

RBC SERVICES UPDATE

RBC Services
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RBC WEIGHT MONITORING & AERATION

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According to EPA studies performed in the early 1980's, an RBC weight monitoring and aeration system is vital to successful operations. Load cell data can keep you informed of equipment loads and dictate when aeration is required, a duration for the procedure and how often. Maintaining biomass at a particular thickness allows the process to perform at its optimum level.

Ideally, a Load Cell should be applied to each first position RBC, along with additional Load Cells for the lead shaft in any subsequent stages. Monitoring the weight once per week should give you sufficient data on biological activity. Even if you have only one RBC, it is best to know the operating weight.

Some operators may feel they cannot afford the extra time to take Load Cell readings, even though it takes less than 5 minutes to take and record weights. What really takes a lot of time is repairing problems caused by overloading.

A number of RBC operators ask about the white growth which covers the biomass, particularly on the first stage. This is a sulfur consuming bacteria known as "beggiatoa". In some cases, this growth cannot be removed with a chemical addition. This may not be a problem at your facility, but if it is, an aeration system is generally the remedy.

In the past several years, quite a number of plants have installed an aeration system for biomass control. If you would like some information regarding the effects of RBC aeration, give me a call. We will send the information you need.

While there are other methods of stripping excess biomass, aeration is the only one which does not disrupt operations. An added benefit of the system is enhancement of the overall RBC process. Studies done by independent firms have proved this.

Regardless of how you look at it, Load Cells and Aeration is the best combination for enhancing the RBC process and protecting the City's major investment represented by the RBCs at your facility.

If you have any questions on how these systems can help your RBCs, please give me a call. I'm sure we can help.