

Changing Clarification Program to Reduce Wastewater Sludge Saves US\$2,882

Challenge

Production expansion at this Midwest U.S. metal finishing job shop had increased the flow to the wastewater treatment plant, adversely affecting the chrome removal process using ferrous sulfate and a polymer.

Solution

After jar tests of different coagulants and an anionic polymer, GE Water & Process Technologies recommended using KlarAid* PC2705 polymeric coagulant and PolyFloc* AE1125 high-molecular-weight anionic polymer to produce a fast forming and quick settling floc. The new coagulant was easier to handle and feed, and settled solids more rapidly, which allowed faster throughput and contributed much less weight to the sludge produced.

Results

After six months of the new treatment program, during which time production had increased by 19%, sludge generation was down by 5%, eliminating 1.5 tons (1.4 metric tons) of solid waste per year. The net annual savings from the more efficient wastewater treatment totaled US\$2,882.



Find a contact near you by
visiting gewater.com or
e-mailing custhelp@ge.com.

Global Headquarters
Trevose, PA
+1-215-355-3300

Americas
Watertown, MA
+1-617-926-2500

Europe/Middle East/Africa
Heverlee, Belgium
+32-16-40-20-00

Asia/Pacific
Shanghai, China
+86 (0) 411-8366-6489

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