FAQ: Mining Wash Bays



Can I wash LV and HV on the same wash pad?

Yes. Ensure your treatment system is correctly sized and your sump capacity allows for necessary rain events.

Where do I discharge wash water to?

Typical discharge is to evaporation ponds, holding tanks or site water treatment plants.

Does a wash bay need any walls?

No. Unless you wish to control water spray or have high volume water cannons

? My water is running off the wash pad and evaporates into the dirt, is this OK?

No. Water should be contained within a sump to and processed through a treatment system to remove contaminants prior to discharge. Untreated water contain a variety of contaminants that should not be permitted to leach into soil.

What detergents and degreasers should I be using in my wash down?

Quick break, bio degradable detergents and degreasers should be used at all times.

Quick break degreasers allow oil and water to separate within minutes of their use. This helps your oil separation system to function effectively in removing oil before discharge. Non-quick break compounds may keep oil and water in suspension for several hours, allowing oil to pass through an oil separator.

What should I not be doing in my wash bay?

Discharging coolants, acids, caustics or waste oil directly into sumps must be avoided. The use of solvent based degreasers and detergents should not be used in accordance with your site environmental policy. All of these factors may cause your treatment system to not operate efficiently.

How do I best retain solids that accumulate in my wash down practices?

Beach pits/drive in sumps are excellent for high solids wash down environments allowing for front end loaders to drive in to remove sludge periodically. These are standard designs for mining environments and workshops.

? Are there portable above ground wash down bays available?

Yes for LV applications. Contact Cleananwater to discuss your requirements.

? Do Cleanawater supply all equipment for wash down bays?

Yes. Cleanawater provide turnkey wash down bay packages.

My discharge point is a long way away, what do I do with wash down water?

Cleanawater provide packaged pump stations to accompany oil separator systems, we will pump to your discharge point regardless of distance.

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? Do I need any equipment to treat wash down water?

An approved pre-treatment device to remove oils, hydrocarbons and suspended solids from wash water is a minimum requirement for wash down bays. Cleanawter pre-treatment packaged systems are available from as little as \$19 per week.

Can I recycle my wash water?

Yes. Cleanawater provide a large range of water recycling systems specifically designed for the mining industry. Systems are skid mounted or containerised

Can I use tank water to wash down instead of mains water?

Yes. If available onsite.

Can I reuse treated wash water for dust suppression?

Yes. Check with your environmental department for water quality standards for dust suppression. Hydrocarbons must be removed and water should be disinfected for safe use.

What do I do with the sludge dug out of my pit?

Have this disposed of in accordance with your mine's practices.

? I have oils that build up in my pit, how do I best treat this?

Install an oil skimmer to your pit. Belt oil skimmers and floating oil skimmers are available from Cleanawater.

I have strict environmental standards for hydrocarbon discharge, how do I best treat wash down water?

An oil separator should be installed as a minimum. For discharge standards of 5mg/L or less for hydrocarbons a secondary filtration module should be added to ensure of compliance

We have a workshop next to our wash pad, can the wash pad take any workshop wash water?

Yes. Ensure your collection pit has adequate storage and your oil separator is adequately sized to accept this additional waste water. Also ensure that correct workshop practices are maintained. Pits should not be treated as a dumping ground.

How do I allow for rain events falling on the wash pad?

IFD charts should be consulted to allow for periodic rain event water storage. Some sites require a 1 in 10 year rain event to be allowed for. Confirm with your environmental department for your design guidelines.

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We wash HV's and use numerous water cannons, what size treatment/recycling system do I need?

Sizes will vary depending on your usage statistics. Systems are available for high flow rates. Contact Cleanawater to discuss your requirements.

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How much maintenance does water treatment equipment require?

This will depend on the treatment system, typically every 3-6 months if setup correctly. Cleanawater provide a large range of low maintenance options specifically designed for mining applications if this interval is not ideal.

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Can we do our own maintenance onsite?

For most equipment yes. For specialised equipment our technicians are available for FIFO.

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Is there any water treatment equipment that is self cleaning or very low in maintenance?

Yes. Contact Cleanawater to discuss options available.

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Our existing water treatment system is not performing correctly, is it too small?

There may be a variety of factors if your water treatment system is not performing correctly. These are often due to incorrect use of chemicals, detergents or degreasers, lack of maintenance or insufficient equipment for your practice. Contact Cleanawater to discuss your requirements.



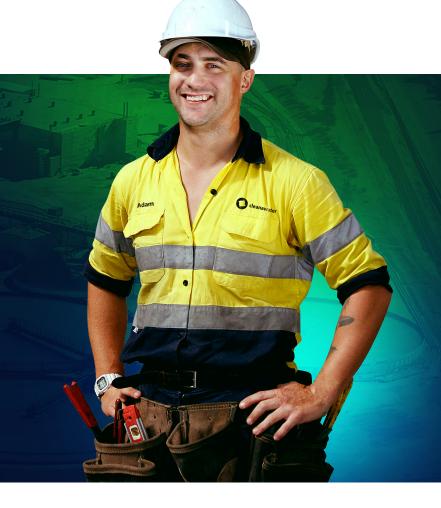
Who are Cleanawater?

Cleanawater is a 100% Australian owned and operated water technology company that has been providing water treatment and recycling solutions throughout Australiasia for over 17 years.

Water Sustainability is a key to our economic and environmental future.

Since 1996 our technologies have been helping businesses achieve cleaner water solutions that are both cost effective and authority and regulatory compliant.

www.cleanawater.com.au



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