Covey Consulting Pty Ltd

Serving the industry for 20 years: 1989-2009

Oil Barge Loading

COVEY CASE STUDY

One of the Covey team tackled the problem of an oil refinery that required speedier loading of bunker oil barges.

These barges would be navigated to a loading terminal where a hose was connected to the barge completing the hydraulic circuit from the storage tank via a positive displacement pump. The complete loading system consisted of the PD pump pumping bunker oil from a storage tank to the barge some 12 meters below.

A recommendation had been made that a larger pump could be designed and installed in order to increase the flow rate of Bunker Oil. Noting that the drop to the barge was some 12 meters, it was proposed by us that a loading trial be carried out by-passing the PD pump using gravity to provide the required hydraulic gradient. This trial was carried out and a satisfactory loading time of around half the previous loading time was obtained by this cost-free method.

We were then asked to check the hydraulics of the system which were clearly satisfactory.

The moral of this project is that before adopting costly hardware based solutions, the objective may be achieved by simple methods if the situation allows it.

PO Box 99 Kew East VIC 3102
Tel: (03) 9859 4290 Fax: (03) 9859 4630
www.coveyconsulting.com.au