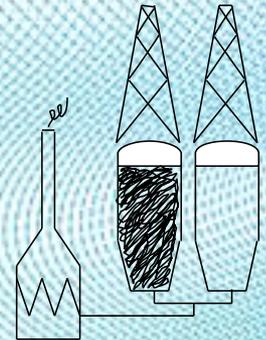


# Delayed Coker Blowdown System Water Reuse



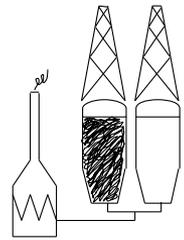
Energy lives here™

Presented by Mitch Moloney of **ExxonMobil Research & Engineering**

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Budapest Hungary [coking.com](http://coking.com) October-2017

# Delayed Coker Blowdown System Water Reuse



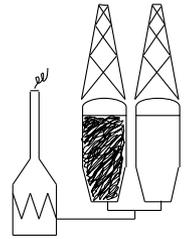
## Topics:

- (1) Blowdown System Overview
- (2) Recycling BD Water  
=> Constituents, Methods, Incentives & Risks
- (3) Water System Layouts
- (4) Coker Water Balance
- (5) Adding Flash and/or Bleach Facilities

Special acknowledgement to **Fritz Bernatz** for his detailed evaluation and development of this technology

# Delayed Coker Blowdown System Water Reuse

## General Overview of BD System Operations



### (1) Receive Coke Bed Vapors during Stripping & Quenching

Highest Normal Hydrocarbon Load                   => During Steam Stripping

Highest Normal Steam Load                         => During Peak Quenching

### (2) Receiving Coke Drum and/or Heater PRV Discharges

Highest Abnormal Hydrocarbon Loads

=> Majority of newer units receive the coke drum PRV

=> Older units may receive furnace PRV because the Wilson-Snyder was not designed for pump shut-in pressure

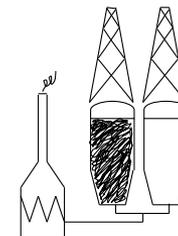
### (3) Receiving Wet (and Dry) Coke Drum Warm-Up Condensate / Gas

### (4) Receive Start-Up and Shutdown Drain Slops

### (5) Handle Foam Entrainment or a Coke Foamover

# Delayed Coker Blowdown System Water Reuse

## General Overview of BD System Operations (cont'd)



### Objectives

Cool Vapors on a Batch Basis

Separate feeds into five products

=> Heavy BD oil

=> Light BD oil

=> Non-condensable Gas

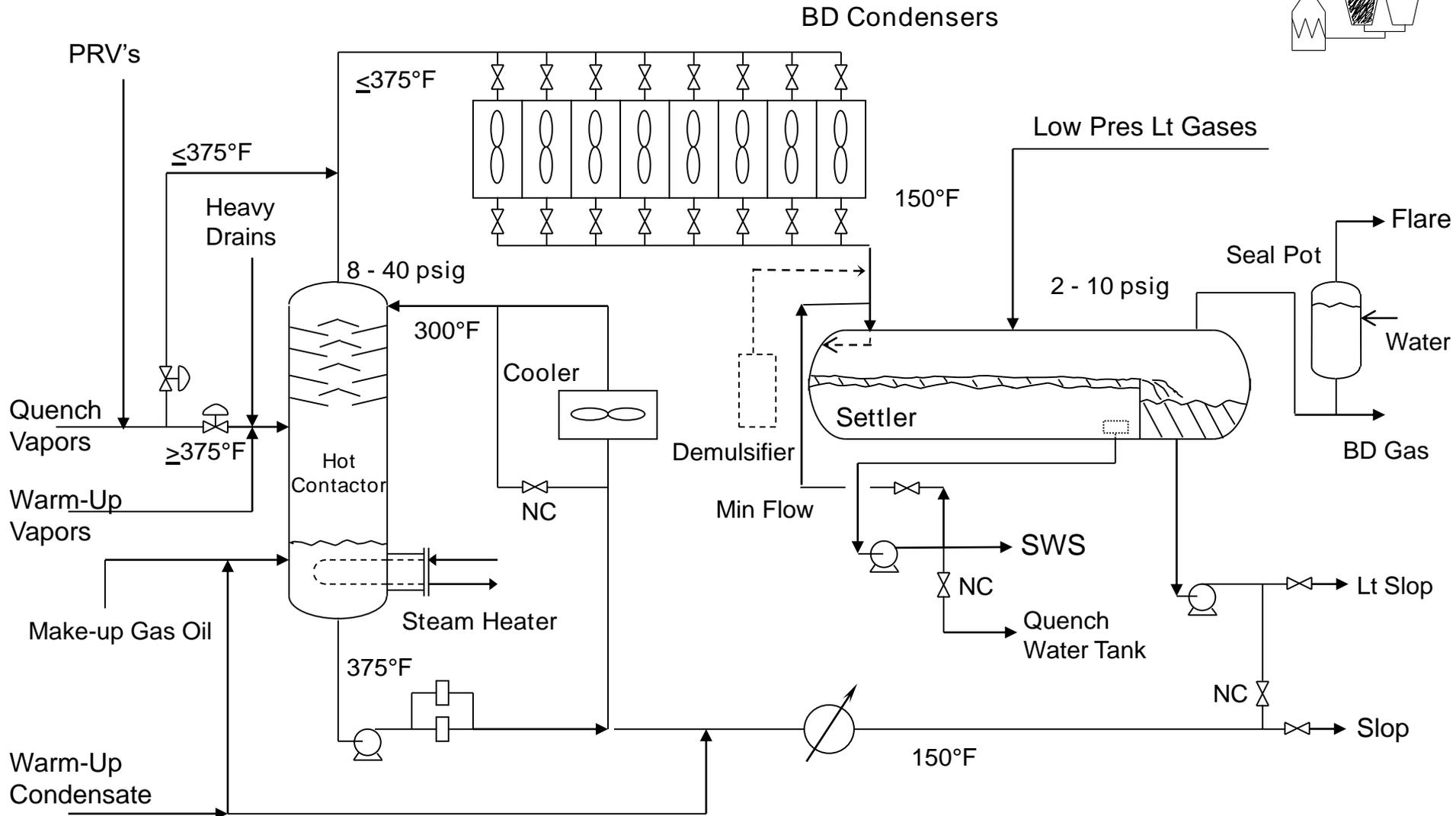
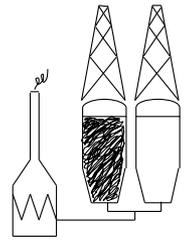
=> Sour Water

=> Coke

Be a Robust and Reliable Operation

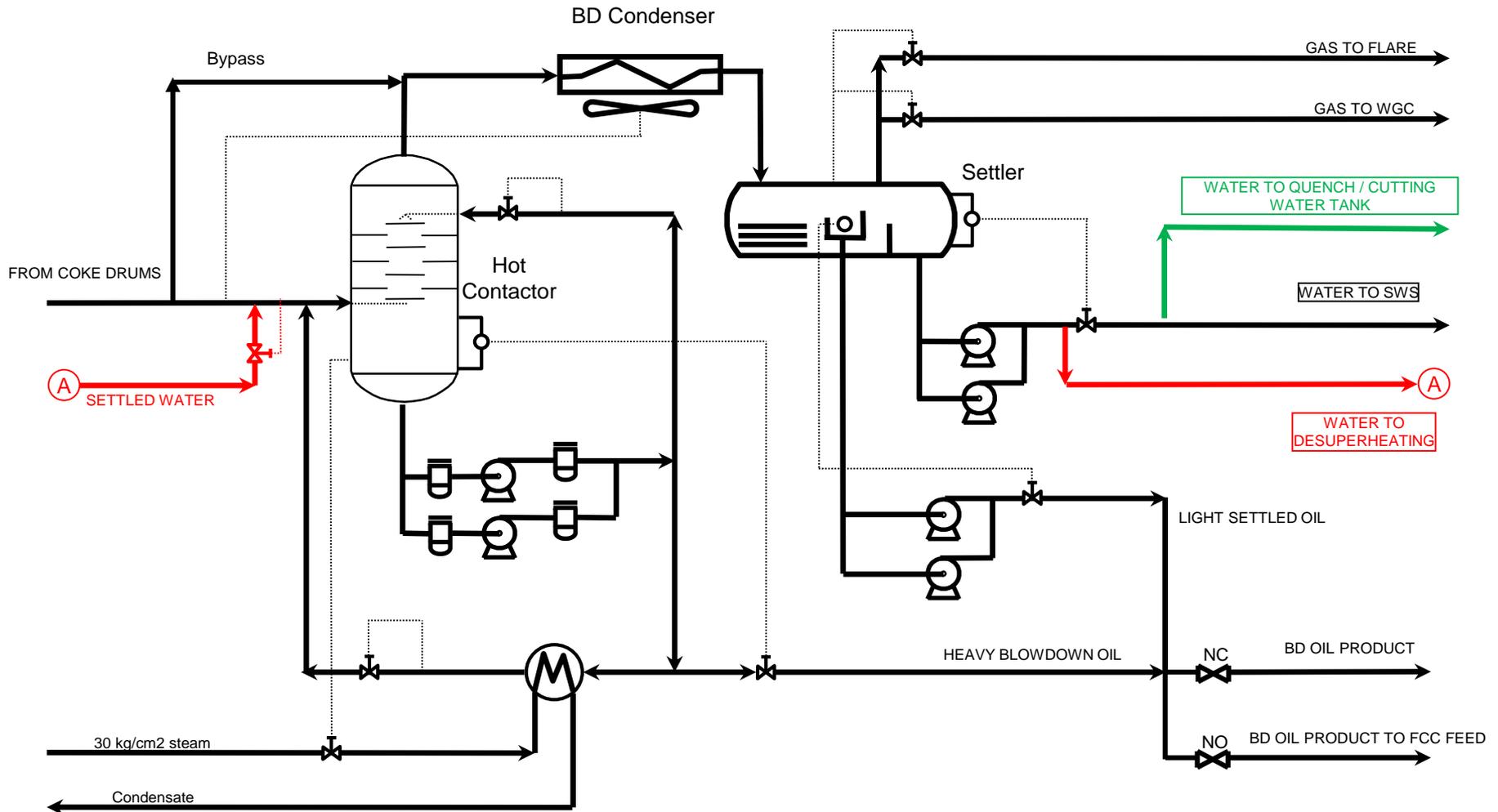
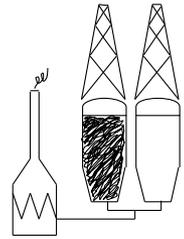
# Delayed Coker Blowdown System Water Reuse

## Modern Blowdown Design - 1



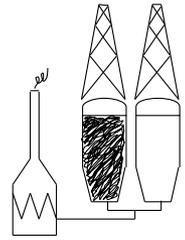
# Delayed Coker Blowdown System Water Reuse

## Modern Blowdown Design - 2



# Delayed Coker Blowdown System Water Reuse

## Small Blowdown System & Water Tank



Hot Contactor

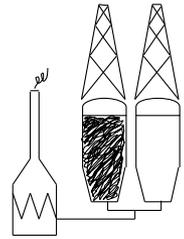
BD Condenser  
Fin Fans

Cutting & Quench  
Water Tank



# Delayed Coker Blowdown System Water Reuse

## Blowdown Condenser Fin Fans



BD Condenser  
Inlet  
Distribution  
Piping

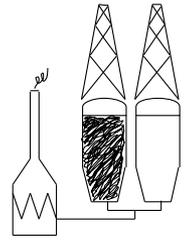
INLET

Fin Fan Bay  
Isolation  
Valves



# Delayed Coker Blowdown System Water Reuse

## DCU Blowdown Water Constituents\*



H<sub>2</sub>S, NH<sub>3</sub> and phenols will vary as the coke drum cycles from steam stripping to the end of coke bed quenching. Many factors will affect the concentrations:

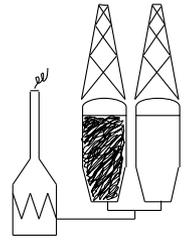
- Resid type (S, N, geographical origin)
- Steam stripping operations (timing, duration, rates)
- Coke Bed size
- Blowdown System operations
  - + Is water recycled for vapor desuperheating?
  - + Size of BD Settler
  - + Are downstream settling tanks used?

BD Stage	H <sub>2</sub> S	NH <sub>3</sub>	Phenols
Steam	100 - 200	40 - 120	15 - 60
Quench - start	100 - 400	100 - 175	15 - 60
Quench - mid	130 - 500	150 - 200	15 - 50
Quench - end	20 - 120	50 - 200	15 - 20

\* Proper sampling protocols are needed to get accurate results

# Delayed Coker Blowdown System Water Reuse

## Recycle of Condensed Blowdown Water



(1) Joliet Refinery has been recycling blowdown water since start-up in early 1970's

=> Cited in Oil & Gas Journal 23-apr-1973

=> Heritage Mobil Oil technology

=> Blowdown water is flashed in closed-roof tank with vapor recovery

=> Coker water purge rate is high due to watery sludge addition and fines maze clean out with fire water, which reduces odors also due to dilution of constituents

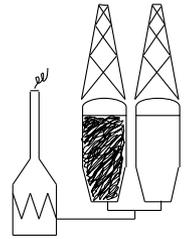
(2) A refiner, no longer owned by ExxonMobil, has been recycling settled blowdown water to the cutting/quench water tank for over 30 years

=> Sodium Hypochlorite (Bleach) is added to cutting water in the fines settling lane

=> Coker water system purge rate was adjusted to balance sludge water addition

# Delayed Coker Blowdown System Water Reuse

## Incentives to Recycle Blowdown Water



### Reduce Sour Water Stripper (SWS) Loadings

A typical SWS consumes around 1.3 lb of 150# steam / gal of feed, which allows the energy incentive to be calculated

40,000 gal /drum \* 1.5 drums/D/train \* 365 D/yr  
\* 0.95 SF \* 1.3 lb/gal \* \$ Y/1000 lbs of steam

=> \$ZZZ k / yr for each coke drum train  
conservatively assuming an 18 hr coking cycle

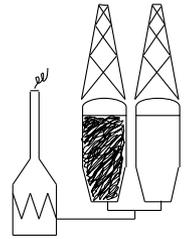
### Reduced inorganic loading to the Waste Water Treatment Plant

### Avoidance of capital expenditures for more SWS capacity

### Reduced raw water make-up to the DCU

### Elimination of mold in the quench/cutting water system and area

# Delayed Coker Blowdown System Water Reuse



## Risks Considered with Recycling BD Water

Exposure to low level H<sub>2</sub>S and NH<sub>3</sub> emissions in the air

Odors

Increase in dissolved hydrocarbon levels in the recycled water  
=> Function of BD System Water-HC Separation Efficiency

Formation of chlorinated hydrocarbons

Increased corrosion in cutting/quench water system

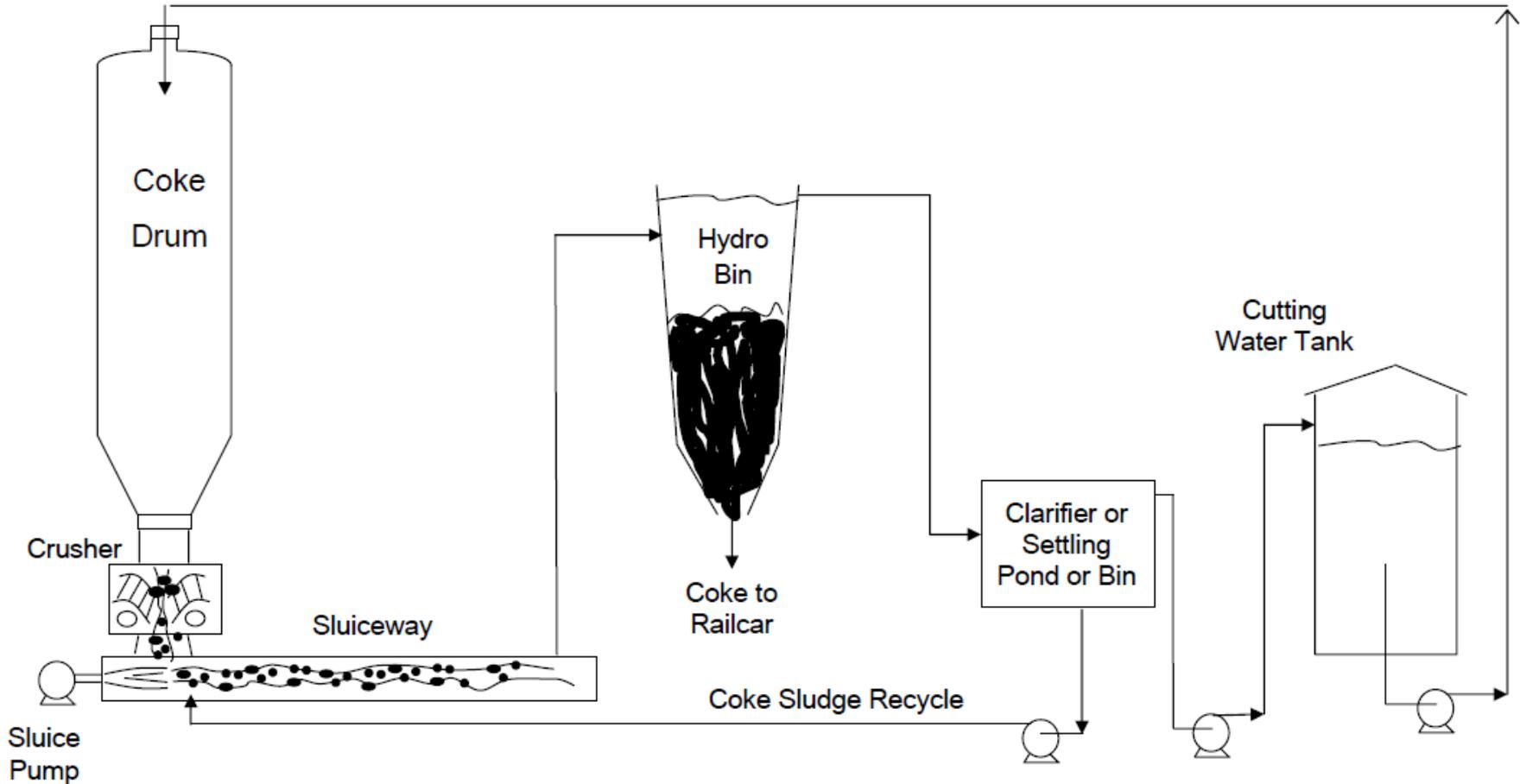
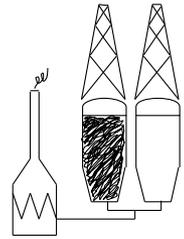
WWT Effects:

- Excess chlorine
- SO<sub>4</sub>
- Chloramines
- AOX (Adsorbable Organic Halides)

All risks were evaluated and determined to be acceptable with proper facilities design and procedures

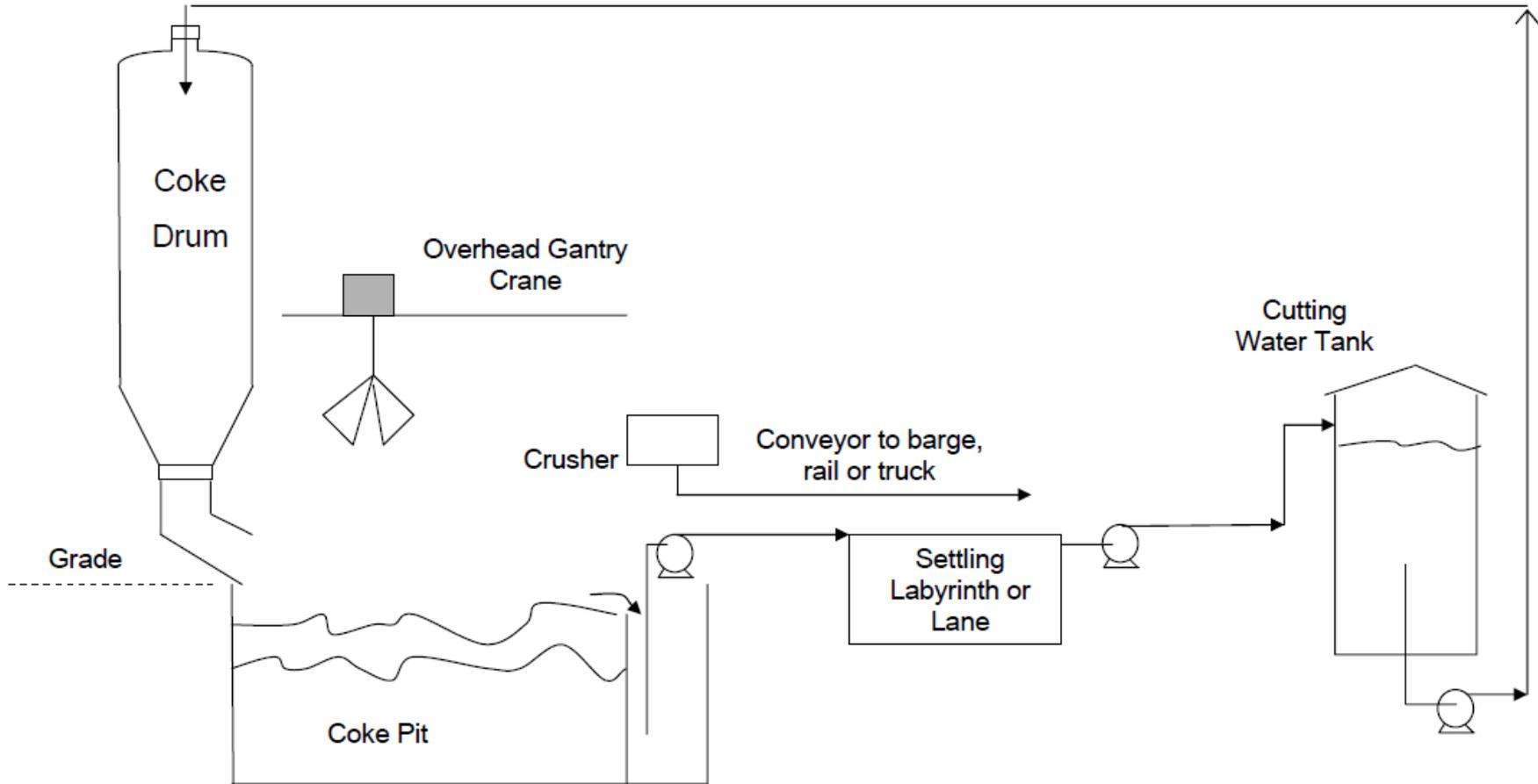
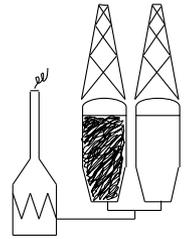
# Delayed Coker Blowdown System Water Reuse

## Coker Water System - Sluiceway



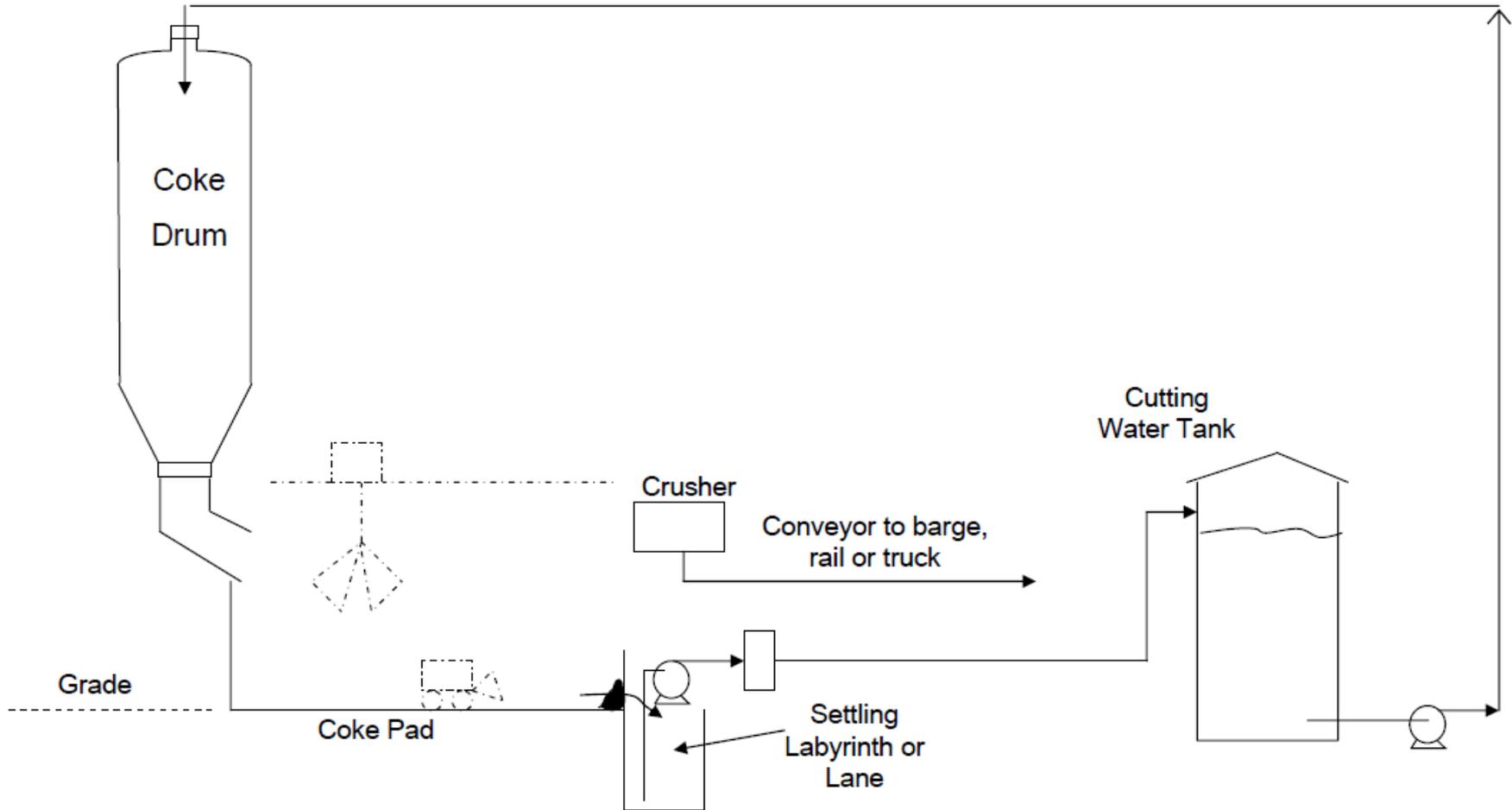
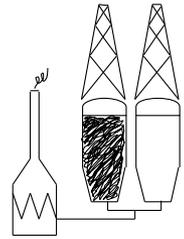
# Delayed Coker Blowdown System Water Reuse

## Coker Water System - Pit



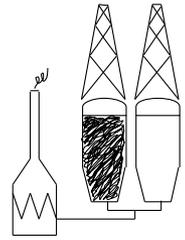
# Delayed Coker Blowdown System Water Reuse

## Coker Water System - Pad



# Delayed Coker Blowdown System Water Reuse

## Water Balance



### Water Added to System:

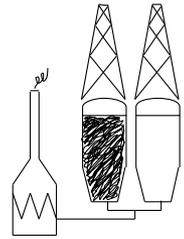
- => Big Steam
- => Sludge Water
- => Pump Seal and Instrument Flushes
- => Water added for cleaning purposes
- => Rain

### Water Leaving System:

- => Coke Moisture
- => Evaporation
- => Blowdown Water – Yes or No?
- => Addition or Purge?

# Delayed Coker Blowdown System Water Reuse

## Water Balance – The Numbers



Basis:

=> 50 kB/D or 331 m<sup>3</sup>/hr or 8230 metric ton/D

=> 4-drum coker on 14 hour coking cycle; 28 hr drum cycle

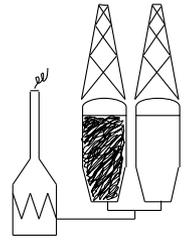
	Base Case BD to SWS	BD Water Recycled	Sludge Added	Sludge + Fines Lane Cleaning	Base	BD Water Recycled	Sludge Added	Sludge + Fines Lane Cleaning
	kgal / Day				m <sup>3</sup> /D			
<u>Water Added to System</u>								
=> Big Steam	13	13	13	13	49	49	49	49
=> Sludge	0	0	45	45	0	0	170	170
=> Rain (annual avg)	2	2	2	2	6	6	6	6
=> Pump Seal and Instrument Flushes	1	1	1	1	3	3	3	3
=> Water added for cleaning purposes	0	0	0	20	0	0	0	76
	15	15	60	80	58	58	228	304
<u>Water Leaving System:</u>								
=> Coke Moisture	47	47	47	47	178	178	178	178
=> Blowdown Water	132	0	0	0	500	0	0	0
=> Evaporation	3	3	3	3	11	11	11	11
<u>Make-up / (Purge)</u>	167	35	(10)	(30)	631	131	(39)	(115)

Drain =	220		833
Cutting Water =	360		1363
Recycled Water from Pit/Pad =	580	kgal/D	2196 m <sup>3</sup> /D



# Delayed Coker Blowdown System Water Reuse

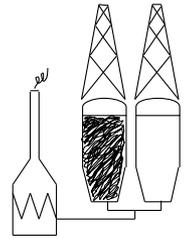
## Flashing the Blowdown Water



- Minimum of 25% removal of  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$  and  $\text{NH}_3$  at 0.14 barg (2 psig),
- Flashing at lower pressure is recommended to increase  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$  and  $\text{NH}_3$  removal, but especially to remove hydrocarbons
  - => Proper upstream blowdown operations are needed to properly separate oil and water
  - => Steam Eductor on flash drum can create a very low pressure (0.01 barg)

# Delayed Coker Blowdown System Water Reuse

## Bleach Chemistry – H<sub>2</sub>S



### Sulfide Reactions

At coker BD water pH range of 7.5 to 9.0 sulfides are typically in the form HS-

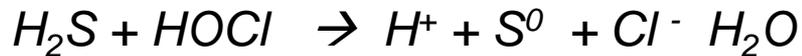
### Rapid Reactions

#### *Bleach dissociation*



*(In equilibrium at 40-60% range based on pH)*

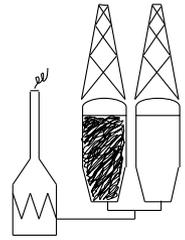
*Reaction of Bleach with sulfides at low excess chlorine (under acidic conditions)*



*Reaction of Bleach with sulfides (under alkaline conditions)*



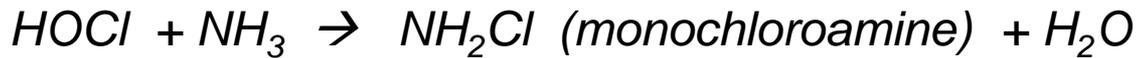
# Delayed Coker Blowdown System Water Reuse



## Bleach Chemistry – $\text{NH}_3$

### Ammonia Reactions

Chlorine/Ammonia reactions at a ratio of less than equimolar will not form free chlorine. Blowdown water treatment will be in dilute aqueous solutions.



- Ratio of chlorine to ammonia is equimolar (5:1 by wt) or less
- Monochloramine preferred at  $\text{pH} > 7.5$

### Organic compounds

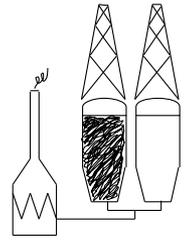


- Expected organic compounds are slow to react.
- Any excess bleach will react with ammonia

Monochloroamines are slow to react with organic matter

# Delayed Coker Blowdown System Water Reuse

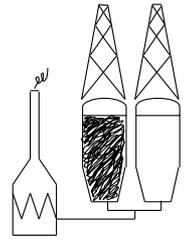
## AOX Considerations for the Waste Water Treating Plant



- Adsorbable Organic Halides (AOX) is a measure of the organic halogen load... These organic halides are released in wastewater from the oil, chemical, and paper industries.
- Chloro-organics are a type of AOX
- Chloro-organics may be formed by bleach addition to the Blowdown reuse water and may be sent to the WWTP through the water purge.
- This should be considered relative to WWTP permits.

# Delayed Coker Blowdown System Water Reuse

## Example Bleach Operations for a Hypothetical DCU



### Basis

=> 50 kBD (331 m<sup>3</sup>/h) fresh feed

=> Sulfur = 4.5 wt%; Nitrogen = 0.8 wt%

Design Basis needs to determine how much of the worst case sulfides and ammonia need to be treated. One option is:

=> Sulfide treatment at stoichiometric level

=> Ammonia treatment at 50% stoichiometric level

Other factors to consider:

=> Benchmarking with other water-chemical dosing programs

=> Can you take credit taken for pre-flash of water?

Facility design should have % overdesign factor