Suction Lines
And Skimmers
For Petrochemical Tanks

BTE custom design suction lines and skimmers to suit a variety of applications. Our experience indicates that suction lines often need special engineering design to suit individual requirements. BTE engineers have a wide variety of designs to draw upon. Some of these are shown on this leaflet. Suction lines can consist of a single pipe with one swing joint, or 2 pipes and multiple swing joints if a single pipe will not give sufficient working height. BTE engineers designed the now operating 9 x 24” Hong Kong Airport and 8 x 20” Kuala Lumpur Airport floating suction lines.

TYPE 'A'
SUCTION LINE WITH PONTOONS AND RAMP FIXED TO UNDERSIDE OF IFR
INTERNAL FLOATING ROOF
INTERNAL FLOATING ROOF BEAMS
DECK SHEETING

TYPE 'B'
SUCTION LINE WITH TRAVELLER CAR AND TRACK FOR TRAVELLER CAR
INTERNAL FLOATING ROOF PONTOONS
TRAVELLER CAR
INTERNAL FLOATING ROOF TRACK

SUCTION LINES FOR USE WITH ALUMINIUM INTERNAL FLOATING ROOFS (IFRs):

Type A: This is the most common type, consisting of a ramp attached to the IFR underside. Additional flotation must be added to the IFR to compensate for the extra weight of the ramp. Additionally, suction line pontoon calculations must consider the buoyant up-thrust when water or products having a high and variable S.G. (such as Sulfolane) are stored in the tank. Too much buoyant up-thrust may damage the IFR. BTE engineers have engineered solutions to overcome these design problems.

Type B: This type of line involves attaching a track with traveller car to the IFR underside. It offers advantages over using pontoons to lift the suction line:
· No buoyancy up-thrust problem to consider.
· Floor can be free of supports, as line is always suspended by IFR.
· No possibility of suction line pontoons leaking.
· This design has been in trouble free service for over 10 years.

Size Range: 3 inch to 36 inch diameter.

Materials: Suction lines can be made in stainless steel, carbon steel, or aluminium.
Finish : Carbon steel lines can be epoxy painted to customer specification
Jet A1: These lines are most commonly supplied in stainless steel.
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**Level Indicator**
A BTE Level Indicator can be fitted to any kind of single arm suction line with or without floating roof.

**Tall Tanks**
Type ‘C’ Articulated suction lines or skimmers can be used where the tank height is greater than the diameter.

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**BTE Tank Products include:**

- Aluminium Internal Floating Roofs
- Floating Roof Tank seals
- Floating Roof Tank Drain Systems
- Floating Roof Tank Fire Foam Systems
- Floating Suction lines & Skimmers
- Floating Suction Swing Joints 3” to 36”

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