

## FLEXIBLE STEEL SKIMMER AND SUCTION LINES FOR FLOATING OR FIXED ROOF TANKS



Many storage tanks which service the petrochemical, refining, utility, fertiliser and aviation markets utilise a skimmer or suction line. This enables the operator to draw product from the upper liquid levels in order to reduce carryover of particles, water or other contaminants in the product. COFLEXIP's standard drain pipe structure, consisting of an articulated stainless steel internal carcass with an extruded thermoplastic outer jacket, possesses the same advantages for this application as it does with respect to the drain system. The flexible pipe's resistance to chemical attack, the unique repeatable lay pattern and availability in a continuous length, all lend themselves to this application.

When a storage tank has a floating roof, the suction line may be attached to the underside of the roof so that it may skim only the upper portions of the stored product. To accommodate cone roof tanks with centre columns, a pontoon arrangement must be designed so that the suction nozzle constantly floats at the appropriate level in the product. In most cases the centre roof support column is the guide pole for the pontoon assembly. COFLEXIP suction lines have been installed worldwide and incorporate the same mechanical and service advantages as found in the COFLEXIP roof drain. The COFLEXIP solution solves the inherent problems experienced with rubber hoses or articulated rigid pipe systems.

