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High Performance Anaerobic Digestion: Co-Digestion and Thermal Hydrolysis





Energy Conversion and Resource Recovery Power Positive Resource Recovery P²R² Goal



High Performance Anaerobic Digestion at the Heart of Energy Recovery

The Future is High Performance **Anaerobic Digestion**

Residuals Resource Recovery







High Performance Anaerobic Digestion Meets Multiple Objectives

- Achieve High Economic Value low life cycle costs, adaptability to changing energy rates, recover valuable resource
- Be User Friendly reliability, proven technology, ease of operation and maintenance
- Be Environmentally Sustainable energy efficient, low carbon footprint, air quality, soil quality, water quality
- Socially Acceptable good public relations for resource recovery, community friendly



Objectives of High Performance Anaerobic Digestion

- Enhance operating characteristics
 - Increase stability
 - Reduce and manage foaming and volume change
 - Manage struvite and vivianite, hydrogen sulfide
- Improve biosolids quality
 - Reduce pathogens & odors
- Increase biomass conversion
 - More biogas, less biosolids
- Improve financial performance
 - Increase capacity
 - Produce and conserve energy





Methods to Achieve High Performance Anaerobic Digestion

- System: Best Solids Management Practice (feed, mix, heat, withdrawal)
- Engine: Enhance the Anaerobic Process
 - High temperature (thermophilic)
 - Separate phases (acid/gas)
 - Increase solids concentration and retention
- Fuel: Increase Solids Quantity and Quality
 - Co-Digestion
 - Thermal hydrolysis
- Handling: Optimize Beneficial Use of Biogas (Cogeneration, Biomethane)



Effective Digester Mixing

- Assure effective use of entire digester
- Create uniform digester environment
- Promote contact between raw sludge and active biomass
- Evenly distribute metabolic waste products
- Reduce grit settling
- Reduce temperature stratification



Digested Sludge Density Fundamentals More of an Issue with High Performance Anaerobic Digestion





Sludge density is inversely proportional to the amount of entrained biogas

Sludge density can change rapidly as well as the amount of biogas released

Biogas entrainment is proportional to apparent viscosity

Apparent viscosity increases with solids concentration and decreases with thermal hydrolysis and mixing

Sludge Withdrawal and Provisions for Volume Expansion

- Volume reserved for expansion
- Three overflows: normal, backup, and emergency





High Performance Biogas System

- Prevent sludge or foam from entering gas system
- Provide condensate removal
- Contain gas in digester during various operating levels
- Manage varying gas production rates
- Manage pressure
- Measure gas flow
- Clean gas for beneficial use
- Flare excess gas



High Performance Anaerobic Digestion Examples

Project and Process	Biosolids Final Product
Atotonilco: Modified Egg-Shaped Mesophilic	Class B Biosolids Dewatered Cake Biogas fueled CHP
Shafdan: Multi-Staged Thermophilic	Class A Biosolids Dewatered Cake Biogas fueled CHP
DC Water: Thermal Hydrolysis	Class A Biosolids Dewatered Cake Biogas fueled CHP
Des Moines: Codigestion	Class B Biosolids Biogas fueled CHP and Biogas
Encina: Biosolids Dryer and Pyrobiomethane	Dried Biosolids Pellets and BioChar

Atotonilco WWTP, Mexico City 1990 ML/day, 790 dtpd Thirty 13 ML digesters

Twelve 2.8 MW CHP units



Shafdan Treatment Plant Digestion and Cogeneration Facility Tel Aviv, Israel







Renewable Energy





Bringing the Shafdan Digesters to Life with Jerusalem Seed



Multi-Staged Thermophilic Digestion



Thermal Hydrolysis Decision Guide



DC Water Blue Plains WWTP Thermal Hydrolysis Process and Anaerobic Digestion

Process Schematic of DC Water's New Biosolids Program



Digester Loading Rates

	Feed Solids Concentration	Hydraulic Retention time	Volatile Solids Loading Rate	Specific Energy Loading Rate
	%	days	kgVS/day/m ³	kgCOD/day/kgVS
Atotonilco Mexico City	5.0	20	1.3	0.11
Shafdan Dan Region	5.5	13	3.1	0.29
Blue Plains DC Water	10.5	15	5.3	0.26



Codigestion Research WERF and ESTCP

- Bench: Waste Characterization & Biogas Production
- Lab: Acclimation
- Pilot: Organic loading rate
- Full scale: Demonstration of digester performance
- Economic analysis of codigestion



Des Moines Wastewater Reclamation Facility, Iowa Co-digestion Operation

- Hauled organic wastes account for 40% of anaerobic digester feed
- Biogas sold to local industry
- Biogas Fueled CHP electrical savings
- Biogas conversion to Biomethane being considered



Co-Digestion Components



Wastewater Treatment

Organic Loading Rate for Codigestion, Digester Startup, and Operation



Food to Microorganism Ratio for Anaerobic Digestion

Biogas Fueled Cogeneration and Biosolids Drying, Encina Wastewater Authority, Carlsbad, CA

- Energy master planning, design, and services during construction of WWTP improvements
- 3.0 MW cogeneration system consisting of four 750 kW lean-burn engine driven generators
- Designed to strict California air quality standards



Combined Digestion and Thermal Process



Pyrolysis Gas

Full Scale PyroBioMethane in Startup Phase Encina Water Pollution Control Facility, Carlsbad, CA





Arriving in California for Container Install

Pilot Digesters Awaiting Delivery to Encina

High Performance Anaerobic Digestion

- High Performance
- Conventional Mesophilic
- Thermophilic
- Thermal Hydrolysis
- Co-Digestion
- Digestion combined with thermal process

HPAD at the Heart of Resource Recovery from Wastewater: Biosolids, Nutrients, Energy, Water





High Performance Anaerobic Digestion

QUESTIONS?

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Residuals Resource Recovery