



VacuDry[®] - the worldwide leading solution to recover resources from industrial waste



Agenda for today Chlorosur technical Seminar

Remediation of mercury sludge and contaminated soil

Stabilisation of Mercury → HgS



Worldwide leading solutions to recover valuable resources from hazardous wastes and contaminated soils

- econ's proprietary VacuDry® technology uses low heat and vacuum for safe and efficient separation of resources like mercury and hydrocarbons as well as other evaporable contaminants
- econ's technology is flexible to deal with all typical industrial waste consistencies such as crushed building rubble, soils, landfilled residues, lagoon sediments, sludge, filter & centrifuge cake, spent catalyst, spent active carbon, powder, etc.
- econ's scope of supply and services includes VacuDry® equipment manufacturing, commissioning and operator training as well as rental solutions and joint operations
- oil&gas industry, metal industry, chlorine industry, chemical sites clean-up

VacuDry[®] input consistencies



Mercury containing wastes and soils



Hydrocarbon contaminated soils



Drill cuttings, refinery wastes, tank bottoms



Oil lagoon sludge and sediments

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Grinding swarf and mill scale sludge



other hazardous wastes

'econ's technology is flexible and considers typical variations of wastes'

VacuDry[®] applications

Substances suitable for vacuum distillation by VacuDry®:

- Mercury
- Hydrocarbons (drilling fluids, crude oil, refinery products)
- PAH polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons
- POP persistent organic pollutants (PCB polycyclic biphenyls; various pesticides, herbicides and fungicides)
- CHC chlorinated hydrocarbons
- Organic lead compounds

separated contaminants must have a boiling point < 450 ℃

'econ's technology is flexible to separate numerous contaminants'















Advantages of VacuDry®



- Min. 4 x higher energy efficiency compared to other desorber types (e.g. rotary kilns)
- Lowest process emissions below 1,000 m³/h due to vacuum operation
- Worldwide EPA acceptance guaranteed, even in neightbourhood to residential areas
- > 99 % resource recovery of mercury, hydrocarbons, etc.
- Only desorber type for hydrocarbons up to C 40 and mercury separation with ATEX (explosion protection) certificate, approved by German TÜV
- Batch wise operation with full process control





Result of mercury waste treatment with VacuDry® technology:

Purity of mercury: 99,99 %

Cleanliness of solids: up to 1ppm Sludge: up to 5 ppm

Mobile and stationary equipment available



VacuDry[®] for contaminated soil

Feeding material:

Contamination:

Plant design:

Feed material consistency:

Feeding system:

Equipment:

Indirect heating:

Throughput capacity:

Start up:

Soil, building rubble, filter cake soil washing

Mercury, PAH and others

Stationary. modular

10 to 50 % moisture

Belt conveyor

2 x VacuDry®12,000 Remoistening and solidification mixer SolidM 1.500

400 °C / thermal oil

4 t/h

2011

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Stabilization of mercury Hg \rightarrow HgS

At the customer premises Provided as a service



The most economical solution for the chlorine-alkaline industry to transform metallic mercury to mercury sulphide





Market environment

- EU regulation EC 1102/2008 → export ban requires safe storage of metallic mercury
- Euro Chlor voluntary agreement → phasing out mercury cell technology by 2017
- Stabilisation of metallic mercury to mercury sulphide → currently best available technology for final disposal
- Partial unsound mercury waste processing methods → increased demand for 100 % traceability of the disposal procedures

Legal compliance Technical reliability Lowest price Highest throughput



Legal compliance

- one single on-site process step resulting in non-hazardous material
- 100 % traceability from cradle to grave guaranteed
- `disappearance' of metallic mercury impossible
- third party supervision by certifying body welcome

Lowest price

- fair, comprehensible pricing: equipment rental fee PLUS incentive for throughput
- on-site utilities and energy provided by customer at real costs
- the shortest way to final disposal: no overheads for involvement of waste management company
- no trans boundary movement of hazardous goods, no interim transport, no certified containers, no transport notification necessary



Technical reliability

- easy-to-handle, safe and fully capsuled process design
- machinery design experience from over 20 years operation with mercury waste
- experience in implementing hazardous waste solutions in cooperation with international EPAs in more than 15 countries
- total project management by highly-skilled team of engineers incl. on-site servicing

Highest throughput

- process design for 6 tons per day in 3-shift operation
- largest existing mercury stabilisation mixer
- duplication of throughput to 12 tons per day possible with parallel on-site operation of 2 mobile units



How to generate red mercury sulphide:

Liquid mercury and sulphur powder react spontaneously and intensively in a safe and hermetically closed reactor:

- Stoichiometric reaction of mercury and sulphur
- Continuous, intensive mixing during the process to fully convert the reactants
- Permanent mechanical crushing of sulphur and mercury sulphide particles
- Semi-automated processing with automated dosing of mercury over a fixed time period
- Continuous temperature control



Layout





The process steps

Step 1: Feeding

- 1. 2 tons of mercury^{*1} are sucked directly out of the customers container into the feeder tank (V10.1) of the mobile plant
- 2. the mixer is evacuated and then inerted by venting with nitrogen 3 times
- 3. 320 kg of sulphur^{*1} are filled into the mixer by the feeding screw (C10.1)

Step 2: Stabilization process

- 1. the mixer shaft starts rotating
- 2. the continuous injection (3-4 hours) of mercury is started
- 3. after a certain time of mixing the stabilization is completed

Step 3: Quality check and discharge

- 1. the mixer is cooled down to $< 60 \,^{\circ}{\rm C}$
- 2. a sample is taken and measured for any remaining mercury vapour
- 3. the produced HgS is emptied via the discharge screw (C30.1) directly into barrels

^{*1} the feeder tank and the mixer are equipped with weighting cells



Emissions

Basically:

- The chemical reaction of the two elements mercury and sulphur to mercury sulphide generates no gaseous emissions respectively no off-gas flow
- The process is conducted in a gas tight and cooled system under ambient pressure
- The only and very small off gas volume is generated by the pump which is only operated during the preparation of the plant before the process starts
- No mercury emission into the air





Safety at work

- no direct handling of mercury
- operated in a closed system
- daily Hg-measurement inside the container
- CE marking / EC declaration of conformity
- certified by TÜV-Süd Germany

Provided by econ industries:

- 20 years mercury waste handling experience
- Supply of equipment in containerised execution
- Transport organisation for equipment and parts
- Supervision and training for on-site operation
- Project management inside econ's office and on-site
- Consultancy on final disposal options for mercury sulphide
- Technical documents for local approval procedure
- Supply of health & safety guidelines
- Technical clarification with local authorities
- Presence of engineers at technical meetings
- Supply of wear and spare parts
- Process warranty for final treatment results





3D equipment design



`econeers' working with NORM

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econ industries provides the most efficient and cleanest solutions to process special wastes worldwide!

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