

Template for NZTIWF Abstract

TRAINING AND OPTIMISATION – INSEPARABLE BEASTS

“Wet” Industries, such as dairy, meat, and pulp and paper processing, produce large volumes of typically high strength wastewater. Whether this wastewater is being treated on site prior to discharge or discharged for treatment at the municipal treatment plant, it provides a costly distraction from the core business of the industry and represents a significant risk.

Many such industries are now installing complex chemical and/or biological wastewater treatment processes, such as dissolved air flotation (DAF) and variations of activated sludge. Not only do these incur significant capital costs, but also high operating costs through power and chemical consumption, labour, and sludge disposal. Often existing personnel, who are also responsible for a range of other duties, are expected to operate these treatment plants.

Wastewater treatment plants cannot be operated optimally unless they are well understood, and they will not be understood without training. Training does not necessarily have to be formal or qualification based. The key is identifying what skills are required to understand the treatment processes, and finding the most cost effective way of delivering this training. In many instances the key training outcome is simply that all employees on site understand the basic role and function of the treatment plant, and are aware that it is not appropriate just to flush any unwanted waste down the drain.

Skilled Operators can optimise wastewater treatment processes, potentially providing significant cost savings to the industries through reduced power and chemical consumption, and reduced sludge disposal costs.

Please enter all author names in the table below. Please mark the presenting author in **BOLD**

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