



Floating suction line in combination with an aluminium internal floating roof.

FLOATING SUCTION LINES AND SKIMMER UNITS

When withdrawing a product from storage tanks the quality of the product withdrawn is a major concern. Quite often the bottom part of the product stored in the tank will be seriously contaminated, either with water (rainwater) or sludge (tank corrosion and other pollutants). To avoid withdrawing contaminated product from storage tanks floating suction lines are the ideal approach. Installations with special suction arrangements for storage tanks are also known from slops tanks, where oil skimmers are used to withdraw the top part of the liquid column, usually being the lighter hydrocarbon parts. Floating suction lines and skimmer arrangements can be fitted in conventional fixed roof storage tanks, external floating roof tanks and internal floating roof tanks.

Product Features:

- designed for each specific tank
- available in different metals and arrangements
- maintenance free
- compatible with all stored products, including 100% aromatics
- can be fitted on tanks with minimum modifications required
- expected service life in excess of 20 years
- easy installation, full installation manuals and project support available
- the assembly is either pressure tested before shipment or prior to commissioning
- successfully used globally by many major oil and tank storage companies

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Engineering and materials:

Each floating suction will be designed and engineered to fit the specific tank involved. Many aspects will have to be taken into account, this to make sure the floating suction line arrangement will perform adequately. These aspects include:

- general arrangement of the floating suction line, depending on the height to diameter ratio of the tank
- specific gravity of the stored product
- withdrawal rate from the tank
- other tank hardware present inside the tank
- orientation of the floating suction line
- suitable materials for the floating suction line (typical materials include aluminium, stainless steel grades and carbon steel)

CTS supplies floating suction lines and skimmer units in diameters ranging from 2" to 30".

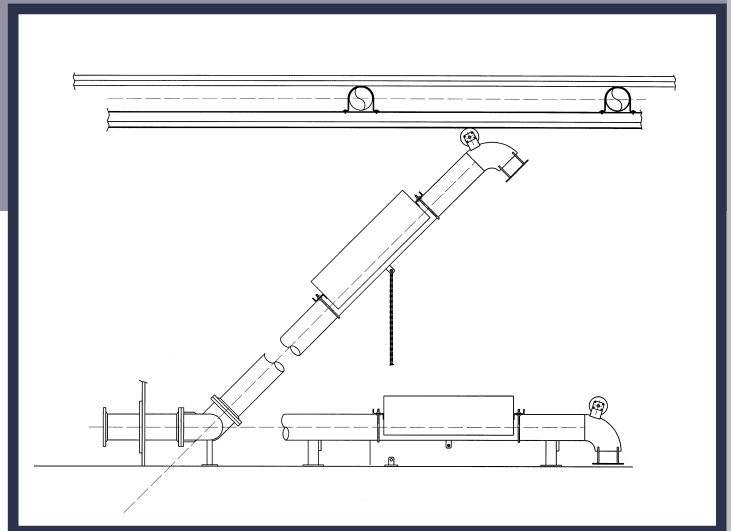
Accessories:

A floating suction line can be equipped with different optional accessories. Some examples of these accessories are:

- a position indicator for the floating suction line or skimmer unit
- sampling tubes along the floating suction or skimmer unit, allowing product sampling at different liquid heights
- integrated strainer, to prevent heavy contaminants from entering the suction line
- manual lifting arrangement, allowing the floating suction line or the skimmer unit to be manually raised in case this would be required

Swing joints, different designs available:

The swing joint is a vital part of any floating suction line or skimmer unit when based on the pivoting action of a rigid pipe. As such the CTS standard design evolves around an U-type swivel joint. Alternatively we can use a central-type balanced



swing joint design. This design eliminates the unbalanced lading of a conventional swing joint. CTS is more than willing to design a floating suction line or a skimmer unit on the basis of using your preferred supplier for the important swing joints required as part of the assembly.

Tank inspection:

Maintenance of atmospheric storage tanks often requires a dedicated approach, especially when systems as dome roofs, tank seals, internal floating roofs or drain systems are involved. The CTS staff responsible has an extensive record in conducting tank inspections prior to recommending or engineering these products. We will either be conducting tank inspections ourselves or we will facilitate a third party inspection with our detailed inspection sheets. At an inspection we will be concentrating on analyzing all tank data influencing product design. Our inspection focuses on aspects like the stored product, existing systems, site access, local requirements, dimensional reports and every other relevant aspect. Our extensive experience and profound knowledge of relevant codes as API 650, EPA and EEMUA will ensure a sound approach on the basis of this important and extensive tank inspection.



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