

How do I know if my wash down bay is compliant with local regulations?

Wash-down bays are required to have pre-treatment devices like oil separators and interceptor pits to remove suspended solids and hydrocarbons from wash water before discharge. Unroofed bays may also need a diversion system for rainwater. If your bay lacks these, contact CleanaWater to discuss necessary upgrades for compliance.

Does a wash bay need walls?

Wash bay slabs should be graded to a holding pit and perimeter bunding installed to protect the wash down bay from ingress of water from surrounding areas as a minimum. If overspray into surround areas is to be contained it is recommended that perimeter walls are installed.

Is there a maximum size my wash bay is allowed to be?

If adding a first flush diversion system to manage rainwater falling on the pad there is no maximum size. It is best to contact your local water authority to confirm if your wash area is permitted to be unroofed. Some regions in Australia require a roofed wash down area.

Does a wash bay need a roof?

Generally no. Most areas allow the installation of a first flush diversion system if your wash down area exceeds 20m². Some areas do however do not allow unroofed wash down areas over 20m².

Mining environments will not require a diversion system however, storage pit capacity should handle periodic rain events.

What detergents and degreasers should I be using in my wash down?

Use biodegradable detergents and quick-break degreasers for effective oil separation. Quick-break degreasers ensure oil and water separate within minutes, enhancing your oil separation system's efficiency. Non-quick-break compounds keep oil and water suspended longer, potentially bypassing the oil separator.

What do I do when rain falls on the wash down area?

Typically a first flush diversion system will divert water to stormwater when the wash pad is flushed clean. Some regions require rainwater to be stored in holding pits for treatment. Contact CleanaWater to confirm the regulations in your area.