

# ESK OIL / WATER SEPARATOR

## EPA Regulations and Oil Water Separators

### History

The Clear Water Act (CWA) of 1977 and the Water Quality Act of 1987, give the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) authority to regulate pollutants discharged into the nations' Surface and ground waters.

### Who Must Comply

Any facility which discharges a harmful quantity of oil, or any petroleum product, and the oil enters a navigable body of water of the United States.

### What is a Harmful Quantity of Oil?

A harmful quantity is virtually any amount of oil. By government definition, it is an oil discharge that can "cause a film or sheen upon, or a discoloration of, the surface of the water", an oily waste having an average oil content greater than 15 parts per million (PPM) of oil droplets 20 microns and larger.



Meets EPA regulations (15PPM) for direct discharge to water.  
(PPM - parts per million)



- Sites that EPA requires oil treatment to 15PPM
- Petroleum marketing facilities • Motor Pools • Manufacturing places
- Utility companies • Asphalt Plants • Aviation Accounts • Military installations
- Service Stations, Garages, etc.
- Bus, truck, and auto maintenance facilities.

