

Staying clean with Kluthe

Kluthe, based in Germany, provides surface treatment products that are crucial for the industry

Tank container operators and tank cleaners have a mutual interest. The growth and development of tank container operations globally is dependent upon there being suitable cleaning stations available in the many – and diverse – locations and routes where tank containers trade.

Standards for food safety must be upheld throughout the supply chain and transportation plays a significant role in this.

Nowadays, perishable goods such as fresh meat and vegetables can be transported hundreds of miles to reach their final destination. The potential risks of cutting corners are serious.

Tank cleaning is an essential step in the bulk supply chain. As the transported cargo comes into direct physical contact with the transport equipment, it is essential that this transport tanker is clean. For the bulk transport industry, an efficient tank cleaning industry is essential. So what makes for good tank cleaning?

Cleaning applications

Chemische Werke Kluthe is a surface treatment specialist that has developed and produced chemical products and innovative process solutions for forming and protection, metal-working and cleaning, pre-treatment,

and paint shop applications.

The company has grown from a small lab in a garage in Heidelberg, Germany, in 1950 to become a global manufacturer of surface treatment products.

Now it has become a major player in the tank cleaning business with branch operations in more than 44 countries.

Kluthe is an Association of Tank Cleaning Company member (ATCN) and is a listed service provider with DVTI, or the German association for tank cleaning. The firm's product range is focused on solving cleaning tasks that arise in the sector.

Hakupur-series

Alkaline and acidic cleaning for both internal and external cleaning;

Hakutex-series

Very high oil and fat dissolving properties for plant, animal and mineral oils and fats;

Controx-series

Resin, paint and latex removal for hot and cold application.

A company spokesman said: "After the introduction of our Hakupur 49/203, alkaline cleaner, that is food-approved, we are providing more customers with this product. It has superb wetting abilities in combination with the high cleaning power and low foaming characteristics.

"Cleaning of latex and resin tanks is still a challenge for a lot of transporters and cleaning station operators. However, within the Controx-series we have developed cleaning agents containing amine as well as others that are completely amine free. These products are exported all over the globe."

Research and development

Kluthe, like other companies in the sector, are facing challenges with the rising costs of energy prices.

Most of its cleaning agents are used at high temperatures and the company is now carrying out research to develop new cleaning products that have the same properties as its existing range, but will be able to operate at significantly lower temperatures.

"We are facing the challenges of



Cleaning in progress



Chemische Werke Kluthe is a surface treatment specialist

EU-directives regarding chemicals. In this respect, we need to cope with the registration of raw materials at REACH and the ECHA. Of course, we avoid or minimise the use of substances of very high concern (SVHC) in our cleaning agents. The products should be future proof."

The spokesman added: "As a global manufacturer of chemical-technical products, Kluthe is subject to stringent product protection, hygiene and risk minimisation requirements.

"We always make sure our customers get high-quality products and tailor-made services from us."

ARA-area

The Amsterdam-Rotterdam-Antwerp area is directly serviced from the plant at Alphen aan den Rijn, The Netherlands, in order to guarantee the shortest possible lead times to the main cleaning station operators in this area.

The spokesman concluded: "Due to the short supply chain and the opportunity to collect empty packages we serve the environment in the best possible way. The Kluthe group is listed as a CO₂ neutral company." ■

For more information:
Visit: kluthe.com

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