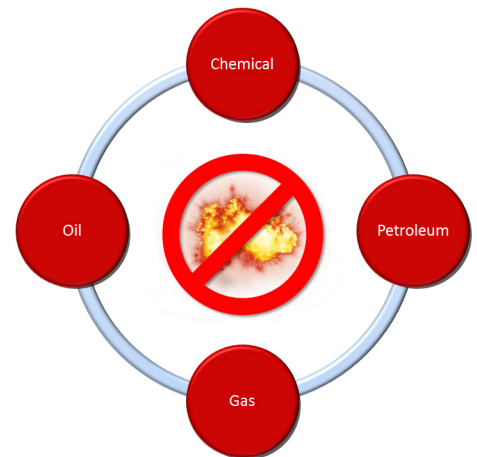




ENERGY Habitat

ENERGY Habitat is used in environments where hot work normally is not permitted. ENERGY Habitat prevents ignition sources - such as sparks - from coming into contact with flammable or explosive gases.

This is achieved in two ways. Gas is prevented from entering the habitat due to over-pressure; and sparks are prevented from leaving the habitat by the habitat walls, which are made of strong, flame-retardant sheeting. ENERGY Habitat meets the Norsok standard for Ex/Atex equipment, and is certified for use in both Zone 1 and Zone 2.



Advantages of using ENERGY Habitat

ENERGY Habitat offers advantages in the form of safe work, reduced costs and flexibility for the customer. Where it would previously have been necessary to shut down production to perform hot work, it is now possible, using ENERGY Habitat, to reduce the down-time on the plant. When developing this system, one goal was that ENERGY Habitat would be easy to install and disassemble, at the same time as a flexible solution was provided for bulkhead penetrations (piping, supports, etc).

Installation of ENERGY Habitat

Different specifications of wall and roof elements are used depending on requirements, which are hung or supported to form a tent canopy. In one end, an air-lock is installed to allow personnel to move in and out of the habitat without leaking overpressure. Five detectors are installed at strategic locations around the habitat to detect any gas build-up. They are hooked up with a control unit that immediately kills the power to all equipment within the habitat if hydrocarbons are detected. A fan continues to supply fresh air into the habitat from a safe zone. The air quality supplied from the safe zone is monitored continuously by detectors in the inlet stream. These, too, are hooked up to a control unit that shuts off the fresh air supply at the slightest indication of gas. An additional barrier is the implementation of an underpressure watch, that disconnects all equipment power if the overpressure is lost. This is flagged by audible and visual alarms.

ENERGY Habitat also features an emergency exit. This is marked with florescent material and equipped with a rip-lock that allows rapid and unimpeded evacuation in an emergency. The habitat solution also offers a range of wall element types, which mean a gas-tight enclosure can be constructed regardless of obstacles and type of bulkhead penetration.

Thanks to carefully engineered solutions there is no issue with rebuilding a habitat to suit changing needs, and all the various types of wall and roof elements are mutually compatible. We can also provide trained technicians with broad expertise who can efficiently install, operate and dismantle the ENERGY Habitat.

Alternative uses

Plenty of experience shows that ENERGY Habitat can also be used for other purposes, not simply to provide a safe habitat for hot work. A good example is surface protection work. It is a simple matter to enclose areas - or even whole lengths of pipe - to create a temperate atmosphere at any time of year. Safety is ensured by Ex-rated fans which pump warm air. If the work generates dust or if ventilation is needed for some other reason, it is even possible to arrange for monitored air-changes, using a special extraction system. Air from the habitat is extracted from the area, and released in a safe zone via flexible air ducting. As a result, sensitive treatment zones do not suffer exposure to nuisance dust or hazardous gases. It also permits other personnel to continue working unhindered outside the habitat, a feature that is otherwise often nearly impossible to obtain.

