

MEDIA RELEASE

Pollution Solutions demonstrates oil removal technology at QME

Pollution Solutions will display its oil removal technology Mycelx on **Stand 6035** during the 2008 Queensland Mining and Engineering (QME) exhibition at the Mackay Showground from July 22-24.

The Mycelx molecule was developed following the Exxon Valdez oil spill in Alaska in 1989 to collect errant hydrocarbons.

Mycelx is a curable polymeric surfactant that cross-links and cures permanently into the fibres of a wide variety of substrates including polypropylene and cellulose (such as filter cartridges, cloth/material, woodchips and sand).

Mycelx modifies these substrates to make them extremely hydrophobic (repelling water) and oleophilic (attracting oil).

It changes the flow patterns of hydrocarbons and causes oil to coalesce and become thicker. When the product is added to heavy crude oil in water, the oil thickens and becomes viscoelastic, and the properties of Mycelx are transferred to the oil.

The thickened oil then bonds to other dispersed oil, and as the oil is agitated, sheared or stirred, the bond becomes stronger.

Captured oil is not released, as it wants to leave the water and stay with the Mycelx-modified oil. This is a unique property of Mycelx: once the oil is captured it is not released or de-sorbed.

Petrol and diesel do not act as solvents when combined with Mycelx modified oil, due to the high binding properties of this product. Out-turn samples of hydrocarbon cocktails demonstrate there is no oil, sheen or aroma present.

While polypropylene has an affinity for oil, oil has a stronger affinity for the Mycelx molecule, which will instantly bond to the Mycelx without smearing the polypropylene, even under water.

Mycelx cartridges capture up to 99.9% of hydrocarbons in a single pass without building up a backpressure. In addition, the cartridges do not swell as they absorb hydrocarbons.

Further information:

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