

ABSTRACT

The inventive method and the inventive device serve for liquefaction of sludgy to compact sediments (3) in vessels (1) in which crude oil (2) is stored and/or transported, whereby a liquid is injected above the sediment surface via
5 nozzles (11) under the effect of which liquid the sediment (3) is at least partly liquefied or dissolved in the liquid such that it can be removed from the vessel (1) together with the liquid. For this purpose a substantially horizontally flowing liquid current which is possibly closed in itself is created above the sediment surface by directing the injection through all nozzles (11)
10 such that the injection direction has a horizontal component which is orientated tangentially to a current line of the liquid current to be created and is orientated in flowing direction. The injected liquid is crude oil or a refinery product and differs from the lowest levels above the sediment in that it comprises a smaller share of heavy components.

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(Figures 9 and 11)