# Activated Sludge Plant Control

#### Application & Product Data



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## Typical Treatment Plant



## Simplified Diagram of an Activated Sludge System (ASP)



- Activated sludge is a biochemical process for treating sewage and industrial wastewater that uses air (or oxygen) and microorganisms to biologically oxidize organic pollutants, producing a waste sludge (or floc) containing the oxidized material
- Atmospheric air or pure oxygen is bubbled through primary treated sewage (or industrial wastewater) and combined with organisms to develop a biological floc which reduces the organic content of the sewage
- The combination of raw sewage and biological mass is commonly known as Mixed Liquor.



## Schematic Diagram of a Complete Plant



- Anoxic & Aeration configuration is appropriate for Carbon and Nitrogen treatment. Aeration for Carbon only treatment.
- In all activated sludge plants, once the sewage (or industrial wastewater) has received sufficient treatment, excess mixed liquor is discharged into settling tanks and the treated supernatant is run off to undergo further treatment before discharge.
- Part of the settled material, the sludge (RAS), is returned to the head of the aeration system to re-seed the new sewage entering the tank.
- Mixed Liquor is a mixture of raw or settled wastewater and activated sludge within an aeration tank in the activated sludge process
- Mixed Liquor Suspended Solids (MLSS) is the concentration of suspended solids in the mixed liquor, usually expressed in milligrams per litre (mg/l), often referred to as SS or TSS.



#### **Aeration Process**









## Packaged Treatment Plant



Packaged treatment plant have the same requirements for sensors.



### Why Measure Dissolved Oxygen?



#### Ensure Success – Pick your Location



Platform over aeration process



Inaccessible probes



#### Surface aeration

#### Find

- Representative sample point of the process
- Well mixed sample
- Safe to reach sensors

Avoid

- Dead Zone
- Extreme Turbulence
- Area next to Aerator
- Hazardous access to sensor
- Reaching over handrails



### Oxidation Ditch



## Oxidation Ditch



### Why Measure Suspended Solids

#### Mixed Liquor Suspended Solids

#### If MLSS is too high

#### If MLSS is too low

- Mixed Liquor is a mixture of raw or settled wastewater and activated sludge contained in an aeration basin. Standard control band 1,000 to 4,000 mg/l. membrane batch reactor CMBR control 6-8k
- The process is prone to bulking and treatment system becomes overloaded.
- Causes DO content to drop off with the effect that organic matters are not fully degraded and biological 'die off'.
- Excessive aeration wastes electricity.
- The process will not operate efficiently and waste energy.
- The biological active 'bugs' are being lost and the system may need expensive re-seeding.



## R.A.S & S.A.S





- Measuring the solids concentration of RAS allows the return volume to be adjusted to keep the solids level in the aeration basin within the control parameters
- Excess sludge which eventually accumulates beyond that returned is defined as Surplus or Waste Activated Sludge (SAS/WAS)
- This is removed from the treatment process to keep the ratio of biomass to food supplied (sewage or wastewater) in balance
- Typical Range
  - 4,000 to 6,000 mg/l



### Measurement Options



#### **Benefits of Online Monitoring**



#### Pro's

- Continuous In-Line Monitoring reduces the need for time-consuming laboratory analysis
- Removes operator dependency from the measurement
- Real-time monitoring provides more accurate process control

• Improves plant efficiency by providing stability and continuity to the treatment process



- Capital costs
- Whole life costs

### Products



#### Partech's Portable Products





Portable Suspended Solids 740 Monitor with Soli-Tech 10 Sensor Portable Dissolved Oxygen

Handy Polaris



### Portable Suspended Solids – 740 Monitor

- The Soli-Tech 10 Sensor uses
  - Infrared Light Attenuation
  - Wavelength = 880 nm
- The sensor has two ranges that are automatically selected by the 740 Monitor
- Wide application range
  - from 20-100 to 0-20,000 mg/l
- User selectable units
  - Can measure in FTU, mg/l g/l, ppm, %SS or your own defined units
- Multiple site setups
  - Uses pre-set profiles to suit application
  - Upto 10 different setups on one system

## Supplementary Features

- Rechargeable battery
- Carry Bag included
- Protective Case includes hand strap for security
- Language Options
  - Currently Italian
  - French planned





### Portable Dissolved Oxygen – Handy Polaris

- Galvanic Sensor
  - Self Polarising and Temperature Compensated
- No warm up time, short response time
  - 90% of end value in less than 20 seconds
- Automatic Calibration and self check
- I 400 hours from one 9V alkaline battery
  - Approximately 2 years with 1 hour use per day
- Large easy to read graphical LCD display





## 7300w<sup>2</sup> Monitor/Controller



#### **Multiple Sensors**

- I or 2 into the base unit
- Upto 8 using expansion boxes
- Any w<sup>2</sup> sensor is compatible with the monitor



#### Graphic Display with trending

- Easy to configure
- Multiple language ability



#### Flexible control and monitoring options

- Profibus output anticipated late 201 I
- Triple Validation option
- Dosing control and datalogging available on request



### Sensors – Dissolved Oxygen



#### OxyTechw<sup>2</sup> RDO-X

- Dissolved Oxygen & Temperature Sensor
- Optical Luminescent Technology
- Applications
- Activated Sludge Control
- Fast Response, Long Cap Life, Abrasion Resistant



#### OxyTechw<sup>2</sup> GAL

- Dissolved Oxygen
- Galvanic principle.
- Applications.
  - Activated Sludge Control
- Exceptional resistance to damage. Long term stability of 3 years without need for sensor replacement or membrane replacement

#### Fast response – Minimal Maintenance

#### Sensors –Suspended Solids



#### TurbiTechw<sup>2</sup> LA

- Light Attenuation Principle.
- 860nm Wavelength
- Designed for use in the Aeration system of an activated sludge plant.
- Sensor can also measure Returned Activated Sludge (R.A.S), Surplus Activated Sludge (S.A.S)



#### TurbiTechw<sup>2</sup> LA

- Large optical surface & sample volume ensures tolerant of fouling.
- Deposits of fats and grease on the sensor area do not prevent the sensors from measuring unlike smaller optical surfaces.
- Self Cleaning mechanism. Initiated by monitor at user determined frequency.
- Cleaning process only takes 90 seconds

Rugged & Robust sensor designed for the application



## Fit for Purpose!





#### Summary





#### What Good ASP Measurement can Achieve!

#### Done well

- Reduce energy usage
- Increase plant life
  - Blowers and Aerators working less
- Better Effluent Quality
- Improved Sludge Control
- Warning of process problems

#### **Done Poorly**

- Poor Effluent Quality
- Drain on ICA resources
  - Repairs
  - Calibration
- Wasted Energy
  - Over Aeration
- Bulking of Sludge
- False alarms



Happy Site Manager



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