

# Storage Tank Cleaning & Removal



## Client – SRM Refinery Rye Harbour Project – Collapsed Oil Tank Cleaning and Removal

This project involved the emergency removal of a bulk oil storage which had collapsed due to deterioration and fatigue over numerous years, before work could commence all Method Statements and Risk Assessments required approval by the HSE. The client faced the possibility of an environmental incident, KpH worked along side the Health & Safety Executive, contained the situation, removed and disposed of the tank, leaving the area contamination free and ready for future use.

### The scope of works included:

- Site set up included the sectioning off of a restricted working area and the displaying of H&S warning signs within the immediate work areas
- A suitably rated crane was deployed to site to support the weight of the collapsed structure, estimated weight 11,500kg
- Pneumatic cold cutting techniques were used cut and remove the lower sections of the vessel to enable access to the sludge's contained within the bund and vessel
- Continual monitoring of LEL/O<sub>2</sub> levels during works, to ensure all work areas remained controlled and free of explosive vapours
- The cleaning and degassing process was then under taken and the sludges/debris removed from the base of the tank, then placed into containers for disposal
- The fragmentation of the tank was carried out under an HSE dismantling plan using cold cutting techniques, operatives used a MEWP where possible and inaccessible areas of the tank we dismantled with an excavator and shear
- The HSE identified sections of the vessel which were to be set aside, for further examination following the tanks collapse
- The tanks concrete bund was demolished and removed from site
- Finally the entire area was jet washed and environmentally cleaned disposing of oil residues and associated washings via vacuum tanker