

EMCO Chemical Distributors, Inc. in North Chicago, Illinois was approached by a different and exciting new customer in February 2009 – the Lincoln Park Zoo in Chicago. The Kovlar Seal Lion Pool was leaking so badly they had to close it, relocate the animals, and repair their habitat. As you probably know, seals live in saltwater. So when the Zoo refilled the pool, they needed saltwater. Since Lake Michigan water is obviously not salty, the Zoo approached us and asked if we could provide 26,600 gallons of a saltwater brine concentrate to put into the seal pool.

Since EMCO really doesn't sell saltwater, we researched what would be required to safely provide this concentrate for the seals. After completion of our formal feasibility process, it was determined we would make an exception for the Zoo and formulate this saltwater brine. Through team effort, EMCO developed special blending procedures, obtained permission from the City of North Chicago to use their hydrants to pump extra water, designed and fabricated a new heat transfer mechanism, and pumped the blended product into six tankers for delivery to the Zoo over the course of two days.

When our last tanker departed the Zoo, the seals were left swimming happily in their fresh pool of saltwater. For EMCO, it was a pleasure to be able to help the Lincoln Park Zoo.

