



Maintenance* of oil separators.

*Prior safety reminder for all unit maintenance operations (all ranges included)

The operator must wear any **Personal Protective Equipment** required for maintenance operations and have all accreditations required for this work.



Preparation

Secure and **mark out** the working area, e.g. using cones

Open the upstream and downstream manhole covers and the oil separator covers.

Let them **ventilate** for 15 minutes minimum before starting cleaning.

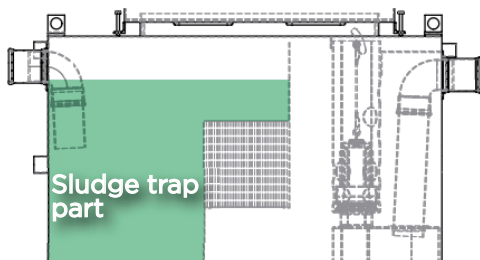
Check if there is any harmful gas using a suitable sensor.

The sludge trap compartment

Techneau recommends draining this compartment at least twice a year.

It is the first unit settling compartment **(1)** (upstream from the coalescing filter) and mainly contains sludge and heavy metals. Its maximum storage capacity is 2/3 of its useful volume.

Cross-section of an oil separator



View of sludge trap chamber



Resuspend settled sludge before pumping.





Maintenance* of oil separators.

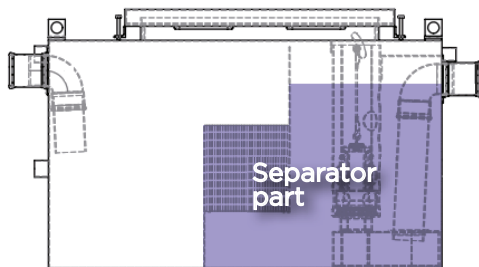
Oil separator compartment

It is the unit's second settling compartment. It has an **automatic stopper coalescing filter**.

It mainly traps light liquids - 0.85 density as standard.

The drain frequencies depend on the polluting load sent to the unit. In the absence of an accidental leak, drain annually.

Cross-section of an oil separator



Softly and gradually mix the surface of the unit until water appears under the oil.

NB: this method allows you to see the thickness of the oil.

If > 8 cm, pumping is required.

Empty the separator using a vacuum truck.

Clean the walls of the separator compartment, coalescing filter and automatic stopper using a high-pressure jet.

View of the separator chamber



Draining the separator chamber



Cleaning the walls with high-pressure jet

The coalescing filter

It must also be cleaned, or replaced if completely clogged. This might be the case if effluent contains large amounts of suspended solids.

Remove the coalescing filter block from its position. The blocks can normally be handled by a single person.

Wash the coalescing filter with a high-pressure jet.

Replace the blocks if the coalescing cell is damaged or clogged.

Finally, replace the coalescing filter in its location by checking the flow direction.

The automatic stopper

When restoring the water supply, hold the float in an upper position to reposition it at the outlet water level once stabilised.

Detail of coalescing filter heavily clogged with sludge and requiring maintenance

