

History

The 30's. Italian cities enter the Modern Age. We pioneered the development of coal and hydrocarbon gasification processes in a period when town gas was of vital importance to the industrialised world for heating and lighting. The supply and operation of gasification and gas treatment plants have, for four decades, been a principal business line. During that period we developed and patented several innovative processes.

The 50's. Reconstruction. Italian society and economy gradually recovered from the aftermath of World War II. We repaired and rebuilt the majority of the gasification and gas treatment plants damaged during the war meeting the needs of a rapidly growing country.

The 60's. The petroleum boom. The booming oil industry provided abundant low value hydrocarbon streams from refineries. We introduced a new catalytic reforming technology which used these streams instead of coal to produce high quality, cleaner, less expensive town gas. We also developed advanced technologies and manufactured proprietary equipment for oil and gas production and transportation.

The 70's. Natural gas makes headway. The oil crisis spurred Europe to step up its use of natural gas. Our expertise in the purification of town gas was applied in the treatment and desulphurization of natural and refinery gas. We also began to supply GOSP (Gas-oil separation plants) and dehydration plants for on-shore fields. In the following years we expanded our activities off-shore with the design and supply of skid-mounted units and topside modules.

The 80's. Ecology becomes a vital issue and off-shore platforms multiply. The demand for a cleaner environment made Governments around the world pass more stringent regulations to limit sulphur emissions. We were ready to accept the challenge by improving the design of our plants to meet the new requirements and developing new technologies to further reduce the release of sulphur and aromatics.

The 90's. Optimising and diversifying. Our plants were more efficient, more cost effective and automated: computers performed and controlled operations with sophisticated data management systems. Technology partnerships were developed to expand the range of processes on offer.

The 2000's. The environment. Our technology portfolio was expanded to include DeNO_x, DeSO_x and the safe in-situ route to ammonia from urea used in connection with DeNO_x facilities. Technology portfolio is further expanded by entering into strategic alliances for specific products such as Merox and green diesel.



Recent trends. We progressed to even larger processing facilities and the supply of giant major equipment for SRUs as well. The Kashagan project, with its SRU trains, each one recovering 1,900 tonnes/day of sulphur, and the Shah project with its overall capacity of 10,000 tonnes/day are examples of this latter new trend. The provision of huge gas conditioning plants for the international long distance transmission of natural gas allowed us to develop a new paradigm in the business area of gas treating plants.