

improved flocculation saves slaughter-house US\$167,000 for sludge disposal

challenge

The effluent discharged from this large United Kingdom slaughterhouse contains a high proportion of blood. When SUEZ first became involved with the company nearly 10 years ago, the waste treatment program used was generating a large volume of sludge for disposal and creating difficulties with environmental compliance. SUEZ introduced a flocculant that solved these discharge problems. However, over the years the increased loading from plant expansion began to exceed the system's capacity.

solution

To increase the sludge concentration, SUEZ changed the effluent treatment program to a mixture of

approximately 600 ppm (mg/L) of ferric sulfate coagulant and 30 ppm (mg/L) of a Novus* flocculant. Modifications were also carried out on the DAF plant to help reduce the water content of the sludge as much as possible.

results

The improvement in flocculation and DAF operation reduced the number of tankers required for sludge removal from 10 to 6 per day. Chemical treatment costs were also lower, for a total net savings in excess of US\$167,000 per year. In addition, the company was commended by the local water company as a good example of what can be achieved in terms of effluent reduction and environmental compliance.

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