Dow Water & Process Solutions

DOW™ Ultrafiltration Treats Municipal Wastewater Reused by Arizona Community

DOW UF replaces existing competitor UF system to provide more output with reduced costs

Dow Water & Process Solutions, a business unit of The Dow Chemical Company, provided Ultrafiltration Membrane Technology to treat tertiary effluent for water reuse through aquifer recharge in Fountain Hills, Arizona. The town of Fountain Hills relies on water reclamation to maintain aquifers at sufficient levels while preserving their drinking water. The reclaimed water is then reused by residents and businesses by pulling it back up from the aquifer through municipal wells at a different location.

The existing microfiltration system had modules with 50 m² of membrane area to produce 2.5 MGD. The plant capacity was increased to 4.95 MGD using the larger, more efficient DOW™ SFD-2880 Module with 77 m² of membrane area. The hydrophilic PVDF fibers used in the Dow modules facilitate easy cleaning and long term performance at a flux of 36 gfd. Producing twice the clean water with fewer modules in the same building footprint, the overall capital cost of the project was cheaper to build new skids with Dow modules than to replace existing modules.

Upgrading the existing microfiltration membrane with Dow’s 0.03 µm pore size PVDF hollow fiber ultrafiltration membrane has increased the rejection of bacteria and viruses. This has allowed the plant to cut costly feed water chlorination, reducing the formation of hazardous disinfection byproducts such as trihalomethanes (THM) helping to create a safe, long term water supply.

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<tr>
<th>Fast Facts</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Country</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>End-User</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Start-Up Date</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Temperature</strong></td>
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| **Feed Water Source** | Municipal Wastewater  
|                     | Tertiary Effluent |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong># of Modules</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Design Flux</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Plant Capacity</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Recovery</strong></td>
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| **Filtrate Quality** | Turbidity <0.1 NTU  
|                     | 100% of the time    |
Operating Conditions | Frequency | Duration | Chemical Consumption
--- | --- | --- | ---
Filtration | – | 40 min | None
Air Scour | Every 40 min | 30 s | None
Backwash | Every 40 min | 30 s | None
Forward Flush | Every 40 min | 60 s | None
CEB | Oxidant every 24 hours | 15 min | 1000 ppm NaOCl
CIP | Every 30 days, typically longer | 3 hr | 0.2% HCl, 0.1% NaOH, 0.2% NaOCl

Wastewater Treatment Process

Raw Wastewater ↓
Screening ↓
Grit Removal ↓
Aeration Basins ↓
Clarifiers ↓
Tertiary Filters ↓
Strainer ↓
**DOW™ Ultrafiltration** ↓
UV Disinfection ↓
Aquifer Injection

Call us directly
North America 1-800-648-9260
International 650-800-7818

Call our Customer Information Group
North America 1-800-447-4369
Europe +800 3 694 6367
China 400-889-0789
Latin America +55-11-5188-9555

www.dowwaterandprocess.com