

# William G. Conner P.E., DEE

Saudi Aramco

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- Agenda
  - Background/Need
  - Testing
  - Benefits
  - Conclusions

- Background
  - Industrial/Oily WW
    - Hard-to-treat
      - Bio-refractory organics
    - Not suitable for most reuse applications
  - WW discharge regulations tightening
  - Water shortages
  - Existing technology not reliable/too costly

• Need for:

- Reliable, small footprint IWWT
- Increased removal of contaminants
  - Existing or stricter discharge standards
- Reuse of wastewater due to:
  - Water shortages
  - Cost of fresh water

- Applications:
  - Petroleum Refining
  - Petrochemicals
  - Produced Water from Oil/Gas Production
  - Landfill Leachate

- BAC MBR Advantages
  - Small footprint
  - High COD and TOC removal efficiency
  - Bio-refractory organics removal
  - No gravity clarification
    - More stable less upsets
  - Wastewater reuse potential
  - Lower capital, operating & maintenance costs

- Saudi Aramco PAC MBR Testing
  - Complex refinery WW
    - Highly variable
    - High concentrations of refractory organics
    - Effluent compliance difficult
  - Side-by-side test with MBR

# PAC MBR Pilot Test Unit





Petro(tm)MBR Effluent

PAC Petro(tm)MBR Effluent

#### **Refinery Wastewater Blend MBR Effluent**











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# **Test Results**

	<b>Feed</b>	<u>MBR</u>	PAC MBR
		<u>Removal %</u>	<u>Removal %</u>
BOD	~400 mg/L	(~4 mg/L)	(~5 mg/L)
		99%	99%
COD	~750 mg/L	(151 mg/L) 81%	(46 mg/l) 92%
TOC	~200 mg/L	(27 mg/L)	(11 mg/L)
		86%	94%

# **RO Test Results**

	MBR	PAC MBR
Silica - Total	1.1 mg/L	<0.2 mg/L
Turbidity	0.43 NTU	<0.18 NTU
Total Dissolved Solids	238 mg/L	27 mg/L

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- PAC MBR Results Summary
  - Excellent refractory removal
  - Excellent effluent quality feed to an RO
  - Very stable
  - No fouling
  - Significant abrasion
    - Up to 40% reduction in life expectancy
  - Continuous PAC replacement
    - More sludge
    - PAC replacement costs

# Membrane Abrasion



# 30 days







125)



500X

# Saudi Aramco developed & patented GAC MBR

- All advantages of PAC MBR
- Solves the problems
  - GAC vs. PAC
    - GAC can be screened / separated from MOS tank No membrane abrasion from carbon contact
    - GAC not wasted with RAS less carbon use & less sludge generated

# **GAC** Pilot Unit



- GAC MBR testing
  - Refractory organic feed
  - Same operational advantages as PAC MBR
    - MBR no clarifier
    - Improved refractory removal efficiency
    - Stable carbon improves system recovery
    - Lower EPS concentrations
    - Biological regeneration of the GAC
    - Green technology

# GAC MBR – Samples





**GAC MBR Results** 

- Saudi Aramco Plans
  - Field pilot confirmation
  - Refinery applications marine
    - Eliminate marine discharge
    - Reuse WW lower desalination costs
  - Gas Plant applications inland
    - Eliminate evaporation ponds
    - Reuse WW
      - Reduce groundwater consumption
      - Reduce desalination costs

- Saudi Aramco Plans Continued
  - Extend partnership with Siemens to:
    - Develop a full-size system
    - Improve the operational economics

----- Conclusions -----

GAC MBR advantages

- Very stable system
- Bio-regeneration of GAC
- Green technology effluent reuse/same or lower energy requirements
- Lower operating costs
  - No abrasion of membranes
  - Less sludge
  - Less carbon consumption



# Thank you