




# Maintenance\* of oil separators

Steel
Polyester
Polyethylene 
Stainless steel

**\*Security reminder prior to any maintenance operation on our products (all various ranges)**

The operator shall wear the **Individual Protection Gear** necessary for maintenance operations and have the required clearances for this kind of works.



## Preparation

Install appropriate signs and secure the work area using signal cones for example .

Open the access hatches of the upstream and downstream manholes as well as those of the oil separator.

Let the separator ventilate for at least 15 minutes before starting clean-up operations.

Check the presence of noxious gases using a suitable detector.



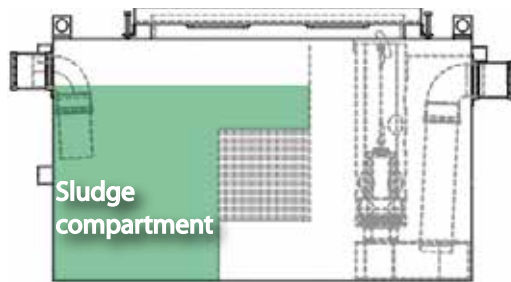
## Sludge trap

Techneau recommends to empty this compartment at least twice a year.

It is the first settling compartment (1) of the separator (upstream the coalescing filter) and traps mainly silt and heavy metals. Its maximum storage capacity equals 2/3 of its useful volume.



Section of an oil separator



Remove the floaters using a rake-like device (30 mm gaps).

Stir up the settled sludge before pumping out.

View of the sludge chamber





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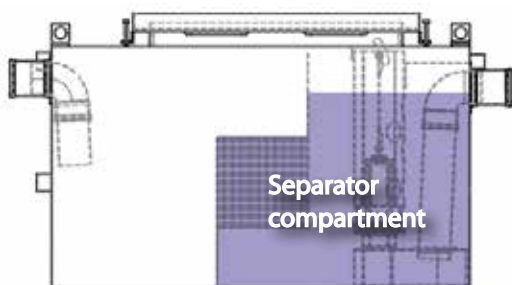
## Oil separation compartment

This compartment is the second settling compartment of the separator. It is equipped **with a coalescing filter and an automatic closure device.**

It mainly traps light liquids – *with a standard density of 0,85.*

The frequency of emptying operations depends on the pollutant load entering the separator. If no accidental spillage takes place, empty the separator once a year.

*Section of an oil separator*



Use a spatula to stir swiftly and gradually the liquid surface in the separator until water is visible under the oil layer.

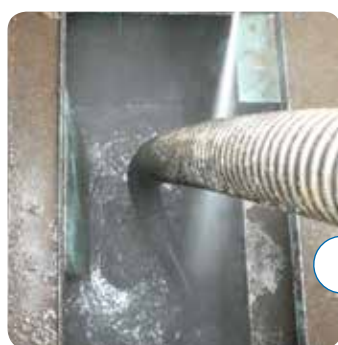
*Note: this is a method used to estimate the thickness of the oil layer.*

If this layer is > 8 cm, pumping out is necessary.  
Have the separator emptied by a drain cleaning lorry.  
Clean the walls of the separator compartment using a high pressure lance.

*View of the separator chamber*



*Emptying of the separator chamber*



*Wall cleaning using a high pressure lance*

## Coalescing filter

The coalescing filter shall be cleaned, even replaced if it is completely clogged. This may be the case if the effluent is heavily loaded with suspended matter.

Take the coalescing filter out of its place. A coalescing filter can normally be handled by a single person.

Clean the coalescing filter using a high pressure washer.

Replace the coalescing filter if the coalescing cells are damaged or clogged.

Finally, place the coalescing filter in its slot making sure it is in line with the flow direction.

## Automatic closure device

While filling up the tank keep the float in high position and then reposition it at the level of the outlet water surface, once it is stable.

*Detail of a coalescing filter heavily loaded in sludge and requiring intervention.*

