Glossary of Terms

Aeration: To introduce air into water, usually by a pump which produces a bubbling action.

Ambient air: The untreated air around us.

BAT (**B**est **A**vailable **T**echnology): A system or process which is economically achievable.

BCT (**B**est **C**ontrol **T**echnology): The best system or process available, regardless of cost.

BOD (**Biological O**xygen **D**emand): The amount of oxygen required to destroy organic material in waste water.

BPT (**B**est **P**ractical **T**echnology)

COD (**C**hemical **O**xygen **D**emand): The amount of oxygen required for total oxidation of organic and inorganic material in waste water.

Close-Loop System: A recycling system. Water is re-used through a pressure washer or cooling system. There is no discharge from this type system.

Coalescing Plates: These are series of plates used in other separators to cause oil to collect. The oil will adhere to the plates, some coming into suspension. For proper operation, these plates must be frequently cleaned.

Contaminant: Any substance that pollutes or is regulated by law, such as oil, diesel fuel, industrial grease, transmission fluid, gasoline, etc. A foreign substance in water.

Controlled Skimming: The Ultracept® process by which a funnel like pipe allows oil and water to flow over its sides as the water level rises. This process removes contaminants from waste water.

DOT: Department **O**f **T**ransportation.

Discharge: Includes, but not limited to, any spilling, leaking, pumping, pouring, emitting, emptying or dumping.

EPA (**E**nvironmental **P**rotection **A**gency): This government agency was formed in 1970 to administer and enforce Federal environmental laws such as, CAA (Clean Air Act), CWA (Clean Water Act), SDWS (Safe Drinking Water Act) and RCRA (Resource Conservation and Recovery Act).

Effluent: The water discharge from a waste water holding tank or an oil/water separator.

Emulsified Oil: Oils that are dissolved in water that will not readily come into suspension.

Filter: Used to remove solids from effluent after it passes through the oil/water separator. Two types are generally used, bag or cartridge, depending on the contaminant.

Flocculation: A process which brings emulsified oils into suspension, usually by adding acid or bentonite clay.

GPH (**G**allons **P**er **H**our).

GPM (**G**allons **P**er **M**inute).
Head: The vertical distance a pump must move water.

Hydrocarbon: A carbon-based compound, usually meaning grease, oil or fuel.

Incline Plates: Plates that slow water agitation and help bring oil into suspension.

mg/l (**M**illigram **P**er **L**iter): Milligrams of a substance contained or dissolved in 1 liter of solution (usually water). Numerically equal to parts per million.

Modular unit: The upper tank in the Ultracept® System.

NPDES (**N**ational **P**ollution **D**ischarge **E**limination System): The permits issued by state Environmental offices for sewage and industrial waste discharge.

PCB (**P**oly**C**hlorinated **B**iphenyls): Ingredient of transformer oils and some capacitors: a none carcinogen regulated by the EPA.

ph: The measure of acidity or alkalinity of a material. A ph of 7 is neutral, while a ph of 1 is acidic, and a ph of 14 is alkaline.

PPB: Parts **P**er **B**illion

PPM (**P**arts **P**er **M**illion): Measurement by weight of a substance dissolved in a liquid. For example, 100 ppm is equal to 1oz. of material in about 80 gallons of water.

Potable Water: Water which is suitable for drinking.

Reclamation: Processing of contaminated water to bring it to a condition suitable for re-use.

Sanitary Sewer: A sewer intended to receive sanitary sewage with or without industrial wastes and without the admixture of surface water, storm water or clear water drainage. A pipe which carries sewage and excludes storm, surface or ground water.

Sludge: Any heavy deposit or sediment that settles out in drains or surge pits.

Storm Sewer: Collection system for surface run-off.

Surface Water: Lakes, streams, canals or waterways; any naturally occurring body of water that is exposed to air.

Suspended Solids: Fine particles in water that do not readily settle to the bottom.

Suspension: The process by which a substance rises to the surface.