Cheese Factory Optimizes Treatment System and Resolves Odor Problem with MICROBE-LIFT® Technology

Location: **Cheese Factory, Ohio**

Background: A small cheese factory with an activated sludge system was experiencing high levels of sulfide and mercaptan odors, high solids that clogged sand filters, and poor settling in their clarifier. All these problems were signs of inadequate treatment efficiency. Their 10,000-gallon daily flow was discharged to a 140,000-gallon aerobic digester, which then decanted to a clarifier where significant polymer addition was required to achieve settling.

Objective: This factory had experienced numerous odor complaints and their clogged sand filters required ever-increasing maintenance. They were having difficulty meeting discharge limits and were well aware that their system was not providing effective or cost-efficient treatment. MICROBE-LIFT®/IND was the prescribed treatment.

Results Achieved: Based on the recommendation of Ecological Laboratories' technical staff, a shock dose of MICROBE-LIFT®/IND was added to all tanks in the system. As a result, sulfide and mercaptan odors were reduced by an estimated 95-100% in 24 hours. The air system was then changed to provide more dissolved oxygen to the aeration tanks. MICROBE-LIFT®/IND in the aeration tanks resulted in clearer water and improved settling in the clarifier. Use of polymer in clarifier to achieve settling was completely suspended resulting in substantial cost savings to the factory.

This plant maintains treatment efficacy using a low maintenance dose of MICROBE-LIFT®/IND which effectively maintains reduced odors, low TSS, and efficient settling in the clarifier. The cost of treatment is more than covered by the elimination of the use of expensive polymers. Combined with reduced maintenance on the sand filters, this treatment provides a handsome return on investment.

For more information on MICROBE-LIFT® Technology contact

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