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23 September 2014

APATEQ's integrated membrane technology has won it the European Technology Innovation Leadership award, presented by market researchers Frost and Sullivan.

Traditional membrane technologies often suffer from clogging and high operating costs. The complex nature of produced water, which often contains high levels of free or emulsified hydrocarbons and supersaturated with dissolved solids and suspended solids, can clog membranes and create a need for integration of pre-treatment units.

APATEQ's treatment system features anti-clogging and anti-fouling properties and the OilPaq system uses a pre-treatment prior to its oil-repellent hydrophilic membrane filtration, helping lower the operating cost of treatment to approximately one-eighth of conventional oil water separation systems. Its technology for produced water eliminates the need for extra chemicals.

"APATEQ's PrePaq used for primary treatment of industrial effluent separates up to 99% of suspended solids from various industrial wastewaters," said Frost & Sullivan research analyst Lekshmy Ravi. "Like the effluent from APATEQ's oil water-separation system OilPaq, that can be used for re-injection into the borehole or the fracturing process, the treated industrial water can be reused in industrial processes and agriculture."

The technology is suitable for produced water treatment in oil and gas production and exploration.

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