

MC P-3319 Controls Paraffin Deposition Problems with Wax in Pipeline Eliminated

BACKGROUND

In the past the customer has had to resort to hot oil trucks on a regular basis. This client does not like to use hot oil trucks because of the risk and because of the cost. However, they have had to use these trucks every six months for many years. The last time a hot oil truck was used was last fall. As they were trying to clear this pipeline, they ended up plugging it off completely. Forcing them to install a jumper line around the plugged area. This of course cost them a great deal of money and a huge loss of production.

ISSUES

In the middle of the Rocky Mountains, a good deal of production pipelines run up and down many hills and mountains. At one location, most of these pipelines are above ground and insulated. As the gas and oil makes its way along these pipelines, the heavy oil gets caught in the valleys of these mountainous regions. As a result of this, paraffins have been caught at these points and plugged off the pipeline or made such a huge differential pressure that the customer would potentially have to shut in the pipeline.

ANALYSIS

When we heard about this problem Multi-Chem contacted the producer and told them what we could do. They have a lot of respect and faith in our ability because of what we have done for them in the past at a nearby location. Multi-Chem obtained a sample of the paraffin and ran some tests to see which chemical would work the best. We found that P-3319 was the most effective chemical for this application. The product turned the solid paraffin deposit into a liquid that could flow through the pipeline.

RESOLUTION

We suggested that the customer add a 55 gallon batch of MC P-3319 into the pipeline that was shut in and use gas to push the chemical into the plugged area. The product was left over a weekend and then the gas was turned on to see the results. When the gas flow was resumed the DP dropped to nothing and has not climbed since. We are pumping MC P-3319 continuously to help keep this oil keep flowing.

DELIVERED VALUE

The customer has not had to hire a hot oil truck since our batch job. The flow line pressure has continued to stay low so there is no restriction impeding the flow of the gas. Overall, this application has resulted in a huge savings for the customer and they are very happy.

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Global Technology Center

World Houston International Business Center
15865 International Plaza Drive, Suite 200
Houston, Texas 77032 USA

(800) 805 9178
(325) 223 6200
(325) 942 7500 FAX

www.multichem.com

