



News

dp fuel tank services

SPRING 2010

Moving into installing

After gaining decades of experience in cleaning, excavating and removing fuel storage tanks, DP Fuel Tank Services is diversifying into the installation of domestic and commercial heating oil tanks.

Says DP FTS director, Nigel Plumb: "Cleaning and removing heating oil tanks became a growing part of our business when people started to move to cheaper forms of energy. Lately, there has been an even greater increase in this business, following the tightening up of heating oil storage regulations.

"Customers who called us in to remove their old tanks, but wanted to continue to use oil for heating, started asking us to install their new up-to-date tanks, so we decided to train up our staff to safely install plastic and metal tanks up to 10,000ltr; ensuring they are positioned and installed to comply with the latest standards and regulations.

"We can also carry out any necessary building work associated with the installation."



One of the new tanks now being installed by DP FTS

Explaining Nitro-foam



DP Fuel Tank Services managing director Kathy Early was asked by the APEA's Eastern Branch to address its Annual General Meeting at the end of March.

Kathy took the opportunity to explain the advantages of Nitro-foam over other methods of temporarily inerting tanks. She was joined in answering questions at the end by fellow director Nigel Plumb.

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Industrial sized cleaning at Colchester – page 2

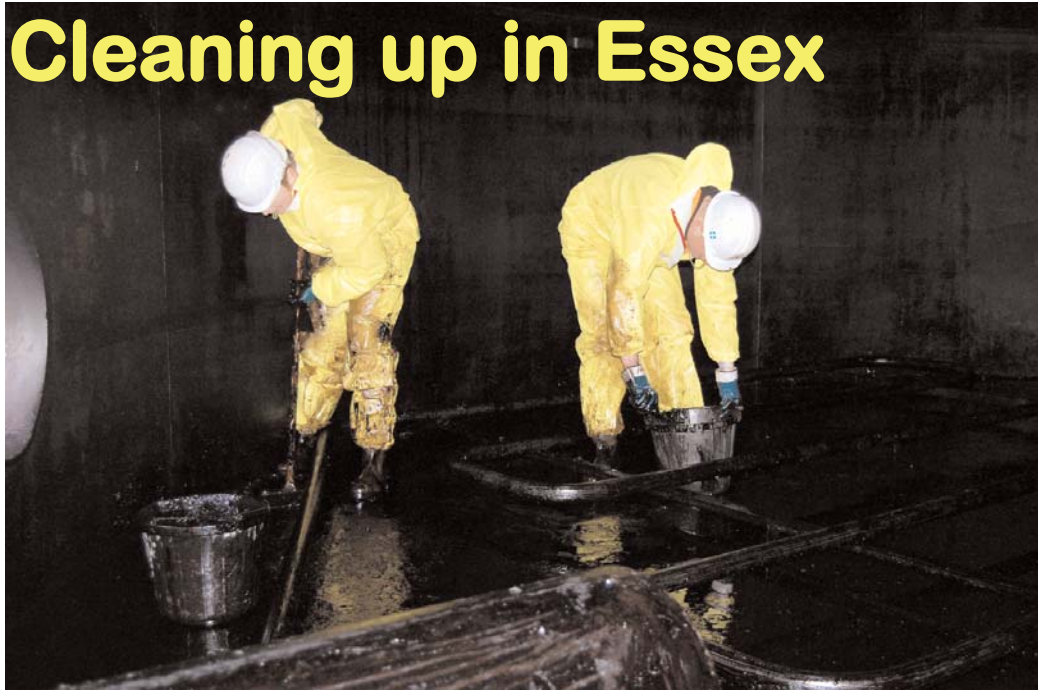
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Win a bottle of Champagne – page 4

Cleaning up in Essex

Cleaning the inside of one of the large tanks at an Essex hospital (right). The inside of the disused tank (below left). The outside of the two tanks (below right).



We are getting increasing numbers of clients asking us to clean their bulk fuel storage tanks; either for re-use or demolition. Over the past months, we have carried out major projects in Slough, Guernsey and as far away as the Falklands, for power companies and the Ministry of Defence.

Our latest project was for a general hospital in Essex, where we were asked by MC Integ to clean the inside of two 350,000ltr oil storage tanks that had become redundant.

The aim was to remove the tanks and associated equipment from the tank banded area, and then the main contractor will construct a new sub-station in its place, which will supply energy to a new hospital wing project.



One of the tanks was recently cleaned when it was taken out of

service, but it required further cleaning to bring it up to standard for demolition and sending to a recycling facility.

The second tank required the DP Fuel Tank Services' operatives to carry out their well rehearsed procedure. This starts with the mixing of diesel with the oil to soften it up. The oil assumes a treacle-like consistency when left without being heated. The diesel/oil mixture is sucked out by a powerful tanker and taken for reclamation or safe disposal to a specialist waste disposal site.

Once the oil is removed, the heating coils, which are about 60cm above the floor of the tank, have to be cold-cut away. Once these are removed, scaffolding is erected, so the 7m high sides can be safely cleaned and then demolished.

Says DP FTS director John Moore: "With the amount of work we have carried out on very large oil tanks, we consider ourselves as one of the country's leading experts on this type of project."



Ultrasound testing could head-off costly leaks



We are now offering a new ultrasound testing service to detect tank corrosion and help owners determine the likely safe life of their older tanks.

The ultrasound test can detect developing corrosion problems before a leak actually occurs and causes environmental problems and serious expense for the owner.

Our operatives take multiple, highly accurate, readings with a sensitive ultrasound probe on a predetermined grid pattern.

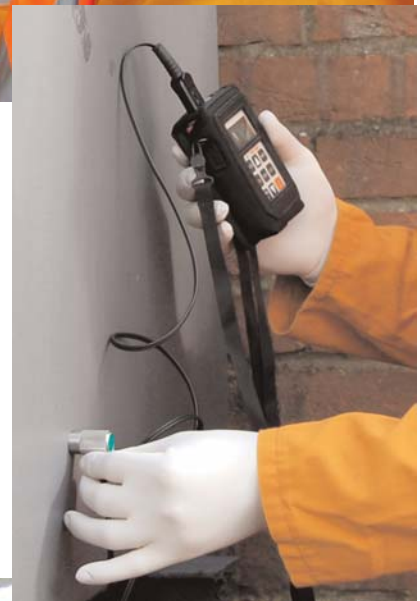
This gives a complete picture of the thickness of the whole skin of the tank, which will indicate where the skin is becoming so thin, due to corrosion, that a leak is likely to develop in the near future.

The procedure can be carried out on de-gassed tanks that are remaining in the ground, above ground tanks, or ones that have been excavated, to ascertain a reason for their failure.

Says DP Fuel Tank Services director Nigel Plumb: "We believe that knowing how long tanks are likely to last and whether a leak is developing, is a very powerful and useful tool for petrol station owners, and those who manage other fuel sites, both large and small.

"It takes all the guesswork out of tank replacement, and allows it to become part of a planned procedure, rather than something that has to be funded at short notice as an emergency operation."

DP FTS can simply carry out the survey as a stand-alone procedure or in conjunction with tank cleaning or site decommissioning.





Attention to health & safety rewarded

Two DP Fuel Tank Services' employees have been presented with safety awards by a major civil engineering contractor, recognising their skill, knowledge, training and attention to detail.

"He ran two very different challenging sites and received commendations for both.

"He has paid great attention to detail and planning, which has borne fruit on all his site audits; both planned ones and spot checks."

Gary Reeve (left) was presented with the Site Supervisor of the Year Award and Liam Moore (right), DP FTS's specialist machine driver, was given the Operative of the Year Award.

Gary can be seen giving a typical site safety and toolbox talk on our web site.

"Liam," continued Kathy, "is passionate about health and safety. He is a firm believer in being his brother's keeper, and will stop anyone who looks about to do something hazardous.

Says DP FTS managing director Kathy Early: "Gary has always been an outstanding member of our team, but last year he excelled himself.

"In his own time, and at his own expense, he has pursued his keen interest in health and safety and first aid, by becoming an active member of St John Ambulance."

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 John Moore, director



Spot the difference

Ring round the eight differences between our two pics, cut the form out and send it back to us at the address in the box above by June 11, 2010. The first three correct entries out of the hat will win a bottle of Champagne. If you want to know the answers after the closing date e-mail jeremy@enterpress.co.uk.



Name

Job title

Company

Address

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e-mail address

Phone number