# Solving Industrial Water Resource Management Challenges with MBR Technology



imagination at work

# Outline

- The Challenge: Industrial Water Management
- The Solution: MBR technology
- Case Study 1: Reliable Effluent Quality for Discharge
- Case Study 2: POTW Surcharge Elimination
- Case Study 3: POTW Surcharge Elimination, Reliable Effluent Quality for Discharge or Reuse
- Summary & Conclusions

### The Challenge

### Industrial Water Management



### Industrial Water Management Challenges



### The Solution

# MBR technology



### Membranes for Wastewater Treatment

### Introduced in the 1970s

Produce superior effluent wastewater quality

Key advantages include smaller footprints and reliable operation Proven from small-scale to large-scale industrial projects

Technology advances and mass production have made membrane treatment cost effective



### 12.5 MGD Petrochemical ZW MBR, Italy



1.3 MGD Potato Processing ZW MBR, Idaho

### What is ZeeWeed MBR?

- Advanced technology that combines ultrafiltration (UF) membranes with biological treatment
- Brings conventional clarification, aeration and filtration together into a single step



### **Consistent** High Quality Effluent



### Achievable ZeeWeed® Treatment Results

BOD <sub>5</sub>	< 2 mg/L
TSS	< 1 mg/L
NH <sub>3</sub> -N	< 1 mg/L
TN	< 3 mg/L*
TP	< 0.05 mg/L*
Turbidity	< 0.1 NTU
Fecal Coliform	< 2.2 CFU/100 mL**
SDI	< 3

Activated Sudge

### Treated Water

\* With appropriate biological design \*\* After disinfection

### The ZeeWeed 500 UF Membrane

- Immersed hollow fiber construction Reinforced membrane structure Outside-in operation PVDF Chemistry
- Oxidant resistant (500,000 ppm-hr Cl<sub>2</sub>)
- Wide pH range
  - Filtration: 5 to 9.5 pH
  - Cleaning: 2 to 11 pH

Compatible with coagulants & PAC NSF61 certified



Electron microscope view of membrane surface

### The ZeeWeed 500 Module

A cassette contains from 24 to 48 ZeeWeed<sup>®</sup> modules

Permeate is drawn from both top & bottom header

Aerators are attached to the cassette frame, not the elements themselves

The cassette frames provide the support for the 500 modules



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### Building Blocks of the ZeeWeed<sup>®</sup> MBR





### Full Scale - MBR

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### Summary of the Benefits of MBR

- A automated process that is simpler to operate
- A smaller plant footprint
- The ability to retrofit and expand treatment capacity of existing facilities
- Enhanced process control and reliability with higher Sludge concentrations and greater control of Solids Retention Times
- Secondary clarifiers are eliminated so coagulants and flocculants are not required
- Exceptional effluent quality exceeding EPA requirements
- A consistent high quality effluent free of TSS and BOD and ideal for reuse







Application: Treatment Capacity: Treated Water Use: Goal: Retrofit of Facultative Lagoons Expand from 120,000 to 240,000 gpd Discharge to Creek Expand Capacity and Produce a Reliable Effluent Quality

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# The Challenge

# The Solution

- A difficult to treat wastewater with high hardness and O&G levels.
- Increase treatment capacity without adding more lagoons.
- Upgrade treatment methods to resolve EPA consent order for violations of their permit.
  Effluent requirements were expected to become even more stringent upon permit renewal.
- A modular and expandable system was needed to allow for future expansion without increasing the footprint of their existing lagoons.

Upgrade existing lagoon system to a MBR to exceed NPDES requirements and accommodate an increase in treatment capacity.

Parameter	Wastewater Influent	ZeeWeed MBR Effluent Quality
Flow (gpd)	240,000	_
BOD5 (mg/L)	6,000	< 5
COD (mg/L)	8,500	< 300
FOG (mg/L)	50-400	< 5
TSS (mg/L)	1,250	< 0.5
TKN (mg/L)	250	< 2 (winter) < 1 (summer)
Phosphorous (mg/L)	90	< 0.5 *
Turbidity (NTU)	_	< 1
Bioreactor MLSS (mg/L)	10,000	-
SRT (days)	100	-

\* Phosphorous removal achieved using a coagulant





### Concrete (In Ground) Membrane Tanks

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An Update:

- The MBR was commissioned in 2003 based on a flowrate of up to 240,000. In 2006, the Membrane system was expanded from 2 to 3 cassettes per train. The system now treats up to 300,000 gpd of wastewater.
- In 2008, ¼ of the membranes were replaced (5 years). The remaining membranes are still in operation (7+ years).
- Maintaining DO levels is often a challenge for the fine bubble diffusers. Despite this and other challenges the operator has done an excellent job recovering from the occasional upset condition and complying with their NPDES permit.
- Expected that there will be future discharge permit requirements to reduce TDS, as well.







Application: Treatment Capacity: Treated Water: Goal: Greenfield Wastewater Treatment Plant 250,000 gpd Discharge to City Sewer POTW Surcharge Elimination

# The Challenge

# The Solution

- Effluent must exceed the sewer discharge requirements and eliminate POTW surcharges.
- Footprint should be minimized.
- Reliably handle the variations in organic loading without upset, loss of biomass or diminished effluent quality.
- Must not produce noise or odors and blend into the surrounding residential area.
- Automated controls to minimize operator requirements.

Install a MBR system to generate water suitable for direct discharge or reuse and eliminate POTW surcharges.

Parameter	Wastewater Influent	ZeeWeed® MBR Effluent Quality
Flow (gpd)	250,000	-
COD (mg/L)	5,000 - 7,000	< 100
BOD5 (mg/L)	3,000 - 4,000	< 30
TSS (mg/L)	50 – 100	< 5
Bioreactor MLSS (mg/L)	10,000 – 13,000	_
SRT (days)	>17	-





### Membrane Bioreactor System

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### **Equipment Building**

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### Steel (Above Ground) Membrane Tank

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An Update:

- The MBR was commissioned in 2005. It is estimated that over \$5 Million in surcharges have been saved so far.
- The MBR continues to operate with its original set of membranes (5+ years) despite the fact that the system often runs at temperatures well above the recommended limits for the biological reactor and membranes (max temp = 104F).
- Providing adequate equalization has been an issue for the plant. An internal coating issue in the tank lead to corrosion problems. In 2009, a second EQ tank was installed to provide redundancy and additional EQ volume to minimize swings in pH, temperature and organic loading.







Application: Treatment Capacity: Treated Water Use:

Goal:

Greenfield Wastewater Treatment

870,000 gpd

Discharge to City Sewer with Plans to Reuse Water and/or Discharge to Creek

POTW Surcharge Elimination

# The Challenge

# The Solution

- Eliminate POTW surcharges as they were expected to increase by 12.5% annually for each of the next 25-30 years and impact the plant's profitability.
- This facility was unfamiliar with wastewater treatment and required a simple, automated, easy to operate system
- A difficult to treat wastewater high in FOG, BOD, TSS, and TP.
- Require ability to expand treatment capacity in future.

Install a MBR system that was automated and could reliably treat their wastewater and eliminate POTW surcharges.

Parameter	Wastewater Influent	ZeeWeed® MBR Effluent Quality
Flow (gpd)	864,000	_
Future Flow (gpd)	1,440,000	_
COD (mg/L)	800 - 2,000	-
BOD5 (mg/L)	600 - 1,000	< 10
TSS (mg/L)	70 - 200	< 5
TP (mg/L)	30 - 50	< 0.5 *
FOG (mg/L)	50 - 150	< 10
Temperature (deg F)	70	_
Turbidity (NTU)	_	< 1
Bioreactor MLSS (mg/L)	10,000	-
SRT (days)	20	-

\* Phosphorous reduction through combination of biological and chemical Premoval



### Anaerobic and Aerobic Bioreactor Tanks

### **Coarse Bubble Diffusers**

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Steel (Above Ground) Membrane tanks

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### Belt press

An Update:

- The MBR was commissioned in 2009. It is estimated that over \$4 Million in surcharges have been saved so far.
- The facility has installed piping for water reuse and plans to reuse the MBR effluent as cooling water make up.
- Higher oil and grease levels in the plant's wastewater can overwhelm the DAF system at times; however, carryover from the DAF is contained within the MBR and has little or no effect on the plant's effluent quality. The ZeeWeed membranes continue to perform reliably.
- The MBR effluent quality currently meets all NPDES permit requirements except for TP. Commissioning of the Biological and Chemical P removal systems is ongoing.

### Summary & Conclusions



### Summary & Conclusions

Sustainable water and wastewater management is becoming more important to the fiscal success of industry.

MBR technology has enabled industry to solve critical water and wastewater management challenges:

- Elimination of POTW surcharges
- Exceptional effluent quality for reliable water reuse and/or safe direct discharge
- Expansion of plant treatment capacity within existing footprint
- Enhanced performance resistant to biological upsets
- Simple and automated process with reduced operator requirements

### Questions?



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