

↑ TERMINAL ↑ CAPACITY

VTT Vasiliko Ltd (VTTV) oil storage capacity terminal optimized facility in Cyprus, thanks to International® coatings solution.

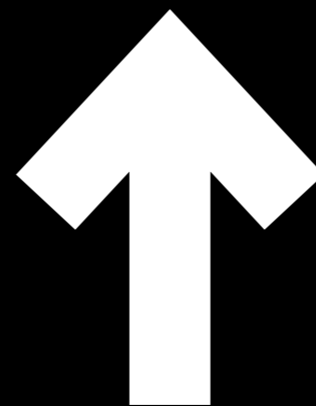


Bulk storage terminal operators are responsible for the handling and storage of hundreds of millions of liters of petroleum products 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Any reduction in storage capacity is equivalent to a loss of potential earnings and the longer the service is disrupted the greater the financial impact. It is therefore vital for terminal operators to keep their storage tanks in service for as long as possible with minimum downtime.

At no time is this consideration more important than at the beginning of the facility's lifespan during the construction phase. A high performance coating system applied effectively can significantly delay the time to first maintenance and minimize downtime later in the terminal's service life. It is also possible to optimize the available capacity for the variety of liquids passing through the facility at one time, by selecting a tank lining system which enables the rotation of cargoes.

These are factors that storage operator VTTV took into account when constructing the new 544,000 m³ (19,211,179 ft³) capacity facility in Vasiliko, Cyprus. The terminal will be completed in November this year and will provide a strategic storage hub in Cyprus to capture the flow of oil and petroleum products between Eastern Mediterranean, Middle Eastern and European markets.

For VTTV the ability to contain a variety of different cargoes within a single tank over its lifetime was a key consideration. For this to be possible the tank lining system would require chemical resistance to a range of common petroleum products, as well as resistance to the cleaning processes employed to prevent cross contamination during the switchover of cargoes. Interline® 984, part of the International® range of protective coatings from AkzoNobel, was selected as the most suitable solution based upon these requirements, following close cooperation with project engineering contractor Joannou & Paraskevaides (Overseas) Limited (J&P).



Interline 984 is an ideal lining for use in the bulk storage industry, due to its versatility and resistance to an extensive range of cargoes including crude oil up to 90°C (194°F), unleaded gasoline blends, MTBE, alcohols, aviation fuels and aromatic and aliphatic solvents. It can also withstand a variety of common cleaning methods including high pressure fresh water washing and steam cleaning at temperatures up to 120°C (248°F).

Not only did Interline 984 satisfy the engineers' requirements, but it also provided coatings applicator SEM SA, Barondin Cyprus, with a number of key benefits. The high performance lining can be applied to full thickness in a single coat, eliminating the additional curing intervals required by a multi-coat application. This means that storage tanks can be returned to service in as little as 24 hours after application at ambient temperature maximizing potential earnings for the owner of the facility.

Furthermore, when applied as part of a chopped glass or laminate system, Interline 984 complies with the widely recognized API 652 and 653 standards for storage tank maintenance compiled by the American Petroleum Institute. The standards provide guidelines which enable the tank operator to extend the interval between internal tank inspections. This allows the operator to reduce the frequency of tank shutdowns, decreasing the overall time spent out of service.

In addition to the benefits delivered by the coating system itself, the project team was able to benefit from technical support and after sales service provided by AkzoNobel throughout the various stages of the project.