

CASE STUDY

OMMICA™ – Monoethylene glycol (MEG) in produced water analysis



BACKGROUND Monoethylene glycol (MEG) is a thermodynamic hydrate inhibitor used to prevent the formation of gas hydrates (ice-like solids containing gas molecules, such as methane) produced under conditions that favour hydrate formation, such as high pressure and cold temperatures.

The use of MEG is especially applicable to long distance gas condensate tie-backs where heating or insulating the pipelines is impractical or uneconomical. Analysing the MEG concentration in fluids from various points in a MEG regeneration system gives vital information on how effectively the plant is running, and whether or not any discharged water meets environmental limits.

TESTING Analysis for MEG concentration is typically by gas chromatography (GC), which is normally only available in an onshore lab staffed by specialist experts. OMMICA™ can analyse samples offshore – or anywhere else – easily and quickly. It can be used by anyone with minimal training or technical experience.

The OMMICA™ MEG in Water kit was used by an oil and gas operator with a MEG regeneration facility. Samples were also analysed by GC for comparison. Correlation was excellent, with OMMICA™ delivering immediate results from a quick and simple process.

SUMMARY The OMMICA™ MEG in Water kit delivered accurate analysis onsite, offshore, in a very short time frame, whereas the traditional GC analysis took significantly longer to deliver similar results.

