

MONSTER INDUSTRIAL®



A skimmer boat brings oil to the T&T Marine OSV where it is pumped on board. A Monster keeps the oil flowing through the pipelines.



Monster Solutions

Monsters Help BP Oil Spill Vessels Keep Working

In the first weeks of the BP oil spill, T&T Marine Salvage arrived on scene quickly to skim and recover oil near the site of the Deep-water Horizon sinking. Then a setback - their massive offshore vessels ran into an issue when seaweed and trash started clogging pipelines and valves onboard the ship.

“We recognized there was a problem quickly,” said Mike Popa, a Response Manager for T&T Marine of Galveston, Texas, one of the nation’s leading marine response companies. “We had high-capacity hydraulic pumps attached to the arm of an excavator but on board the vessel the 4” (100mm) pipeline valves would become clogged with seaweed, sticks and trash.”

Once a valve or pipeline clogged on the 224’ (70m) offshore vessel (OSV) the entire pumping operation shut-down - a frustrating setback during the intense pressure of the clean-up operation.

“The OSVs pick the oil up from the skimming boats so delays were frustrating,” said Mike. “To clear a clog we would shut everything down, dismantle everything, blow the lines. We were down 2-3 hours each time - it was no good.”

T&T Marine Salvage President Rudy Teichman realized they had a solution waiting for them back in their warehouse - a portable Monster in-line grinder model 3-HYDRO they owned. The Monster grinder has two rows of sharp steel cutter teeth and uses very low speed, high torque grinding to shred solids, such as seaweed, wood and trash into small particles which easily pass through pumps, pipelines and even those 4” valves.

“We asked for authorization (from the command center) to install the Monster and were given the go-ahead,” said Mike. “When the boat went back to shore for a retrofit we quickly hooked up the Monster and sent the OSV back out.”

PROJECT: BP Oil Spill Response, OSV Pumping Operations
SOLUTION: 3-HYDRO shredder
CUSTOMER: T and T Marine Salvage Inc.

Mike’s team realized that same day they had solved the problem with the Monster shredder - there were no more clogs. The skimmer boats would tow the portable skimmers over to the OSV, the excavator arm would position the pump inside the skimmer and siphon it up, pump it through the Monster for size reduction and then into the OSV’s internal storage tanks. The success meant all of T&T’s OSVs needed to return to shore and get a Monster - and fast.

“We got calls from our rep Hartwell Environmental and T&T Marine and realized right away the urgency of their request,” said Gary Smith, Industrial Sales Manager for JWC Environmental. “We normally take a week or two to design and build a grinder but they needed it a lot sooner. Our Team knew we had to get the job done - those ships were dead in the water if they can’t pump that oil.”

Luckily JWC has several very large, well stocked factories on both coasts and the Buford, Georgia facility was called upon to build the grinder - in one day. They actually completed, painted and quality tested the grinder in only one night. The Monster shipped out the next day so it could be installed on the next T&T Marine vessel when it returned to shore for a retrofit. JWC built even more Monsters to be installed on T&T’s other vessels.

“We’re real happy,” said Mike about T&T’s experience with Monster grinders. “I’d recommend them to anyone pumping debris. They’re low maintenance and our SOP now is to have a Monster in-line grinder. Another tool in our toolbox.”





T&T mounts the Monster grinders on a portable skid so it's easy to store and quick to deploy when vessels are handling liquids with lots of debris.

Sadly tons of trash and debris washes down the Mississippi River from upstream cities and right into the Gulf of Mexico where it was getting tangled up in the oil spill, making pumping operations difficult. Over the summer JWC rapidly shipped several Monsters to protect pumps on vessels working to clean-up the oil spill.

T&T Marine's response was massive since they already had many of the vessels, pumps, equipment and personnel trained to deal with the situation. In addition to the large OSVs, the company outfitted a number of OSV's with ocean buster skimmers and harbor buster skimmers to clean-up the oil.

"Our crews worked 24 hours a day, seven days a week to assist in the Gulf of Mexico clean-up effort," said Kevin Teichman, a Vice President for T&T Marine.

In order to respond quickly to marine emergencies T and T maintains emergency warehouses across the US and in Alaska, Hawaii, Guam and Puerto Rico. During our interview Mike was in the midst of responding to yet another large pipeline oil spill in Michigan. For more information visit www.tantmarine.com.

About JWC

JWC Environmental distributes its products through a global network of independent representatives and distributors. In addition, JWC provides extensive sales and service support through regional and international product support centers. Founded in 1973, JWC Environmental and its worldwide family of employees are committed to providing customers leading edge products, services and value. Over the last four decades, JWC has won a total of four Innovative Technology Awards from the Water Environment Federation (WEF), more than any other wastewater manufacturer.

For details please visit www.jwce.com, or contact us at JWC Environmental, 290 Paularino Avenue, Costa Mesa, CA 92626, voice 800-331-2277 or fax 949-833-8858.

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Two shafts of sharp steel cutters cut trash and debris into particles to keep pumps, valves and pipes from clogging. The grinder bolts right into almost any pipeline – from 4" (100mm) and up.



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