

M V Bran Sands Ballast effluent tank re-line



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Background:

The vessel M. V. Bran Sands is operated by Stephenson Clarke shipping on behalf of Northumbria Water as an effluent carrier. The coal tar epoxy coating applied previously to deck heads (2500m²) in effluent ballast tanks was failing and needed to be replaced. Epo-chem™ RA 564M two-pack solvent-free, moisture tolerant, epoxy glassflake material offered a one coat solution that would provide a guaranteed minimum 5-year maintenance free service, with life expectancy in excess of 20 years.

Specification:

The following specification was utilised:

- Wash down tank to remove surface contamination.
- Grit blast to BS 7079 SA2½.
- Clean out.
- Stripe coat edges and welds.
- Apply 1-coat Epo-chem™ RA 564M solvent-free, glassflake epoxy at 250um by airless spray
- Inspect tank and touch up as required.

Application:

The duration of the contract from start to completion was 9 days. The product was applied in a single coat to the required thickness, unlike multi-coat paint system with additional problems of solvent entrapment, intercoating adhesion, problems, contamination etc.

Benefits:

- The application was estimated to have saved at least 8 days of down time, increased access and reduced manpower.
- Reduced docking times compared to solvent-based coatings.
- The product can cure underwater and therefore when there is a shortage of time, it can be put back into service within a short space of time without any detrimental effect to the coating.
- Hot work in adjacent tanks continued without disruption.
- Reduced number of stripe coats as product has a very good edge coverage.
- Reduced ventilation requirements to simple air movers rather than extraction units.
- No requirement to dehumidify the tanks, as product is moisture tolerant.
- Improved HS&E impact to client and applicator.
- Increase flexibility for painting. No need to have a specific "window" to fit around other trades.

For further information about this and other solvent free tank lining systems please contact Chemco International on Tel: +44 (0) 1236 606060, Fax: +44 (0) 1236 606070 or e-mail sales@chemcoint.com.



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