

## **Hanson environmental intervention saves Scots property from oil spill**

The collapse of a domestic central heating oil tank had the potential to cost a man his cottage home in Scotland had it not been for the intervention of Hanson's Bio-remediation service.

About 2,000 litres of oil were released by the tank's collapse. It quickly permeated the picturesque property's rudimentary foundations, and seeped into the ground, following the line of the drains and threatening neighbouring properties.

Hanson Business Development Manager Roy Szulakowski said efforts by third parties to flush the oil away had been unsuccessful, not only because it could seep into locations where it could not be reached, but also because flushing dispersed, rather than containing, the oil.

"We were called in by Rainbow International, one of the world's leading disaster recovery companies. Our role was to introduce oil-eating bacteria to the spill, and within three days the smell was gone, with the contamination removed in three weeks."

Rainbow International has called on the services of Hanson on several similar occasions, which has prevented considerable unnecessary work.

"In a similar case, with another oil tank collapse, a lady's £40,000 home extension was threatened, along with her brand new kitchen. We were able to effect a clean-up in three weeks, rather than nine months, with very little internal disruption."

Roy said he had seen excavations as deep as four feet made before either Rainbow International and Hansons had been called in. "It's such a shame, because the use of our biological degradation system will achieve the job more effectively at considerably lower cost with far less disruption," he added.

Hanson offers in-situ treatment of organically-contaminated sites and vessels using biological degradation which safely and biologically recovers them back to environmentally-acceptable standards for land reuse or site development.

Because the technique is entirely in-situ, it avoids the expense of topsoil removal for treatment, and the remaining harmless residues can be dressed over, ploughed in or washed away. It is safe to use with fish and wildlife, and works naturally in defined timescales. "This safe, environmentally-friendly technology has a wide range of applications and can offer an alternative low-cost solution to problems of waste disposal and contamination," he added.

The principle of biological degradation is applicable to agricultural slurry, waste water treatment, food processing, meat and poultry processing, hotels and restaurants, brewing and distilling, industrial effluent, septic tanks, landfill leachate and oil pollution.

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