

**Estimation of spilled hydrocarbon volume - The state-of-the-art**

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**Abstract:** With the increase in the environmental awareness and reorganization of the need for its protection, the study of soil and groundwater contamination and its remediation have become the focus of numerous researchers. Intentional and unintentional release of hydrocarbon into soil and subsurface pose a great threat to the biosphere environment. The quantification of spilled volume has primary importance for carrying out the remediation work and is considered a first step in the remediation hierarchy. Different investigators approached the problem from many viewpoints, and the resulting achievements are so extensive and scattered that it seems essential to inventory the completed works. This paper presents a systematic study of the available experimental and theoretical works. A complete picture of the present status of the problem is also provided. Issues that remain unresolved and obscure by the current day investigators are pointed out to facilitate future research directions and more comprehensive analyses of the quantification of spilled hydrocarbon volumes. © Selper Ltd, 2004.