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Energy-Efficient Effluent Filtration



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Effluent filtration serves for increased removal of suspended solids (SS), BOD, COD, phosphorus (P) and nitrogen (N). About 20 % of German effluent is filtered.

The following filters are in common use:

- Multi-layer and multi-chamber sand filters with periodic water and air backwashing consume around 2.0 kWh/(PE•a) power;
- Continuous moving bed sand filter (e.g. our CONTIFLOW® Sandfilter CFSF) consume about 1.5 kWh/(PE•a);
- Microstrainers with a mesh size of 10 100 micron (e.g. our RoDisc® Rotary Mesh Screen) consume ca. 1.0 kWh/(PE•a);
- Membrane Bio-Reactors perform not only biological treatment, but also excellent filtration.

Where precipitation or flocculation is required, sand filters should be provided. Multi-layer sand filters are used at large wastewater plants, while continuous sand filters are more economic at small to medium-size plants.

Microstrainers are less effective than sand filters, but they are significantly less expensive and consume less power.

The following table provides a comparison:

|                                | CONTIFLOW® Sandfilter CFSF |            | Microstrainer RoDisc® Rotary Mesh<br>Screen |           |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|------------|---|-----------|
| SS feed concentration          | 20 mg/l                    | 60 mg/l    | 20 mg/l                                     | 60 mg/l   |
| SS effluent conc.              | < 3 mg/l                   | < 10 mg/l  | < 5 mg/l                                    | < 15 mg/l |
| Power consumption at peak flow | ≈ 10 Wh/m³                 | ≈ 12 Wh/m³ | ≈ 4 Wh/m³                                   | ≈ 6 Wh/m³ |

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HUBER Technology de México, S. de R.L. de C.V.
Homero #136, Int. 1004, Col. Chapultepec Morales, México, D.F. C.P.11570
Tel. (55) 5250 8886 & 6798 7339 \* www.huber.mx
Empresa filial de HUBER SE, certificada ISO-9001 & ISO-14001, www.huber.de