

Smarter Dewatering for Oil-Contaminated Sump Pits



Conductive probes monitor oil and water levels, allowing the Oil Watch™ system to pump out water while keeping oil contained in the sump pit.

Nearly all elevators are required by code to include a sump pit and pump to manage flooding or groundwater seepage. These sumps also collect hydraulic oil and grease, creating challenges for operators who must remove water without discharging contaminants that can cause clogs, violations, and costly municipal fines.

Tsurumi's Oil Watch™ system is designed to address this challenge by pumping out water while keeping oil contained in the sump.

As water levels rise, the system monitors the sump using a series of three conductive probes and a high-level float switch. When the water reaches the second probe, the pump activates and begins removing the water beneath the oil layer. Since oil naturally floats on top of water, it remains in the pit rather than being discharged. Once the water level drops below the first probe, the pump shuts off.

If oil levels rise too high, the high-level float activates a high oil audible alarm and an indicator light, alerting operators that intervention may be required. In these cases, facilities may remove the oil using a vacuum truck or send it for



Control Panel



Remote Alarm



Preset Level Sensor

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Tsurumi's Oil Watch™ system helps elevator sump pits safely remove water while containing oil, protecting infrastructure, ensuring regulatory compliance, and preventing environmental contamination.

environmental treatment. Additional alarms can also signal high water conditions, helping operators to respond before flooding occurs.

The Oil Watch™ system can be integrated into existing sites and works with pumps approved for sump pit applications, including Tsurumi's VANCS products. Indicator lights display system status including power, pump operation, high water, and high oil conditions. The Oil Watch™ system can also send an alert to operators when oil levels reach a high level. The alert is sent through a small auxiliary remote alarm panel that can be mounted in accessible areas, such as a maintenance room.

Proper oil containment plays an important role in protecting both infrastructure and the environment. Regulations within the Code of Federal Regulations address oil spill prevention, control, and countermeasure planning for facilities, with the goal of preventing oil from reaching waterways. This ensures appropriate response measures when oil discharge occurs.

CONTACT

TSURUMI (AMERICA), INC.

1625 Fullerton Ct
Glendale Heights, IL 60139

Marissa Nge
Marketing Generalist
marissan@tsurumiamerica.com
(630) 547-2298

Yumiko T. Lindgren
Marketing Manager
yumikot@tsurumiamerica.com
(630) 547-2245

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ABOUT TSURUMI

Tsurumi (America), Inc., a division of Tsurumi Manufacturing, was founded in 1979. Headquartered in Glendale Heights, Illinois, Tsurumi (America), Inc. has bases in Quebec, Canada; El Paso, Texas; and Salt Lake City. Globally, Tsurumi is active in 45 countries and has been an innovator in the pump industry since 1924. Tsurumi (America) is a provider of leading pumping technology in construction, civil engineering, mining, industrial wastewater, municipal wastewater, sewage treatment, flood control and scenery creation fields. Tsurumi products are backed by independent, third-party verification. Beyond leading pump technology, Tsurumi (America) is recognized for its robust distribution network and one of the largest on-hand inventories in North America.