



Cleaning of vessel and cargo m.s. "Oostzee"

Client:
Location:
Project:

Rederij KNSM Kroonburgh
Tankcleaning Rotterdam, 2nd Industrial Dock Botlek
Cleaning of m.s. "Oostzee", both vessel and cargo



In the event of a calamity it is of great importance to be able to step in quickly and to have many disciplines at one's disposal. Mourik can satisfy these requirements and is therefore the obvious choice for the undertaking of such exacting projects. For the execution of such projects, various companies from the Mourik organization are brought together to form one efficient, well-armed and flexibly operating project team.

A striking example of this Mourik approach is the cleaning of the cargo vessel m.s. "Oostzee". With approximately 3,500 drums of the very hazardous substance epichlorhydrine on board, the "Oostzee" met with very severe weather. The cargo began to shift and some of the drums sprung leaks. The vessel returned to Rotterdam.

For the unloading and the intensive cleaning of the m.s. "Oostzee", a complete scenario was drawn up at very short notice. For this, use was also made of the experience previously gained with the vessels "Olaf", "Anna Broere" and the Italian "Karin B". Such a scenario contains all the activities to be carried out, the various procedures to be followed, etc. for the entire operation.

Safety plan

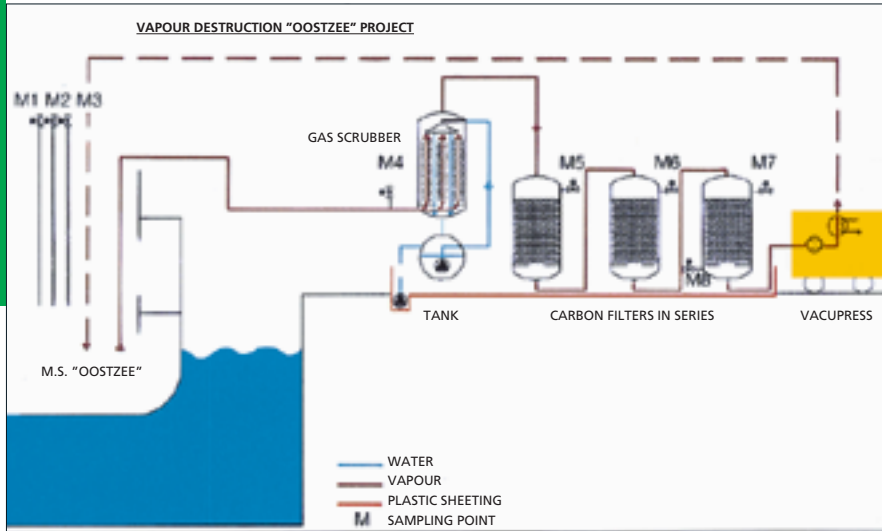
Working with epichlorhydrine imposes exceptionally severe demands on both personnel and equipment. A safety plan, forming part of the scenario, was therefore drawn up, containing stringent safety directives for each phase of the project. Such a plan guarantees personal safety, prevents environmental pollution and ensures the safe transportation and the correct processing of the chemical waste involved, in conformity with the statutory requirements.

The Operation

Before the hatches could be opened it was necessary to render the m.s. "Oostzee" free from gas. For this purpose an advanced vapour destruction plant was installed consisting of a scrubber and three active carbon filters connected in series. A vacupress provided for the transportation of air at a rate of about 3,000 m³ per hour.



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During the unloading of the vessel by personnel dressed in gas suits, special precautions were taken to ensure that no cargo could fall between ship and shore. The cleaning of the drums took place adjacent to the ship on the quay which was provided with a fluid-proof covering.

The contaminated drums were put through a number of flushing procedures. Leaking drums were returned to the supplier in leak-proof containers. The empty hold was highpressure cleaned, after which the contaminated waste water was carried off in vacuum tank lorries.

The cleaning scenario provided for a continuous sampling plan in order to monitor the epichlorhydrine concentrations.

The following companies collaborated in this project:

- Depot Milieubeheer B.V. Scenario, sampling, logistics and day-to-day supervision;
- Mourik International B.V. Working in gas suits in extremely toxic environment;
- Mourik Services B.V.
 - Setting up of the shore installations
 - Unloading of the vessel, cleaning of vessel and cargo
 - Transportation of the air for the purposes of vapour destruction;
- Mourik Groot-Ammer B.V. Supplying, setting up and operating of the vapour destruction plant.



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