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An aquarion Group Company

STEAG AG Lunen

Wastewater Treatment for a Power Station



STEAG AG, Essen, built a wet-type flue gas desulphurisation plant at the Lünen power station. The wastewater removed from the process has to be treated before it is discharged into the River Lippe.



1 Basic Parameters

Raw Water Data

Waste water flow $89 \text{ m}^3\text{/h}$ pH 4.5 to 7.0 Solids $\leq 3 \text{ g/l}$ Sulphate $\leq 2.5 \text{ g/l}$ Fluoride $\leq 30 \text{ mg/l}$

Plus: Heavy metals from coal and limestone

2 The Treatment Processes

The main process tasks are:

- pH adjustment & precipitation
- Gypsum de-saturation
- Fluoride precipitation

Treated wastewater quality

Suspended Solids 30 mg/l pH 7.0 to 9.0

Plus: Heavy metals, Fluoride and Sulphate according to local requirements.

- Separation of solids
- Sludge handling

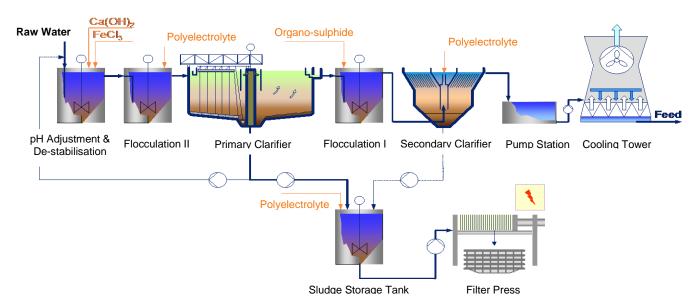
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3 Requirements:

- The reaction rate for gypsum de-saturation must be increased if further precipitation later on is to be avoided.
- The solids content in the first stage is 50-100g/l. Over 90% separation of solids in only one sedimentation stage is neither practically nor economically achievable.
- The residual heavy metals concentration in the discharge absolutely <u>must</u> be achieved.
- Frequent changes in incoming flow and concentration of contaminants means that a high degree of design flexibility is required.

4 Treatment Concept

These basic requirements led to the specification of a two-stage treatment system.



First stage:

pH adjustment and gypsum de-saturation step: The pH value is raised by lime slurry, and sludge from Sedimentation stage 1, is added, which substantially reduces the time required for Gypsum de-saturation.

- Flocculation step: A polyelectrolyte addition to ensure highly efficient solids flocculation and ensure efficient removal during settlement.
- Primary settlement & thickening stage with sludge scraper.
- In the thickening step the excess sludge is temporarily stored.
- Sludge containing Gypsum is pumped from the thickener back to the desaturation step.

Second stage:

- Secondary dosing with a coagulant (e.g. FeCl₃) and an organo-sulphide decomplexant.
- Secondary lamella clarification incorporating the patented RPS system.
- In the integrated flocculation section, wastewater, flocculants and contact sludge from the cone are carefully mixed. The surplus sludge from the first and second stages are mixed before pre-conditioning with lime slurry before being dewatered in a chamber filter press.

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5 Particular features of the two-stage process

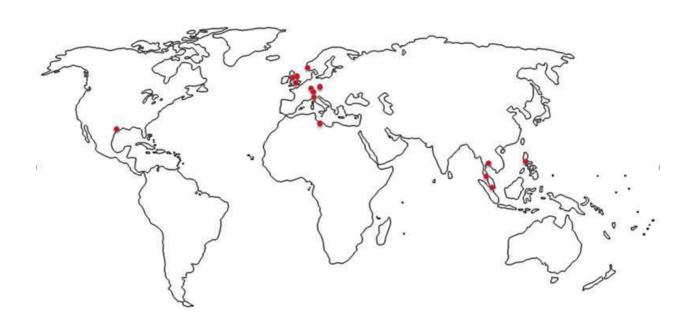
- Improved and reliable solid and metal hydroxide separation.
- Almost no post-crystallisation of gypsum in the treated water.
- Maximum sludge thickening.
- Flexible use of the plant at any time.
- The speed-adjustable agitators in all flocculation stages provide economic, optimal consumption of treatment chemicals.

6 Result

Steag's Lünen power station has a physico-chemical wastewater treatment facility, which ensures the waste water limit values are met in all operating conditions thereby protecting the receiving stream.

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