BLACKBIRD FOR TRAINING

Industrial Wastewater Treatment for Refineries & Petrochemical Facilities

15 – 19 February 2027
Barcelona (Spain)

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Ref: 3255576_205456 **Date:** 15 – 19 February 2027 **Location:** Barcelona (Spain) **Fees:** 5900 GBP

Introduction

Industrial wastewater treatment for refineries & petrochemical facilities is a critical operational function directly linked to environmental compliance, production continuity, and cost control. Refining and petrochemical processes generate complex wastewater streams containing hydrocarbons, suspended solids, heavy metals, sulfides, and variable organic loads. The fluctuating composition and volume of these effluents require technically sound treatment strategies supported by rigorous monitoring and performance optimization.

This course provides a structured and practical framework for understanding, designing, and optimizing industrial wastewater treatment systems within high-complexity facilities. It examines contaminant characterization, physical and chemical treatment methods, biological systems, advanced polishing technologies, and water reuse strategies. The content also addresses operational troubleshooting, regulatory alignment, and risk mitigation in large-scale industrial environments.

The program integrates technical analysis, real operational data, and applied case studies to strengthen decision-making capabilities in wastewater system management and performance improvement.

Course Objectives

By the end of this course, participants will be able to:

- Analyze the characteristics of refinery and petrochemical wastewater streams.
- Evaluate organic and inorganic loading impacts on treatment units.
- Apply oil and grease removal technologies effectively.
- Select appropriate biological treatment processes based on influent composition.
- Design multi-stage treatment systems aligned with discharge or reuse requirements.
- Assess sedimentation, flotation, and filtration performance.
- Evaluate membrane systems and advanced separation technologies.
- Develop environmental compliance and risk mitigation plans.
- Optimize chemical dosing and energy consumption.
- Establish key performance indicators for treatment plant monitoring.



Course Outlines

Day 1: Wastewater Characteristics and Contaminant Sources

- Sources of industrial wastewater within refining and petrochemical units.
- Composition of hydrocarbons, suspended solids, and dissolved pollutants.
- Measurement of biochemical and chemical oxygen demand.
- Oil separation principles and emulsion behavior.
- Impact of temperature and operational variability on treatment performance.
- Practical exercise on laboratory data interpretation.

Day 2: Physical and Chemical Treatment Technologies

- Oil-water separation systems and design considerations.
- Dissolved air flotation systems and operational control.
- Coagulation and flocculation process design.
- Sedimentation tank performance criteria.
- Treatment of sulfides and toxic compounds.
- Applied calculations for chemical dosing optimization.

Day 3: Biological Treatment Systems and Process Control

- Aerobic and anaerobic biological treatment principles.
- Aeration basin design and organic loading control.
- Managing hydraulic and chemical shock loads.
- Sludge handling and stabilization techniques.
- Monitoring key biological performance indicators.
- Case study on improving an underperforming treatment unit.

Day 4: Advanced Treatment Technologies and Water Reuse Strategies

- Advanced filtration systems.
- Membrane separation and desalination processes.
- Removal of trace contaminants and emerging pollutants.
- Industrial water reuse and recycling strategies.
- Economic evaluation of advanced treatment investments.
- Performance analysis of water recovery systems.



Day 5: Environmental Compliance and Operational Performance Optimization

- Industrial discharge standards and regulatory requirements.
- Environmental risk management planning.
- Compliance reporting and data analysis.
- Key performance indicators for wastewater treatment plants.
- Energy efficiency and operational cost reduction strategies.
- Final exercise: developing a comprehensive treatment improvement plan.

Why Attend This Course: Wins & Losses!

- Strengthen the ability to diagnose complex treatment challenges.
- Reduce environmental compliance risks.
- Improve treatment plant operational efficiency.
- Optimize chemical and energy consumption.
- Enhance water reuse and sustainability strategies.
- Improve sludge management performance.
- Support data-driven technical decision-making.
- Increase long-term asset reliability and environmental performance.

Conclusion

Industrial Wastewater Treatment for Refineries & Petrochemical Facilities plays a central role in ensuring operational sustainability, regulatory compliance, and responsible resource management. The complexity of industrial effluents demands a structured technical approach that integrates contaminant characterization, appropriate technology selection, and continuous performance monitoring.

This course delivers a comprehensive framework that begins with wastewater source analysis and extends through physical, chemical, biological, and advanced treatment processes. It concludes with strategies for compliance management and operational optimization. By combining technical rigor with applied case studies, the program strengthens institutional capability to manage industrial wastewater systems effectively, minimize environmental risks, and enhance long-term operational stability.

