

News

Solution for ATEX zone 1 classified jetties with space restrictions



Images above shows Vikoma's ATEX zone 1 reel in the container with the reel controls located in the end door

Hazardous area classifications have become more stringent over recent years as focus in health and safety increases. Often the entire jetty is classified as ATEX zone 1 when it has loading and unloading operations alongside.

Oil containment boom systems are typically located on the jetty to allow for rapid deployment in the event of a spill arising from an accident or equipment failure. There are therefore a number of challenges to overcome when selecting oil spill equipment. The use of standard diesel-hydraulic boom and reel systems is not permitted and there are usually space constraints and the containerised package of oil spill response equipment may need to be closer than normal to the edge of the jetty, leaving the space tight for accessing the container and deploying the equipment.

Vikoma is pleased to be able provide a solution to this challenge. We can provide an ATEX zone 1 electric powered boom reel which can be housed in a curtain sided 10' ISO container with a special feature of the boom reel controls being located into the end door for easy access, enabling the reel to be operated with the end door open or closed. As well as meeting technical specifications thanks to a first class painting facility on site, we also offer paint colours to suit. Most of our reels and containers are orange, however in this instance the customer wanted blue and grey to match corporate branding.

Step towards a circular economy Refurbish to extend product life

As business emphasis changes and more consideration is given to it's environmental impact we are seeing an increasing demand for refurbishment services. Rather than replace equipment, a good step towards the circular economy is to get equipment refurbished and extend it's useful life. We can offer this service for equipment in our industrial range as well as for oil spill products.

The photo below shows oil recovery skimmers from a refinery that have come back for refurbishment. Each skimmer is assessed individually and as many original parts retained as possible and where parts have become obsolete and beyond repair, our engineering team will source alternative parts which are compatible. The photos to the right show the refurbished skimmers ready for action.



The photos at the bottom of the page show pictures of reels for oil containment boom, before and after refurbishment. We are lucky to have a fabulous shot blast and paint spray facility at our factory and the reels look like new after we've finished with them. In this case the reels have been upgraded to include forklift pockets and modified to remove the inbuilt powerpack and modified to operate from a standalone powerpack.

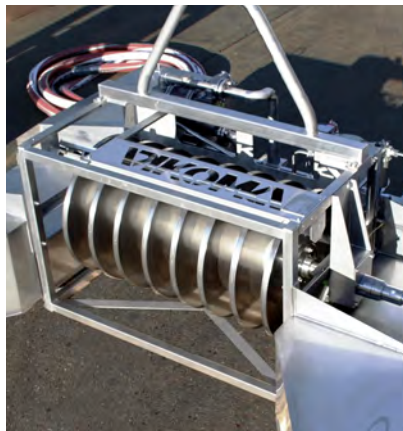


Zone 0 industrial skimmers to meeting tightening legislations impacting refineries

Innovation has always been a core value for Vikoma. We have been leading the industry in the development of equipment that is effective and reliable for over 50 years. Our development program is ongoing ensuring we deliver leading products compliant with constant legislation changes. With tightening legislation impacting refineries Petrochemical and industrial facilities, we are now offering our industrial oil skimming systems with certification for use in hazardous areas including Zone 0.

Zone 0 is the highest level of hazardous classification that oil skimming systems are installed in and until now only weir skimmers have been available for this. Typical weir skimmers are not selective in the collection of hydrocarbons and typically pick up large quantities of water.

Vikoma, Zone 0 certified disc skimmers typically pick up 98% oil with only 2% water making them very efficient and allowing for the recovered oil to be recycled and reused.



Looking after our environmentthe latest

Since our last newsletter we have be very proud to be awarded a Gold standard by the SOS Green Impact Scheme, which is our third successive Gold Award, as well as The Chamber of Commerce award for Environment and Sustainability. These awards acknowledge our sustained commitment to improving our environmental impact. We are continuing with those efforts and have placed an order for the installation of a significant solar energy system. The Isle of Wight where we are located is the sunniest place in the UK which will get maximum benefit from a solar system.



Around our site we have let the grassy areas grow wild and planted flowers and put up bird and bug boxes to encourage wildlife to flourish. The nature lovers here have been taking plenty of pictures of the wildlife inhabiting our site. Below are some of the photos.



SPILLCON

11-15 September 2023
Brisbane, Australia

The next show dedicated to Oil spill will be in Brisbane in September. We will be there alongside our distributor OPEC Systems who represent us in Australia and New Zealand. If you are going to the show please do come along and see us.

Supporting our community with work experience

T levels qualifications are becoming increasingly popular for 17/18 year olds providing a good balance of theory with practical hands on work experience. To obtain the qualification, each student needs to complete 315 hours experience over the 2 year course. Although it's a big commitment for Vikoma, we have provided work experience to 4 Engineering students and 1 Business Studies student throughout the academic year all gaining valuable insights and experience to help get their qualifications and help with their future careers.



Dressed up to win!



We had a really good night at the IW Chamber Business Awards evening. It was a great opportunity to get dressed up, get our dancing shoes on and have some team fun plus network with other businesses.

The highlight was winning the Environment & Sustainability category recognising our continuous efforts to improve our impact on the Environment.

Well done to all the Vikoma team ... keep up the good work!

Message from the Managing Director, Karen Lucas

The market has been very buoyant which in turn is keeping all areas of our factory busy, taking full advantage of the new equipment we've invested in recently. The supply chain worldwide has been challenging, however we've overcome this by adopting a dynamic approach to adapting our designs where necessary. This is a true advantage of having our teams working together in the same factory.

We've welcomed a number of customers to our factory which always includes a factory tour and consistently get compliments on our safe and efficient ways of working in our well organised site. We always welcome visitors so please come and see us.

