw it and felt it hard but it did not seem to neither slow us down nor effect the skimming. After a long enough time and as part of my regular checking routine, I looked into the collection well. There, in the debris basket, to my surprise was the dead head. It was a log 6' long and 6" in diameter. I have collected dead fish, sea weed, and all kinds of flotsam without any work stoppage.

I hope this response answers your questions. If not feel free to contact me at any time.

Sincerely,

Captain Bob Lizardi
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