Localisation of Mercury waste treatment It's not rocket science!

Reinhard Schmidt, CEO/Owner

We consider ourselves as

technology innovators, suppliers & coaches.

- machinery supply incl. supervision up to 1 year
- since 16 years in `Made in Germany'
- 10 Mio € annual turnaround
- present clients in EUR, RUS, AUS, AZE, IND, CHN
- 50 % business with mercury waste units



Zero industrial waste ...!



Basel Convention:

Controlling transboundary movements of hazardous waste and their disposal

econ's Convention – we call it `Basel 2.0': Avoidance of transboundary movements of hazardous waste and their disposal

It's all about taking over responsibility and saving money!

Decentral treatment of Mercury wastes Local benefits





3 types of Mercury waste



3 technology options available

Soils & sludge contaminated with elemental mercury

Vacuum distillation - VacuDry[®]

eventually after soil washing \rightarrow only the fine faction goes into thermal treatment

• max. 400 °C; low vacuum < 50 mbar abs

Spent activated carbon & catalyst contaminated with mercury compounds

- High temperature treatment HTTU
- max. 1,000 °C; atmospheric pressure

Pure elemental mercury

- Conversion to HgS
- max. 200 °C; atmospheric pressure

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contaminated with elemental Mercury

Vacuum distillation - VacuDry®

Soils & sludge



Soils & sludge contaminated with elemental Mercury



Vacuum distillation - VacuDry



econ INDUSTRIES

contaminated with elemental Mercury

Vacuum distillation – VacuDry

Units available up to 500 tons per day throughput

Exemplary projects:

Soils & sludge

- Germany (in operation since 1998 !) hydrocarbon and mercury containing wastes from LNG production (with and without NORM)
- Australia LNG wastes and tank cleaning sludge containing oil and mercury
- France/India contaminated soils from former chemical plant/thermometer factory (combined with soil washing)
- Eastern Europe contaminated soils from earlier mining facility

Spent activated carbon & catalyst contaminated with Mercury compounds High temperature treatment - HTTU



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Spent activated carbon & catalyst contaminated with Mercury compounds High temperature treatment unit - HTTU





Spent activated carbon contaminated with elemental Mercury High temperature treatment unit – HTTU **econ** INDUSTRIES

Modular equipment available starting from 100 kg per day throughput

Exemplary projects

- Australia spent catalyst from LNG facilities containing hydrocarbons and mercury
- Europe spent catalyst from LNG facilities containing hydrocarbons and mercury

Pure elemental mercury



conversion to HgS

Mobile Mercury Conversion Units – MMCU



Pure elemental Mercury

conversion to HgS

Mobile Mercury Conversion Units

Elemental Mercury



Elemental Sulphur





Mercury sulphide (HgS)





Pure elemental Mercury conversion to HgS Mobile Mercury Conversion Units – MMCU



Units available starting from 100 kg up to 5 tons per day throughput

Exemplary projects

- Poland chlor-alkali plant: 130 tons Hg conversion, HgS to salt mine (K+S)
- England chlor-alkali plant: 400 tons Hg conversion, HgS to salt mine (K+S)

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