



Refinery Improves Business and Operations

Visual MESA Production Accounting separates accounting for multiple owners

Key Benefits

- Reconciliation between paper and physical accounting
- Saved time and increased business process efficiency

Background

- European refinery running crude oil for different owners that require separate accounting
- 30,000 bpd crude oil, 2% of total country capacity, producing 1 million tons of bitumen per year
- Labor intensive manual accounting

KBC Solution and Results

- Improved yields and production efficiency by using an accounting model that supports crude owner blending
- Support for hydrocarbon and utilities balance

Client Challenge

A European operator refines crude oil for two different owners that require separate accounting. They track ownership across the entire process from the crude oil reception, through the refining process up to the tankage, and final product shipping for accounting purposes.

Limitations in client's accounting systems required they run individual campaigns for each of the owners separately. When possible, they even kept separate dedicated tanks.

The operator kept detailed records on a monthly basis of loans and returns to comply with the contracts in place. They tracked hydrocarbon and energy accounting for each owner.

This resulted in excessive time spent in paper accounting to the detriment of physical accounting. The team had little to no time to consider the daily mass balance and data reconciliation for sustaining an oil loss control initiative.

The process was inefficient and unsustainable. The ability to blend the crudes together would maximize yields and increase production efficiency.

The Solution

The company needed a production accounting system that was robust enough to handle this challenging scenario. Not only did it have to support multiple paper accounting, it needed to support



A Yokogawa Company



physical tracking. They wanted a system that could also help with data reconciliation, oil loss reduction initiatives, and composition tracking.

To achieve this the company decided to implement Visual MESA® Production Accounting (VM-PA).

As KBC put VM-PA online, the company was able to leave the old system behind. They started focusing attention on improving their accounting methodologies.

During the implementation phase the transparent methodology imposed by VM-PA revealed some incorrect accounting procedures that the team fixed.

VM-PA put methodologies in place for hydrocarbon and energy accounting on an owner basis. Using the system, the company has moved from monthly to daily accounting. They can now produce and send daily accounting data to the national treasury via web connectors.

Results

Though not initially considered as a requirement, the company is now considering extending the VM-PA use so that it becomes the main application for operators to input, calculate, and validate receipts and shipment data, along with inventory and tank movements, process meters, and utilities meters in an auditable environment.

The VM-PA system increased productivity, saved time, reduced errors, and increased the operator's efficiency. Now the operator can maximize yields by blending crudes.



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