The Pit Purification Solution (PPS) is a portable unit providing staged filtration for cleaning drill water. All filters are made of coated carbon steel or non-corrosive stainless steel. The operating system is simple. The water to be cleaned passes through a series of filters providing progressively finer filtration. The final filtration is achieved by bag filtration, which can easily be changed to a micron rating of the user’s choice.

The drill water first passes through a twist flow strainer (ATF), which is effective at removing coarse particles through a unique inlet arrangement and housing design that uses a centrifugal separator and an inline filter to separate solids from the fluid. Raw water enters tangentially to create a cyclonic flow. Centrifugal force moves the larger, heavier particles to the housing wall where they are accelerated downward by the decreasing diameter of the housing. While the larger, heavier particles are forced against the outer wall of the housing then down and out of the unit, the lighter, smaller particles can pass through the 200 micron slotted tube element in the center of the housing and move on to the backflushing filter (RF3).

The water then enters a backflushing filter (RF3) that captures solid particulate that are smaller in size. Slotted, conical tube element allows for efficient backwash. The “Wedge Wire” design of the elements provides for a wider opening on the effluent or downstream side of the element. This precludes particles becoming lodged and blinding the element. In the PPS, the RF3 is fitted with 50 micron slotted tube elements. A rotating arm allows a reverse jet of water through the elements to provide a back wash flow to the elements. Because of the way these first two filters operate, they have the added bonus of not requiring the elements to be replaced, and thus can remain functional indefinitely.

Next in line is a duplex bag filter housing, which features an extremely high dirt holding capacity. Filtered water from the RF3 passes to the duplex bag filters. Water passes through a progressively tighter series of bag elements: 25, 15 and 10 micron. Unlike the first two mechanical filters, the bag filters will need to be changed out periodically when they are full or there is indication of pressure drop at the bag housings. From the bag housings, the filtered water is delivered into a storage container for use at the driller’s discretion.

The PPS can also include an optional last filter, the Schroeder Qsize Filter. This filter, which utilizes element cartridges that are 39” in length, is available in several micron ratings, and can provide another level of fine filtration if necessary.
- Provides a cost-effective means to filter wastewater from drilling operations
- On-site filtration helps to mitigate costly hauling charges
- Promotes the closed-loop water reuse concept (protects local resources and offers cost reduction to the drilling industry)