

VIKOMA

Protecting our environment over 50 years

Newsletter

Quality • Reliability • Innovation

Komara Midi Skimmer with integrated transfer pump gets thumbs up

Our Komara skimmers are recognised globally for their superior performance and we have led the way in innovation with another step forward. The Komara Midi 2 OBP skimmer is meticulously designed with an integrated transfer pump and optimised for coupling with a powerpack enabling a recovery rate of up to 15m³ per hour.

Having one combined unit to handle and manoeuvre is much easier and quicker for operators to deploy than a skimmer and a separate pump.

The onboard positive displacement pump ensures optimal pumping performance across a wide range of viscosities, eliminating problems which can arise due to suction on higher viscosities. Easy access to the pump makes maintenance easy. The skimmer is available with discs, brushes or as a duplex model which can be easily configured to operate with discs or brushes.

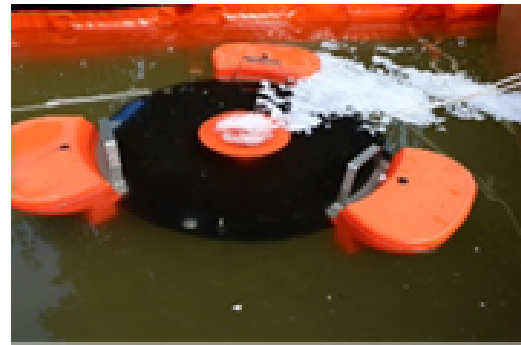
The effectiveness of the on-board pump has received very positive feedback. This versatile skimmer is an excellent choice for any oil spill response package.



In addition to a host of operational advantages, there are environmental benefits too. As well as highly efficient recovery of oil, the smaller footprint reduces the Co₂ and cost impact of transportation on and less materials are consumed in the manufacturing process.

This new skimmer like the rest of their range is supported with spares but with even easier access to the pump for maintenance. It gives a long life in service, representing good value and a low lifetime environmental footprint.





Recovery of plastic pellets pollution

Vikoma has been collaborating with Oracle Environmental Experts testing and developing equipment for the recovery of plastic pellets (nurdles) pollution. Following the recent UK Spill Marine Spill & Plastics Pollution conference Vikoma and Oracle have agreed to work together to come up with solutions for the recovery of plastic pellets from water.

Plastic pellet pollution can be split into 2 main forms:

- Big spill events (acute sources) - e.g. pellets released into the sea/waterways caused by spillage from vessels involved in transport of pellets along the supply chain.
- Legacy pollution (chronic sources) – e.g. pellets that appear on beaches, in harbours and on riverbanks usually from industrial sources or wastewater treatment.

The new Vikoma Enviro Skimmer is being developed to respond to big spill events where skimmer systems can be deployed to recover pellets prior to them hitting the beach or shoreline. A combination of the skimmer, containment boom and filtration system produced good results during the trials conducted by Vikoma and Oracle.

Vikoma Tanzania Office

In May Vikoma opened an office in Tanzania and have appointed Mike Raymond. Mike brings many years of experience of oil spill equipment with him and based in Tanzania will be growing our presence working with new and existing customers and distributors throughout East Africa. Mike has already visited Uganda, Kenya and the UK and will be expanding his reach over the coming months.



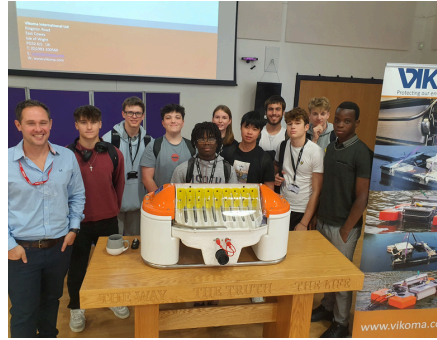
Looking after our environment ... Solar energy and local produce



In our last newsletter, we informed readers that we recently installed solar panels to generate our own electricity. While this has been a big investment, we are starting to see the rewards. In the first 6 months of operation, we generated an average of 38% of the electricity we use. Our best month so far was June, when we generated 47% of the month's usage. We now have some useful data which we'll be reviewing alongside our grid usage to see if we can reduce our consumption further.



In terms of sustainability, we've continued to focus on buying local produce where possible for employee BBQs and working lunches. Not only is this good in terms of saving transport miles and supporting local businesses, but we are eating some delicious food too. We highly recommend the Isle of Wight beef burgers from Briddlesford Farm and Isle of Wight soft cheeses.



Supporting and inspiring students in our community

This year we've continued to demonstrate our commitment to our community, supporting several schools and colleges with work experience and supporting the students in their career paths and raising awareness of the opportunities available.

Peter Hoyle one of our Regional Sales Managers and Paul Williams our Customer Support & HSE manager led an immersive day with students from Ryde Academy with an introduction to Vikoma and what we do, a talk about their career paths aimed at inspiring the students and a factory tour coupled with a practical task to making coasters from our boom material. The students were really energised and we had very positive feedback after the event from the teachers. This was a trial day and the program was so successful it's being rolled out much wider to other businesses next year. Peter and Paul has some fun too!

Karen Lucas joined groups of students at IW college as part of their entrepreneur week. Students studying a range of subjects from business studies to plumbing and hair & beauty student interested in setting up a business attended to gain some advice and tips to help them on their way.

Peter Hoyle also attended Christ the King College in September raising awareness of Vikoma and the wide range of careers available locally but with an international reach and opportunity.

We've also continued supporting CECAMM with T level work experience or engineering course.



There are however many industrial applications to remove oil and grease from surface water or other liquids found in waste and process water, such as steels mills, pharmaceuticals, palm oil and tank farms.

Recovered oil can be reused or recycled and by removing oil from coolants, the life of coolants can be extended giving cost savings and reducing the net environmental impact.

Our sales team would be happy to advise which skimmer suits your application.

Our Industrial Mini Disc skimmer gets an onboard pump too.



Following the lead of the Komara Midi skimmer detailed on the front page, our Industrial Mini Disc skimmer now comes complete with an integrated pump too. This skimmer is one of the smaller skimmers in our industrial range and size constraints have previously made an integrated pump non-viable. However, our engineers have been able to take the innovative learnings from our Komara skimmer and apply this to the industrial skimmer. The result is another good step forward offering operational benefits to users compared to a skimmer with a standalone pump. The Mini Disc is a good reliable skimmer with a proven track record of being used in oil and refining and petrochemical operations, typically in the water treatment process to efficiently remove oil from water.



50 years service celebration

We've just hit a new record with our first employee to celebrate 50 years at Vikoma. Bert Chandler our Boom Shop Supervisor, joined 50 years ago.

Bert has seen a lot of changes over the years, with changes in ownership, working at different premises and developments in technology and our equipment. Bert commented that he's enjoyed working for Vikoma. Our congratulations go to Bert and we thank him for many years of contribution to Vikoma.

Member of Parliament visits Vikoma



Many of our readers will be aware that the UK elections took place this summer. During the election campaign, we were delighted to welcome Richard Quigley to Vikoma. Richard has since become the MP for our area.

The visit was organised by the British Private Equity and Venture Capital Association (BVCA) and was a good opportunity for Richard to get a good understanding of what Vikoma does and the role our private equity partner Agathos has played in the growth of the business.

We took Richard on a guided tour of our factory and were able to discuss our plans for the future and the challenges ahead. Richard thoroughly enjoyed his visit and acknowledged that we have a great business.

We always love the opportunity to show visitors around our factory and get really positive feedback.



Vikoma Team help island children this Christmas

We have been collecting for the Isle of Wight Toy Appeal.

These toys will benefit young carers, children in hospital, sick youngsters, bereaved children and those challenged by poverty and housing problems.

Thanks to everyone who has donated to make a difference to a local child this Christmas.

Message from Managing Director, Karen Lucas

You will have read that we've been keeping our technical teams busy with the release of the marine and industrial skimmers now with onboard pumps, making the equipment much easier to deploy for operators. Continued product improvement keeps us as a leader in our field.

We are also excited to have been selected for a joint development program for the recovery of the newer ultra-low sulphur fuels which are now being encountered. This is an exciting development with our engineers using test facilities in Norway.

We have Interspill coming up in London in April 2025. My team and I look forward to meeting our colleagues and customers there. We will also be at RESCO in Kuwait in January.



Wishing you a joyful holiday season and all the best for the year ahead.