



STRATCO®

Alkylation Technology Improvements

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Areas of Improvement



- **Net Effluent / Depropanizer Feed Treating**

Reduce hydrocarbon inventory, improve separation and treating

- **Reaction Zone**

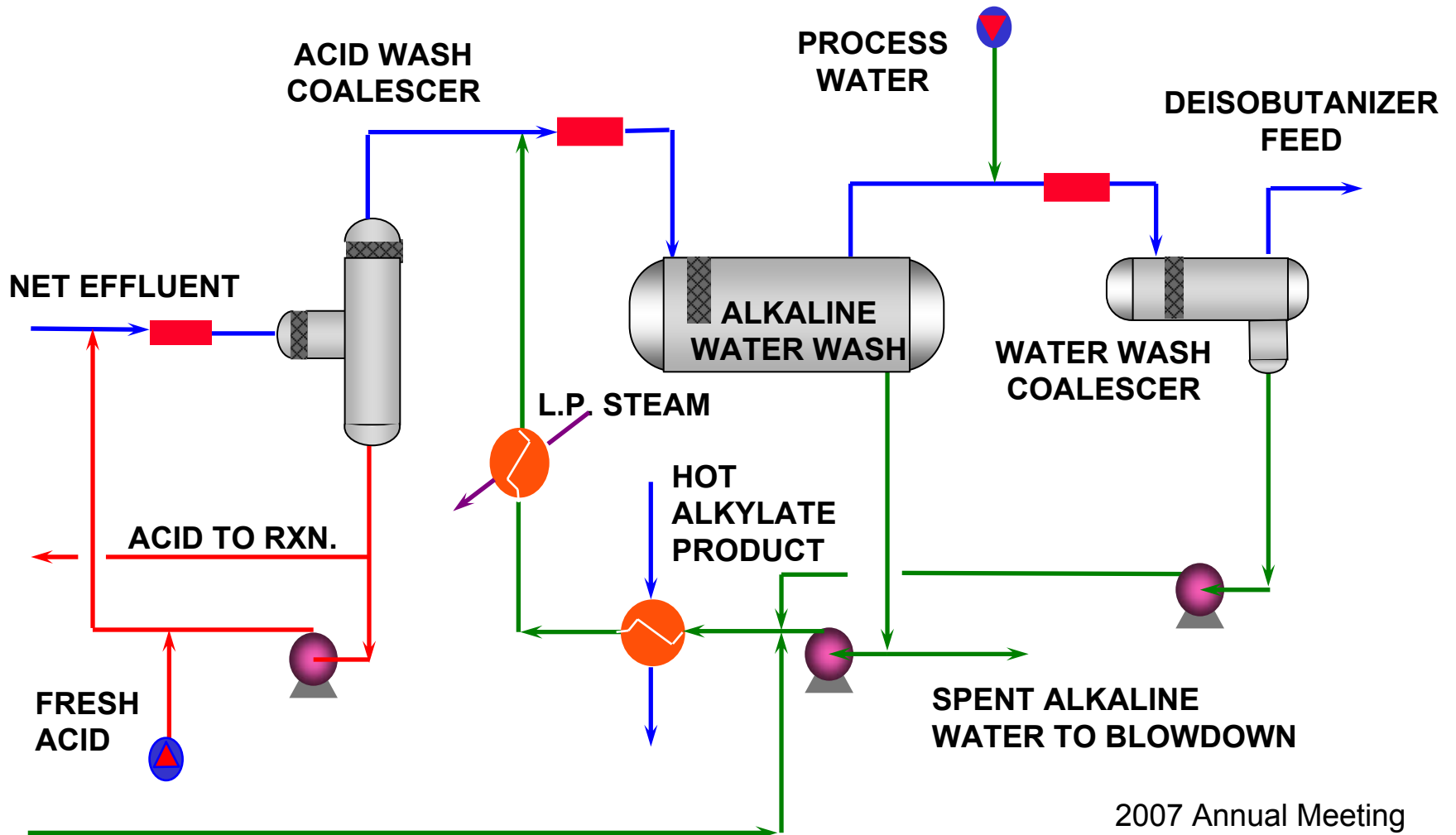
Reduce hydrocarbon and sulfuric acid inventory, improve reliability, operability and alkylate product quality

Net Effluent / DEP Feed Treating Improvements

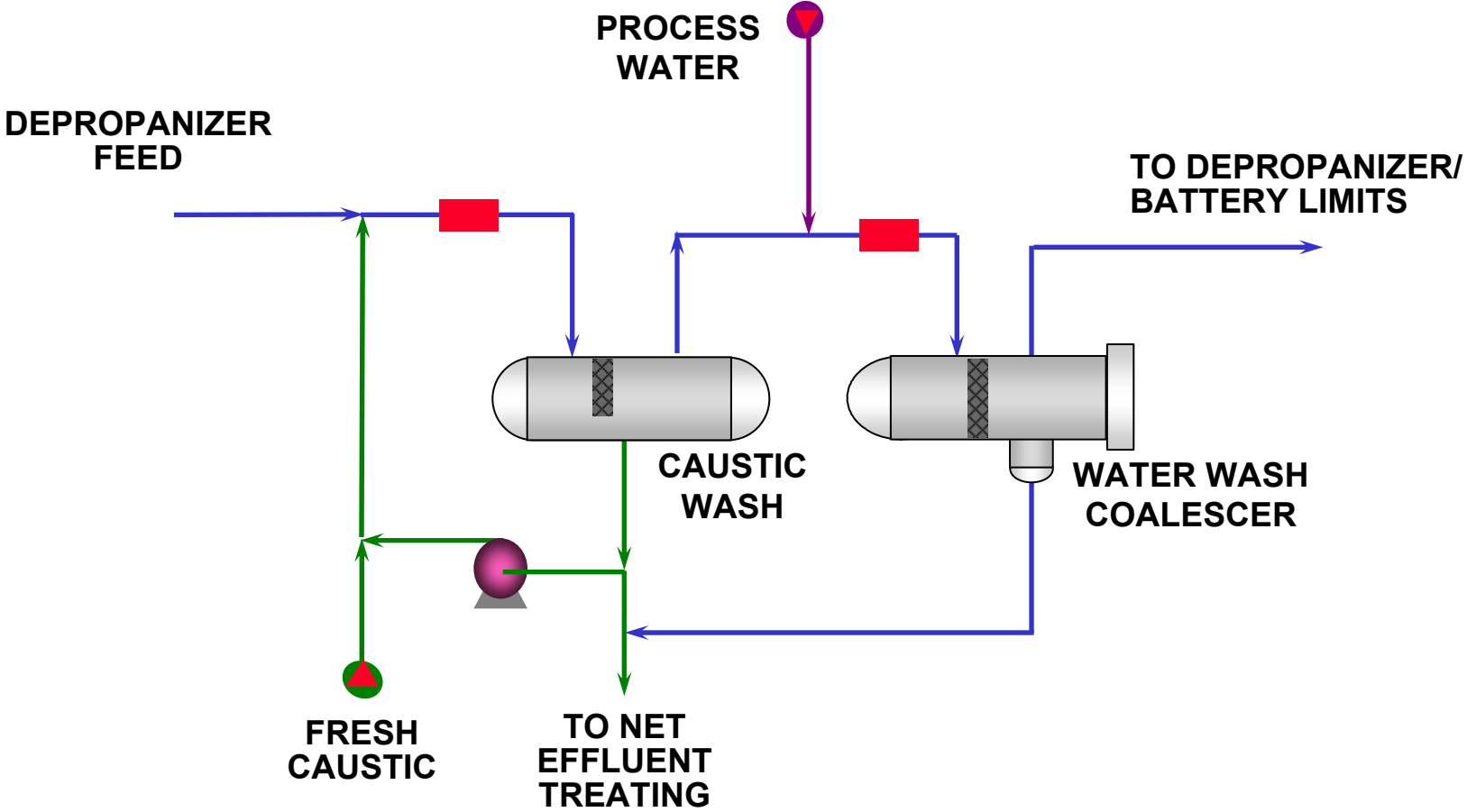


- Static Mixers
 - New process design includes static mixers in each hydrocarbon treating step
- Coalescing Media
 - New process design includes media in all treating vessels
 - Eliminates the electrostatic precipitator and large vessels needed for gravity settling
 - Previous design 30 minutes of residence time, with coalescing media ~3 fold volume decrease

Net Effluent Treating



Depropanizer/Propane Purge Treating



Reaction Zone Improvements



- Acid Settlers
- Contactor™ Reactor Repairs/Upgrades
- Tube Insert Technology
- 3/4" Tube Bundles

Acid Settlers



- Previous design: Internal “H” distributor, large vessels, 12’ x 50’ or 15’ x 70’
- New Design: Coalescing media, smaller vessels 8’ x 32’, 10’ x 40’, or 12’ x 40’
- Volume decrease ~ 2.7 to 3.5 fold

Contactors™ Reactor Repairs/Upgrades

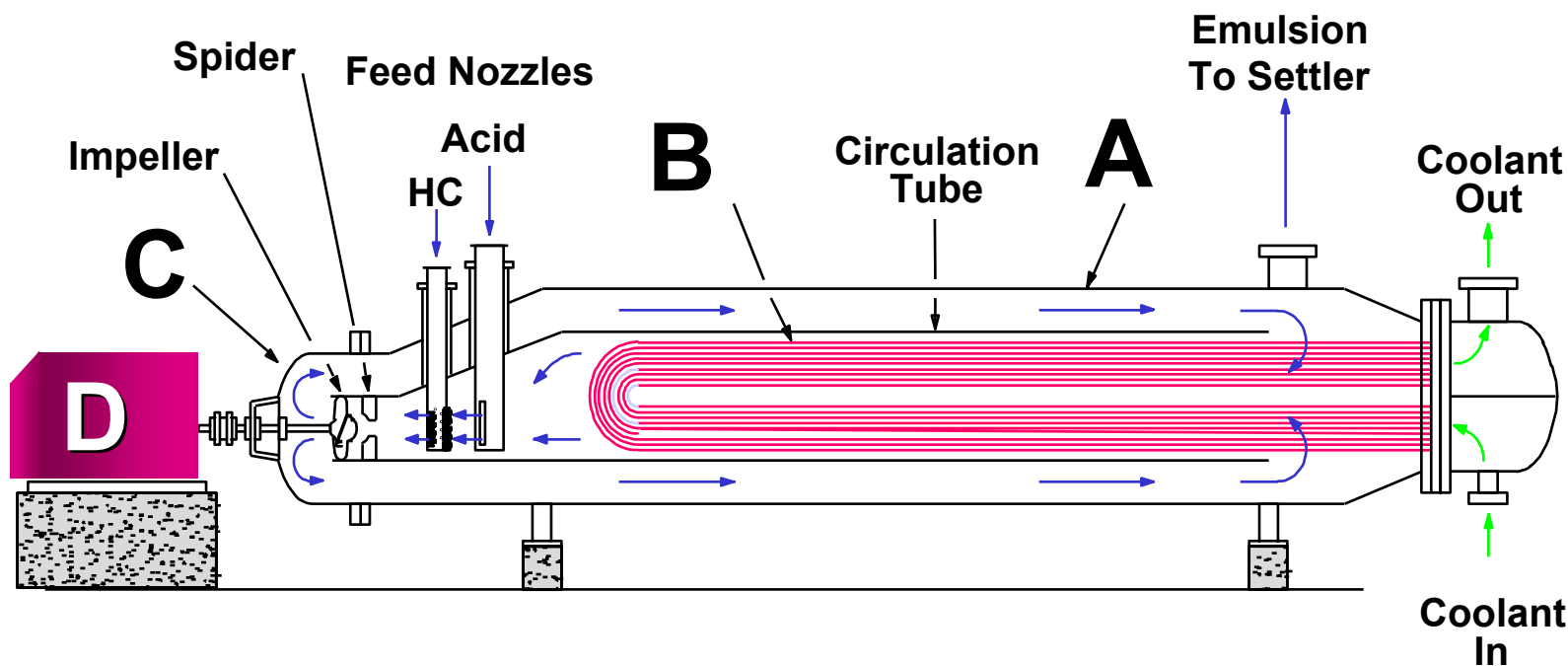


- Hydraulic Head Repair
- Feed Nozzles
- Mechanical Seal Improvements
- Metallurgy Upgrades (Impeller, Impeller Cap, Wear Ring, Shell Transition Cone, Spider Assembly, Hydraulic Head)

Contactor™ Reactor



- A - Contactor Reactor Shell
- B - Tube Bundle Assembly
- C - Hydraulic Head Assembly
- D - Motor, Turbine/Driver

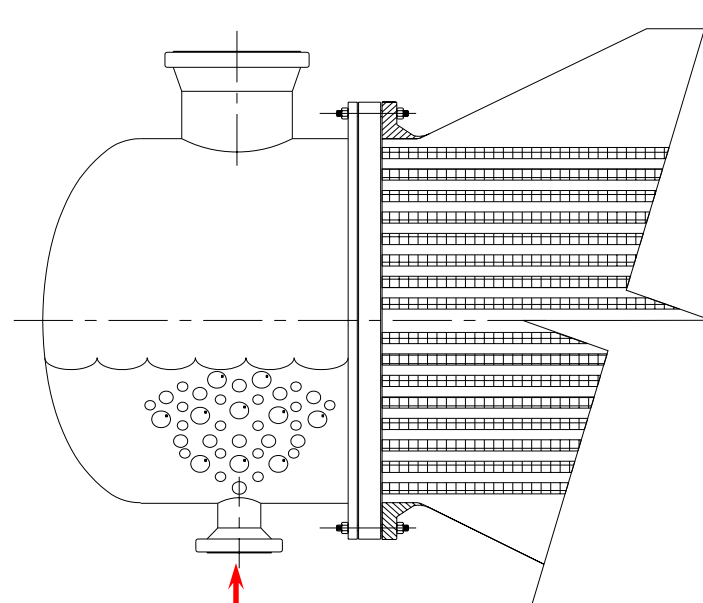


Tube Inserts

Issue:

Poor Distribution

- **Effluent enters at bottom**
- **Partial Phase Separation in Channel Inlet**
- **Non-Uniform Distribution**



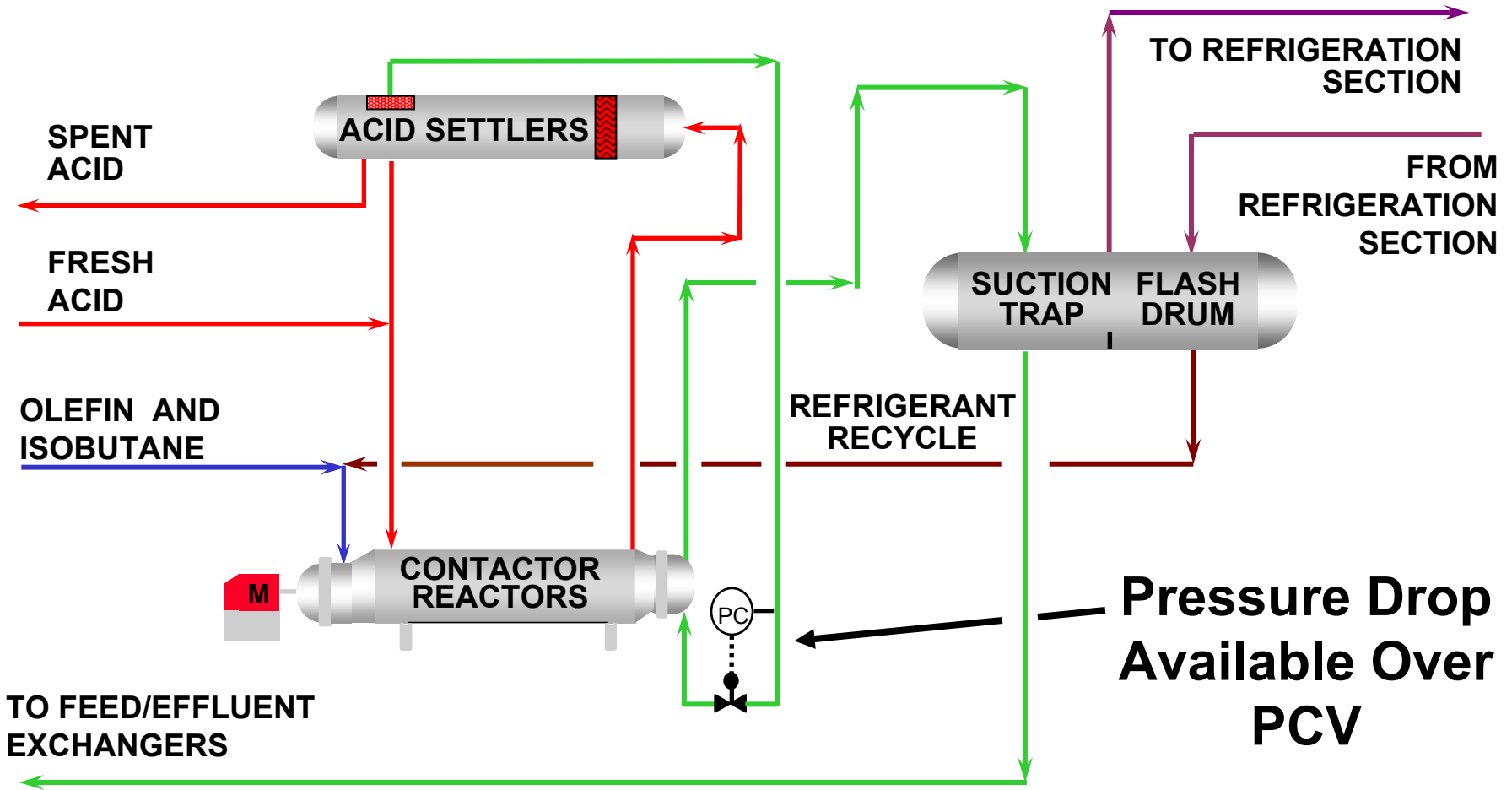
**Two-Phase Effluent
Refrigerant Inlet**

Indications and Problems of Poor Distribution



- **Lower than expected calculated overall heat transfer coefficient**
- **Corrosion/Erosion of selective tubes due to lack of cooling**
- **Tubes may run dry and therefore no vaporization to provide cooling**
- **Result is reduction of overall available surface area for heat transfer**

Opportunity for Improvement





Approach

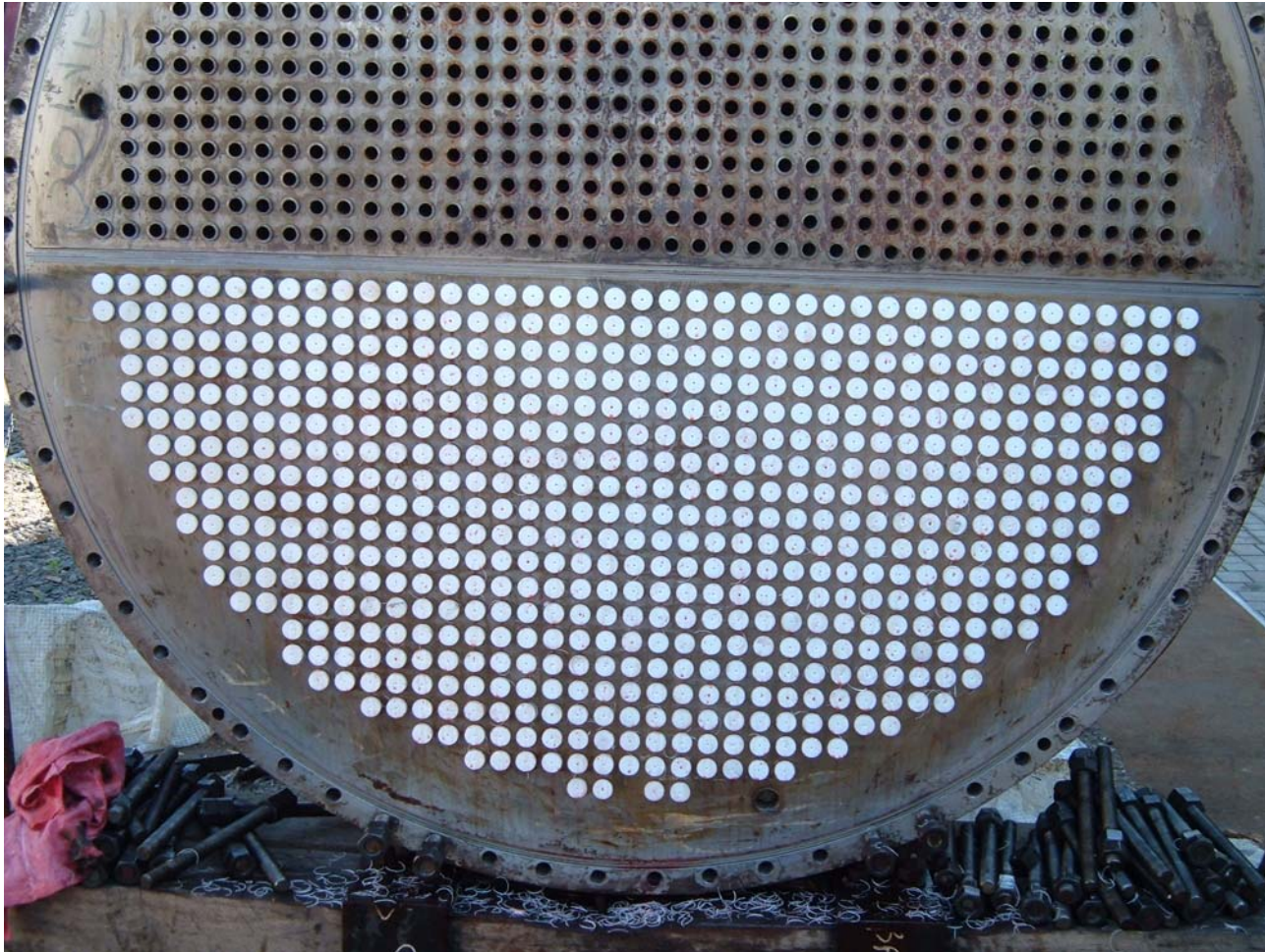
- **Transfer pressure drop from PCV to tube sheet by use of tube inserts**
- **Inlet to tubes is now single phase providing more uniform flow distribution**
- **Flashing occurs over the tube inserts**

What Do They Look Like?





NPRA



2007 Annual Meeting

Tube Insert Performance



- 20-30% average increase in Heat Transfer Coefficient (U)
- Lower reactor temperature 2-3°F
- Lower corrosion rates
- Lower acid consumption
- Increased feed rate

Tube Insert Installations



	Location	Sets of Inserts/# Contactors	Installation Date
Refinery #1	North America	4/8	Winter 2001
Refinery #2	Hess Port Reading	2/2	Spring 2003
Refinery #3	HOVENSA	6/6	Fall 2003
Refinery #4	North America	6/6	Winter 2003
Refinery #5	North America	3/3	Winter 2004
Refinery #6	North America	8/10	Winter 2004

Tube Insert Installations



	Location	Sets of Inserts/# Contactors	Installation Date
Refinery #7	North America	2/12	Winter 2005
Refinery #8	Europe	3/3	Summer 2006
Refinery #9	North America	2/4	Winter 2006
Refinery #10	Europe	2/2	Spring 2007
Refinery #11	North America	2/2	Spring 2007
Refinery #12	North America	2/2	Spring 2007



$\frac{3}{4}$ " Tube Bundle

- Historical standard is the 1" bundle
- 1" OD, 10,070 ft² / 613 tubes
- $\frac{3}{4}$ " OD, 13,630 ft² / 1,101 tubes
- 12 installed $\frac{3}{4}$ " tube bundles

3/4" Tube Bundle Performance



- Case 1
- Replaced 9,800 ft² with 13,630 ft²
- No additional modifications
- Olefin feed rate increase ~14-15% increase @ constant reaction Temperature
- Reaction temperature decrease of 4.6°F at constant olefin feed rate



3/4" Tube Bundle Performance

- Case 2
- Replaced 8,500 ft² with 12,130 ft²
- Replaced 9,800 ft² with 13,630 ft²
- New feed nozzles, rebuilt heads
- Olefin feed rate increase ~10% increase @ constant reaction Temperature

Combined $\frac{3}{4}$ " Tube Bundle and Tube Insert Performance



- One current installation – 42" Contactor™ Reactor
- Replaced 4,160 ft² with 5,978 ft² with Tube Inserts
- Rebuilt head/impeller
- Reaction temperature decrease of 15°F at the constant olefin feed rate

In Summary



- DuPont is continually looking to improve the STRATCO® Alkylation Technology
- Reducing hydrocarbon and sulfuric acid inventories
- Increasing Contactor™ Reactor throughput and/or alkylate product quality (Tube Inserts, 3/4" Tube Bundle, Contactor™ Reactor maintenance)