

Dutch from origin....International in scope



Water ... a precious resource

Lessons Learnt In Facility Design, Tendering
and Operation of MBR's for Industrial and
Municipal Wastewater Treatment

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Lessons Learnt



Carrousel® MBR, Sonac

Turn-key project

Consultancy and Engineering



*135.000 pc
Largest in Europe
(1998)*



Item	Influent	Effluent	Efficiency
	mg/l	mg/l	%
COD	5.000 – 10.000	< 65	> 99
BOD	3.000 – 7.000	< 5	> 99
TKN	900 – 1.350	< 5	> 99
NH4 - N	> 80 % of TKN	< 1	> 99
TN		< 10	> 99
TSS	200 - 500	< 1	> 99

12 – 13 g MLSS/l

Design flux 42 l/(m².h) at T > 25 °C

start-up: 1998 (Membrane lifetime > 5 years)

MBR at Vos Logistics

Turn-key project

Consultancy and Engineering



**Retrofit
of SBR**

Item	Influent	Effluent	Efficiency
	mg/l	mg/l	%
COD	2.500 – 8.000	< 400	> 90
BOD	25 – 40 % of COD	< 10	> 99
FOG	200 – 300	< 1	> 99
TSS	200 – 500	0	100

25 g MLSS/l

Design flux 100 - 150 l/(m².h) at T > 30 °C

Cross flow intensive cleaning

start-up: 2000



MBR at Rendac

EPCM project

Consultancy and Engineering



*Largest in Europa
400.000 pe*



Item	Influent	Effluent	Efficiency
	mg/l	mg/l	%
COD	4.000 – 12.000	< 100	> 98
BOD	50 – 70 % of COD	< 10	> 99
TKN	900 – 1.400	< 5	> 99
NH ₄ – N	> 80 % of TKN	< 1	> 99
TN		< 10	> 99
TSS	< 1.000	< 1	> 99

10 – 13 g MLSS/l

Design flux 30 - 35 l/(m².h) at T > 25 °C

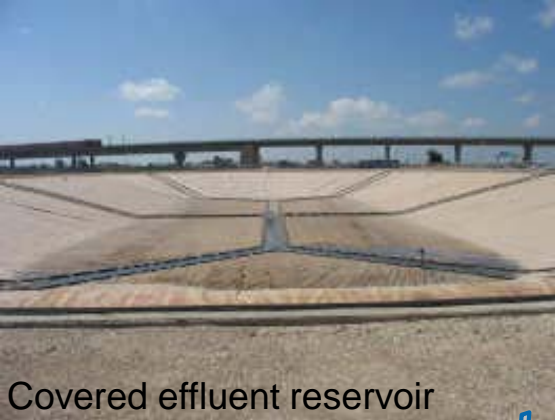
MC in air (developed in Beverwijk)

start-up: 2002



MBR at Ben Gurion Airport

full water reuse, phased construction (3 → 5 MLD)



Covered effluent reservoir

First municipal in Israel



Covered MBR in "air wing"

Item	Influent	Target	Currently ¹
	mg/l	mg/l	mg/l
COD	1.250	< 70	
BOD	650	< 5	1
TKN	75		0.1
TN		< 10	
TP	17	< 0.2	
Turb.			1 NTU

Phased construction: 3 → 5 MLD

Submerged hollow-fiber

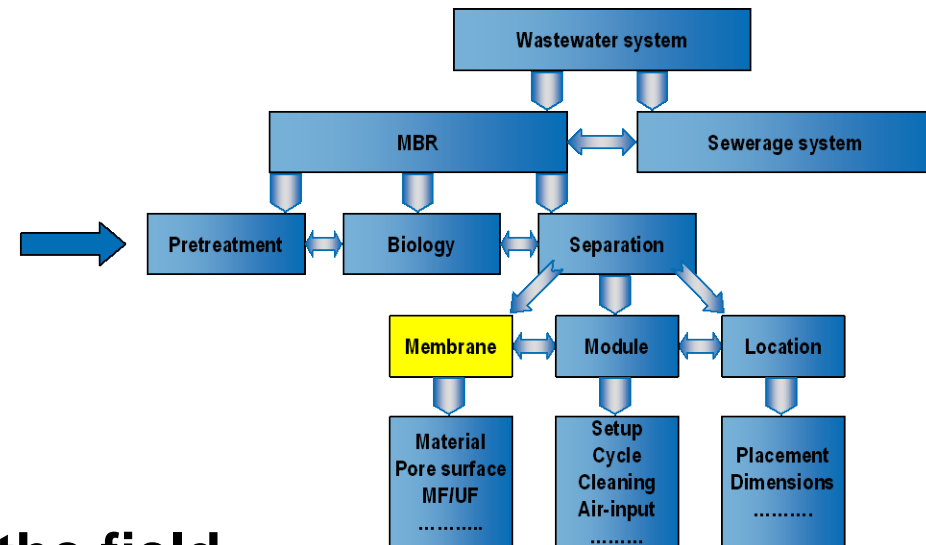
Start-up: early 2008

1) First 3 months of plant operation under full load

MBR: few years ago

- only affordable for higher concentrated waste
- focus on membrane flux and membrane sales

- insufficient know-how on
 - fundamentals
 - field optimisation

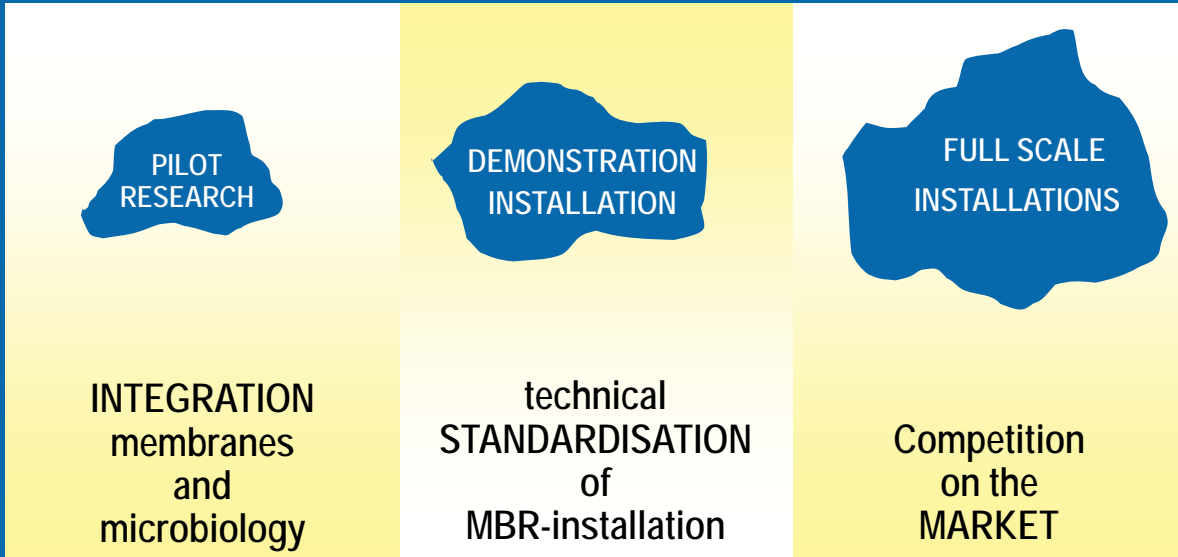


- many negative experience in the field
- no sound engineering standards for large scale application



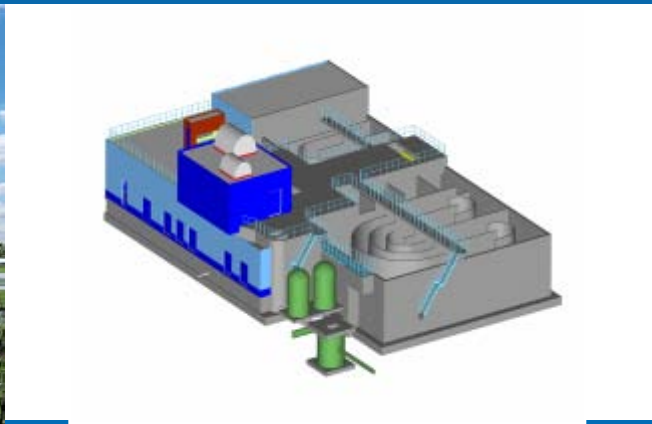
Dutch MBR programme

Three phase approach



01/2000

01/2010

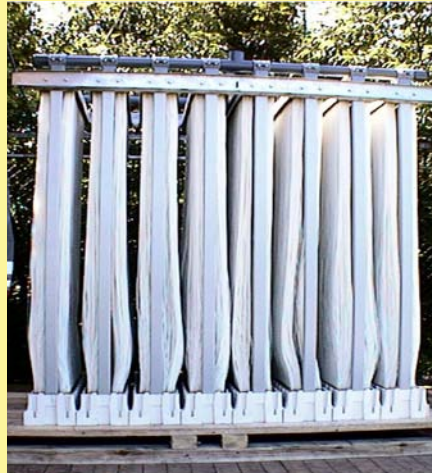


MBR research Beverwijk

4,5 year hands-on operation



Mitsubishi



Zenon



Huber



X-Flow

Kubota



Toray



Memfis



Koch/Puron



Results of pilot

- extensive hands-on experience with most membrane types
 - clear picture on performance, operability aspects and pitfalls
 - determination of “safe” and optimised design and process conditions
- initiation of many technology improvements → opex reduction
 - improved cleaning strategies
 - improved membrane aeration
 - improved control systems
 - improved pre-treatment concepts
 - improved membrane module configurations
- significant contributions to worldwide MBR knowhow (M-cleaning and importance biology)

MBR Varsseveld

Dutch first municipal MBR

Consultancy and Engineering



Waterschap Rijn en IJssel

stowa



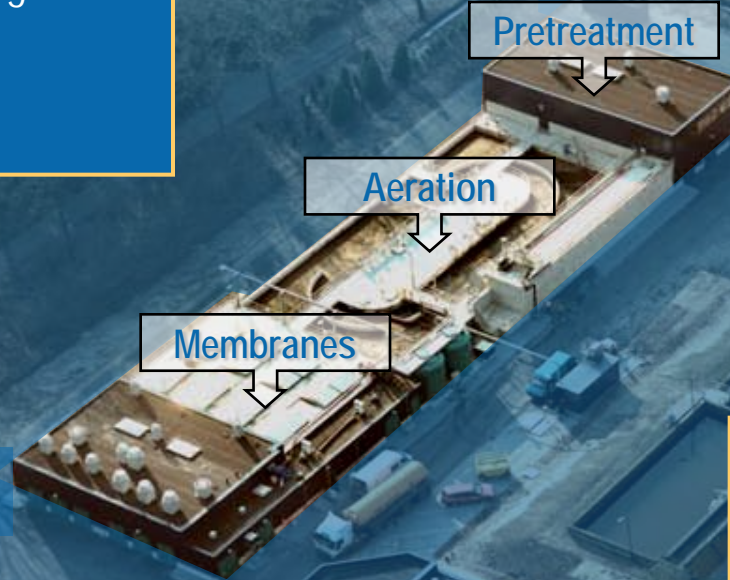
Design:

755 m³/h and 23,150 p.e.

5 mg TN/l and 0.15 mg TP/l

4 membrane tanks

Size = 21 m. x 78 m.



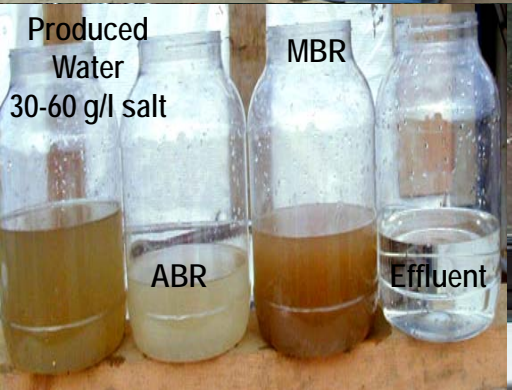
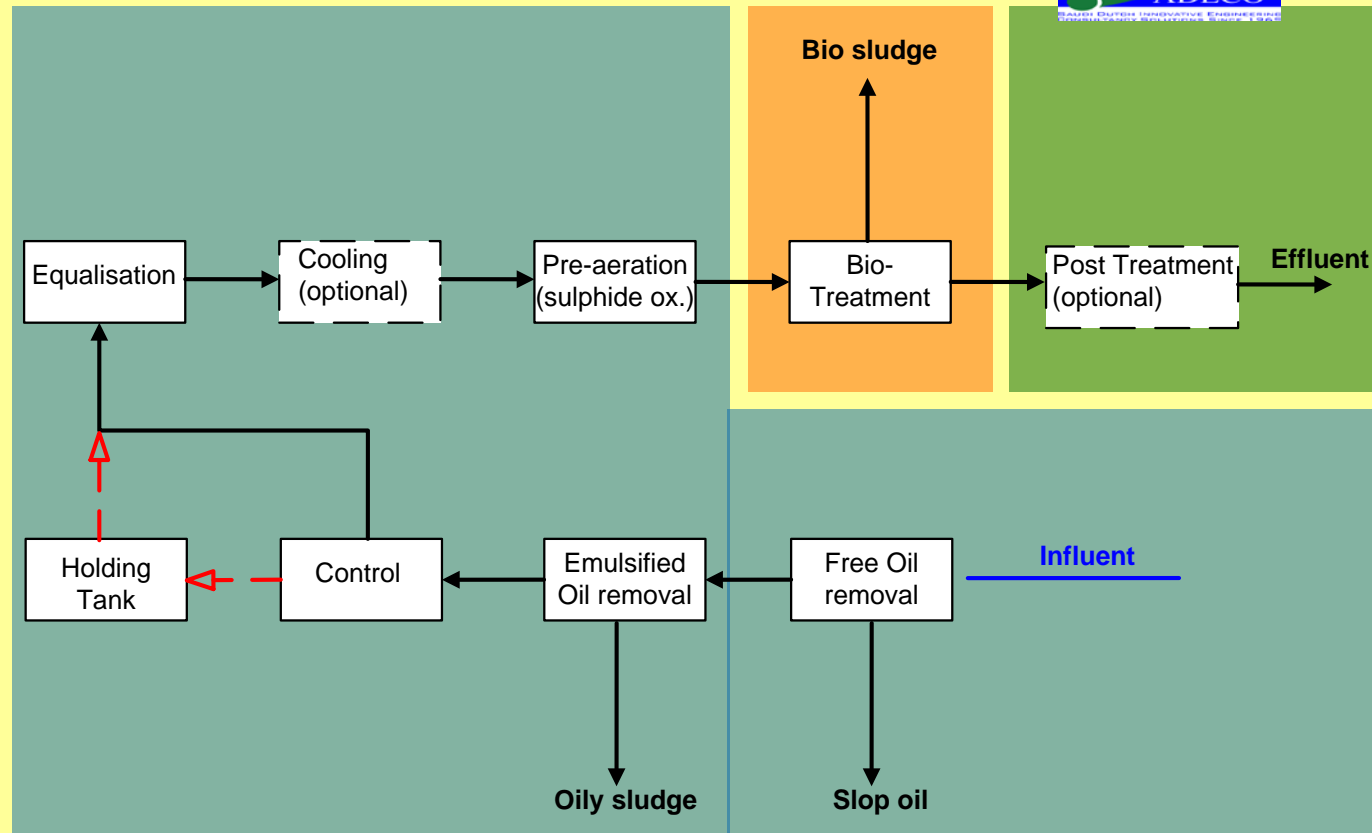
DHV Scope of Works:

- Design & Commissioning
- Initial Operation and Control
- Training of Operators
- Continuous Support and Optimization

MBR going for tougher challenges

high oil content in refineries and produced water

Consultancy and Engineering



Lesson Learnt

- We have learnt many lessons and will probably experience more wise lessons
- Many lessons seem to be obvious, logical or one-liners, but are indeed based on a lesson
- There are too many lessons to cover in this presentation



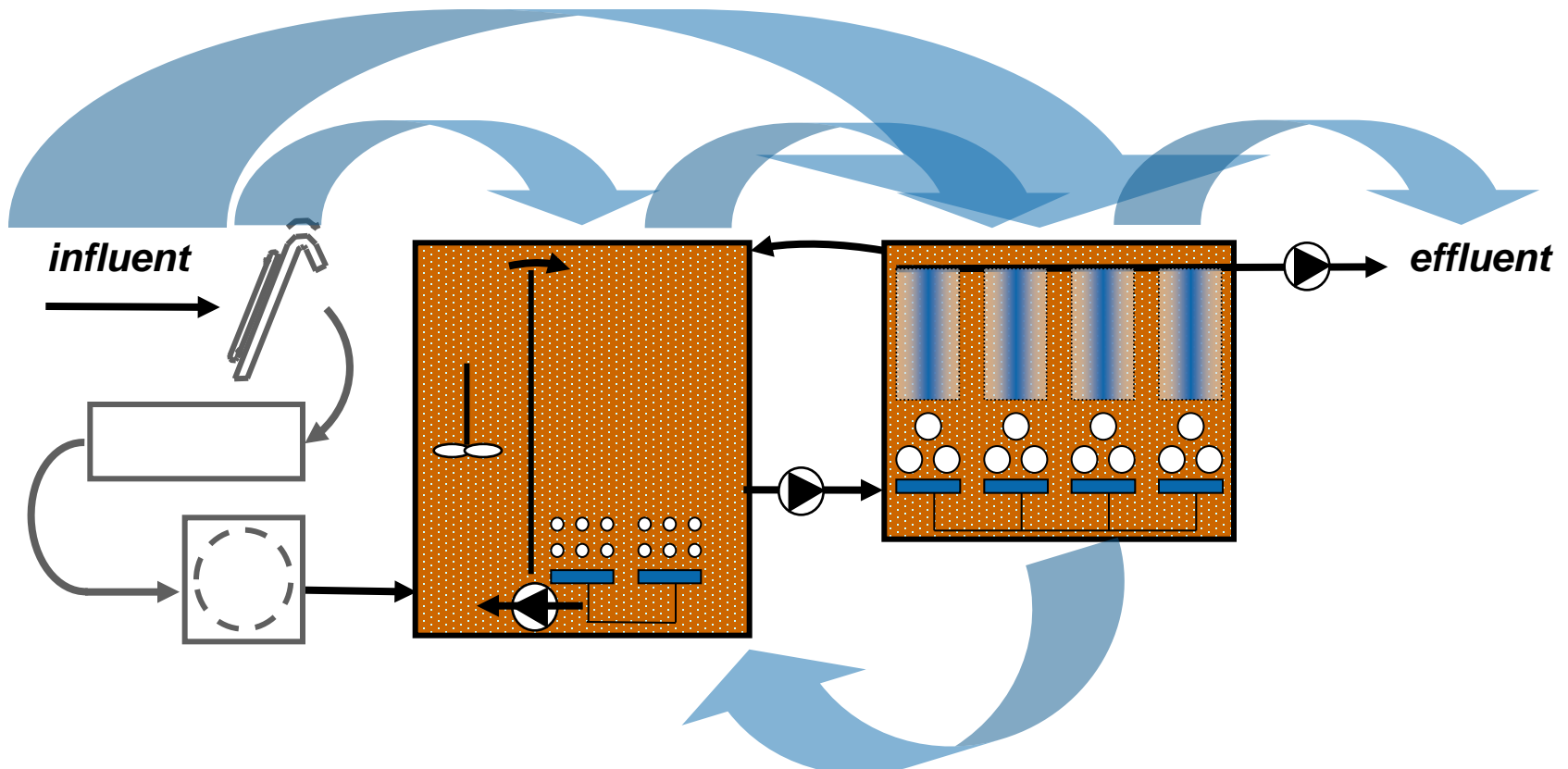
Lessons Learnt

A MBR is more than only a membrane

PRETREATMENT

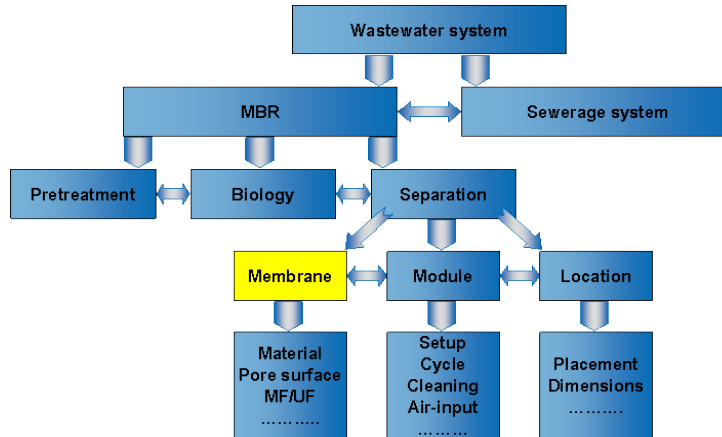
BIOLOGY

MEMBRANE FILTRATION

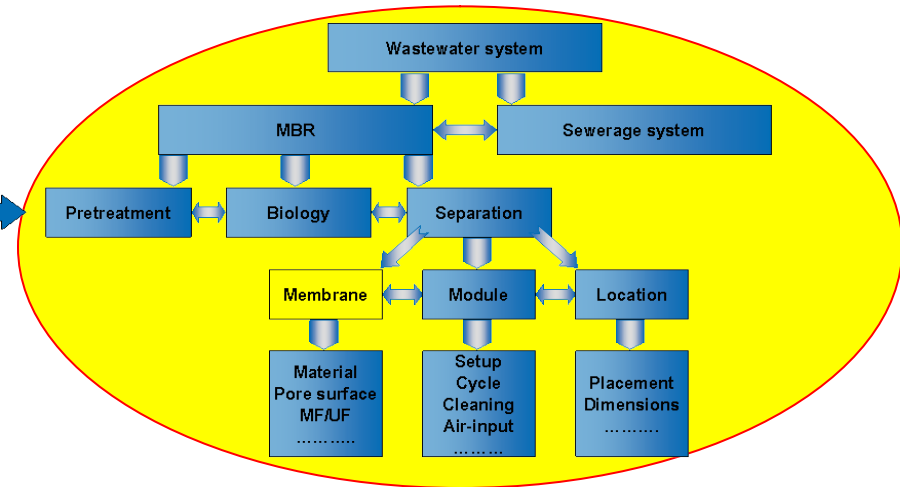


“Dutch” contribution

FROM →



TO →

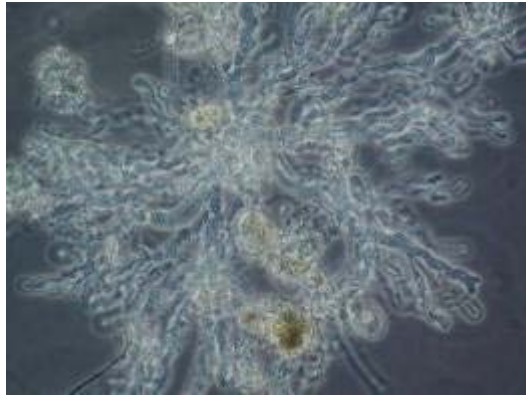


Lessons Learnt

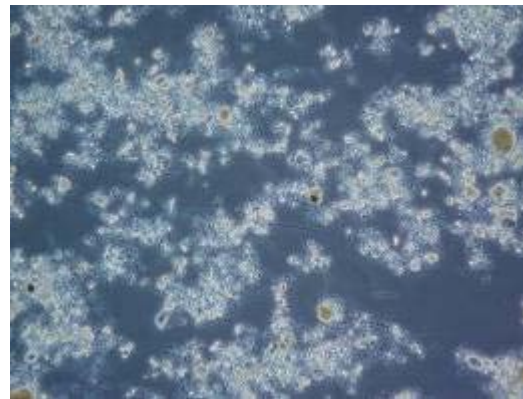
Not the membrane, but the biology is the critical factor

- Biosludge characteristics depends on biotreater design & operation
- It is the biology that gives the pollutants removal

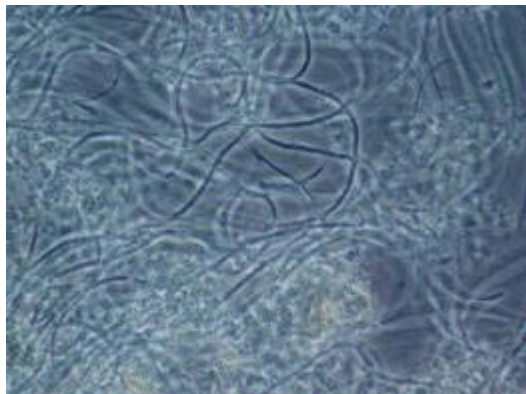
MBR Biosludge Morphology



EPS
Poor allround performance
SVI = 200 – 300ml/g



Fine sludge+EPS
Stress
Ok performance
SVI = 100-150ml/g



EPS
Filamentous
Bad performance
SVI = >300ml/g

MBR Biosludge Morphology



Useful tool:
BioWatch

Sludge bound EPS

+

Big flocs

=

Much Water Phase

=

Excellent

Performance

SVI < 100 ml/g

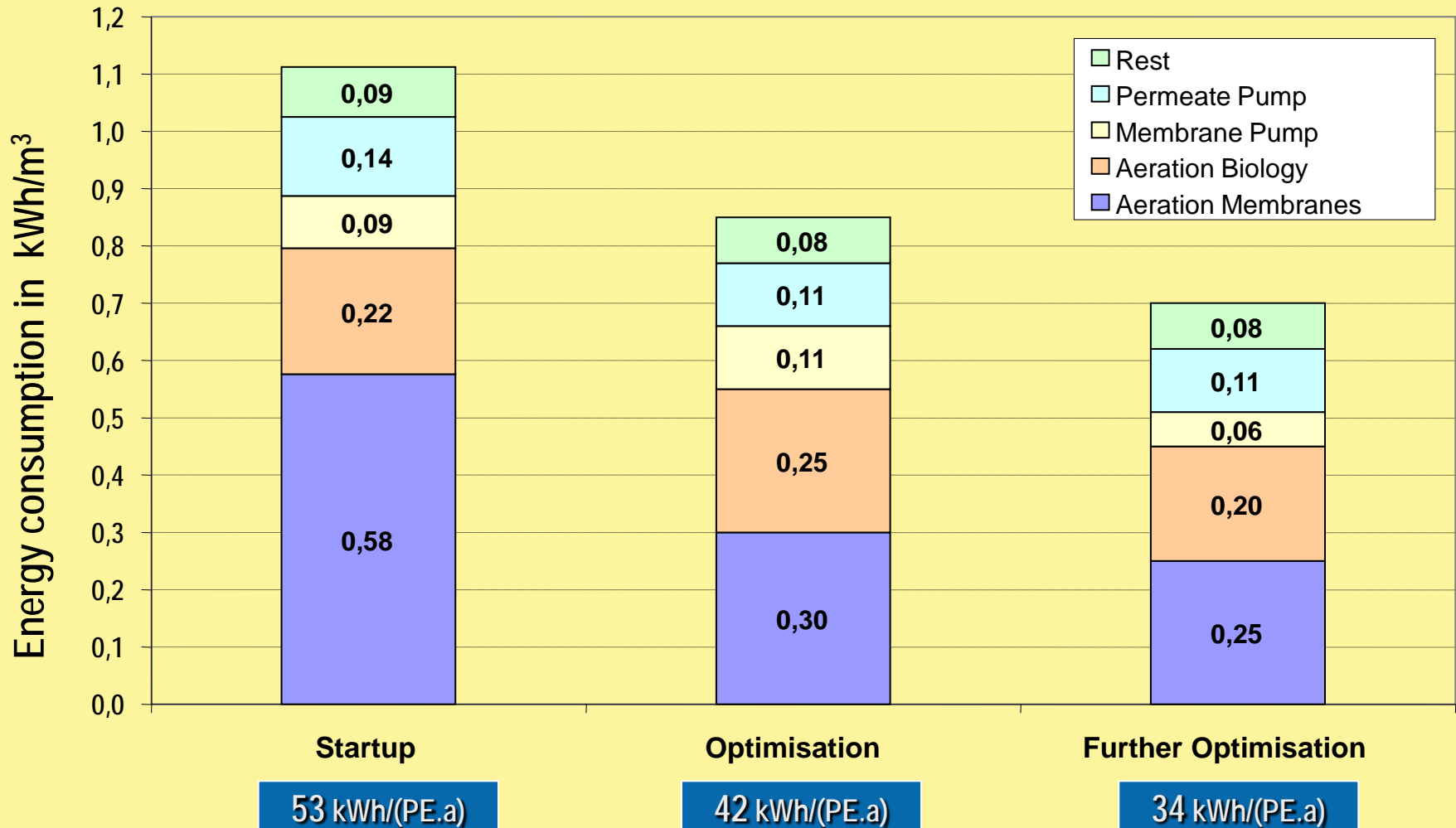


Lessons Learnt

Perfect biosludge characteristics results in low energy consumption and in low membrane fouling

MBR Varsseveld

Energy consumption



Lessons Learnt

It is difficult not to get a good COD-conversion

It requires expertise to obtain good nutrient removal

MBR Varsseveld

Biological performance



Parameter	Influent	Effluent	Efficiency
	mg/l	mg/l	%
COD	824	23	97
Total N	58	3.5	94
Total P	16.3	0.15	99
Suspended solids		0	100
Turbidity		<< 0,1 NTU	
Bacteria and viruses		swimming water	

MBR at Rendac

EPCM project

Consultancy and Engineering



*Largest in Europa
400.000 pe*



Item	Influent	Effluent	Efficiency
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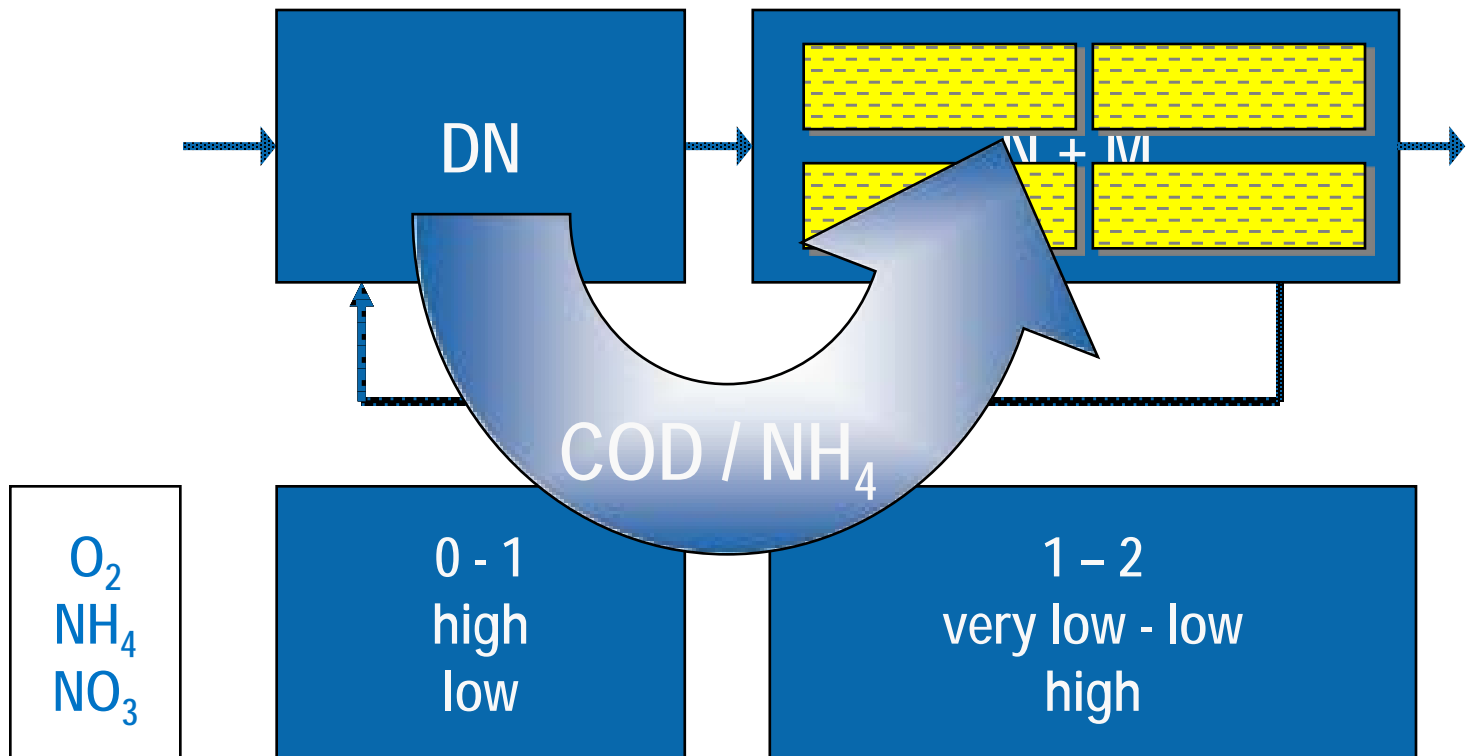
Design flux 30 - 35 l/(m².h) at T > 25 °C

MC in air (developed in Beverwijk)

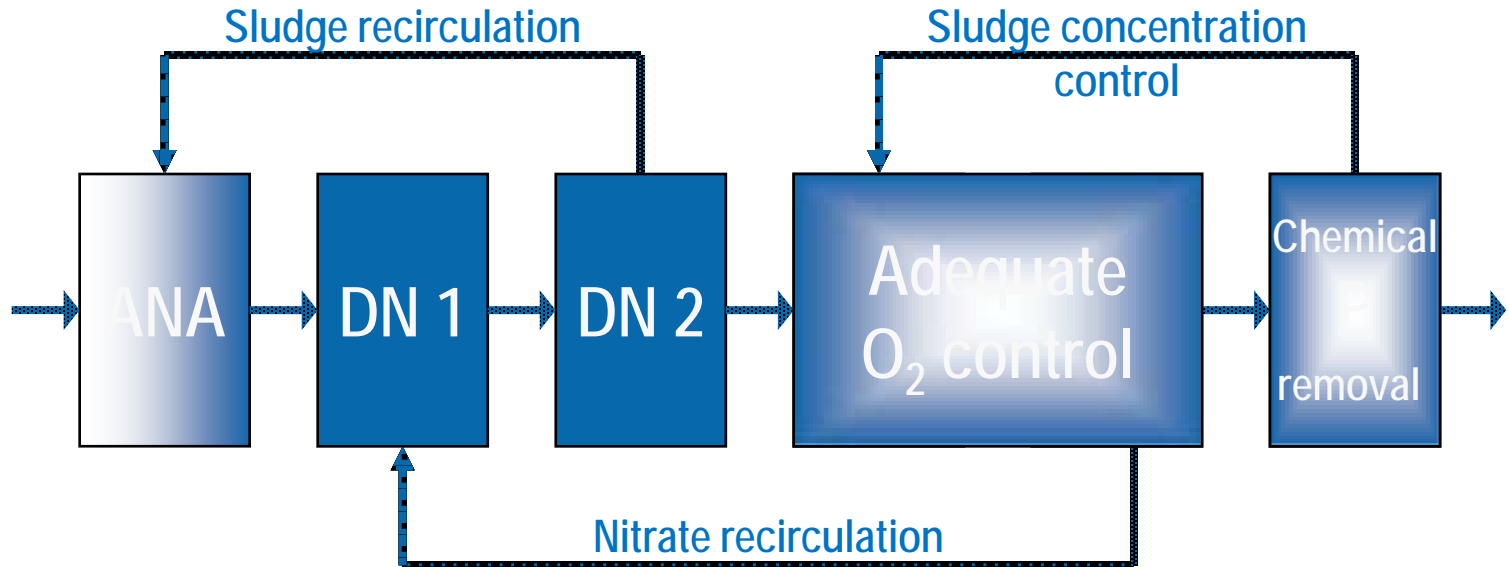
start-up: 2002

Lessons Learnt

Most membranes are good, it's the plant design and operation that makes them to perform well



A better design



O_2 NH_4 NO_3	0 high low	0 high high	0 high 0	2 low lower	0.5 lower low	4 - 8 0 low
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Lessons Learnt

All membranes foul, proper pretreatment design and operation is essential



Lessons Learnt

Do not focus on how rough you can clean fouled membranes, better focus on how gentle

- Pre-requisites
 - No macro-pollution
 - Good sludge quality
 - Perfect process and cleaning control
 - Low TMP
 - Good mix between relaxation, MC and IC (membrane type dependent)
- Results
 - High fluxes
 - Low chemical consumption
 - Stable permeability at low T and RWF

Lessons Learnt

Integrity membranes can be at stake with all

- Plate membranes in Dutch municipal MBR
 - Membrane layer detaches from support within several months after start-up → all membranes replaced
 - Leakage permeate lines/connectors
- Hollow Fiber membranes in Dutch municipal MBR
 - New more effective air cross-flow control strategy → breakage permeate pipe connectors
- Have early warning (e.g. turbidity meter)

Lessons Learnt

For all submerged membranes, air cross-flow is critical to prevent fouling and sludge thickening

- Cross-flow failure → plate membranes clogged within tens of minutes
- Prevent power and air failures





Lessons Learnt

There is not a “best” membrane for a certain application

	Hollow Fiber	Plates	Tubular
Flux	+/-	+/-	+
Energy consumption	+/-	+/-	+
Membrane costs	+	+/-	-
Sludge concentration	+/-	+	-
Pretreatment requirements	+/-	+	+/-

But there is certainly a best design for the membrane in that particular application

Plates or Hollow-Fibers?

World distribution (> 20 m³/d)

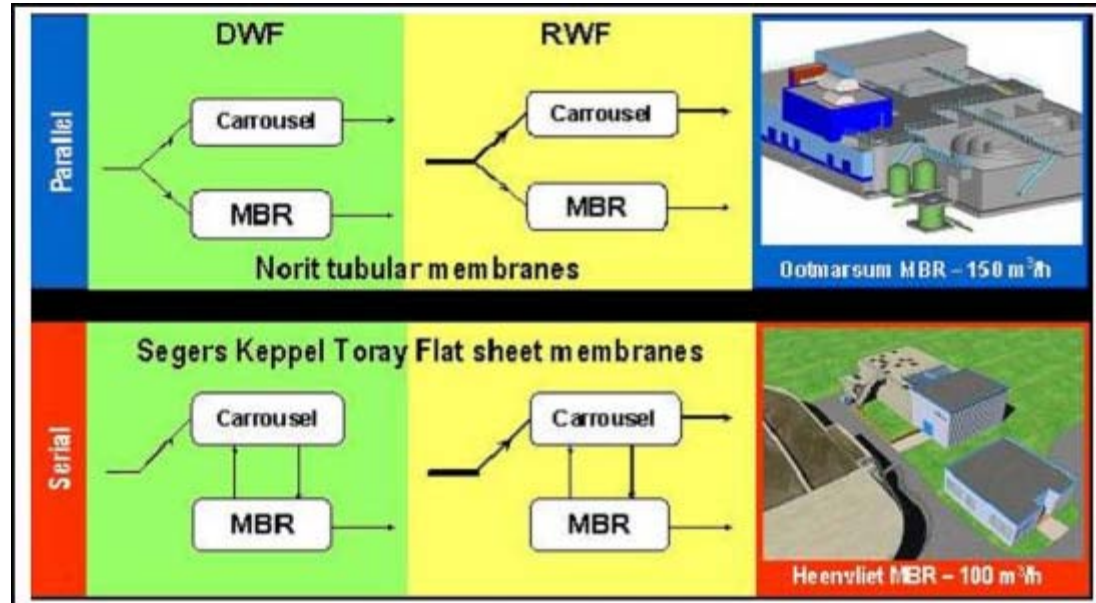


Region	# MBR plants (-)		Total	Capacity MBR plants (m ³ /day)		Totaal
	Plate Membranes	Hollow-Fiber Membranes		Plate Membranes	Hollow-Fiber Membranes	
North America	98	198	296	123.452	368.980	492.432
Asia	241	45	286	159.509	108.132	267.641
Europe	113	56	169	164.357	259.175	423.532
Australia	18	5	23	13.919	30.931	44.850
Africa	12	3	15	1.082	28.239	29.321
South America	3	5	8	703	3.370	4.073
Total	485	312	797	463.022	798.827	1.261.849

Lessons Learnt

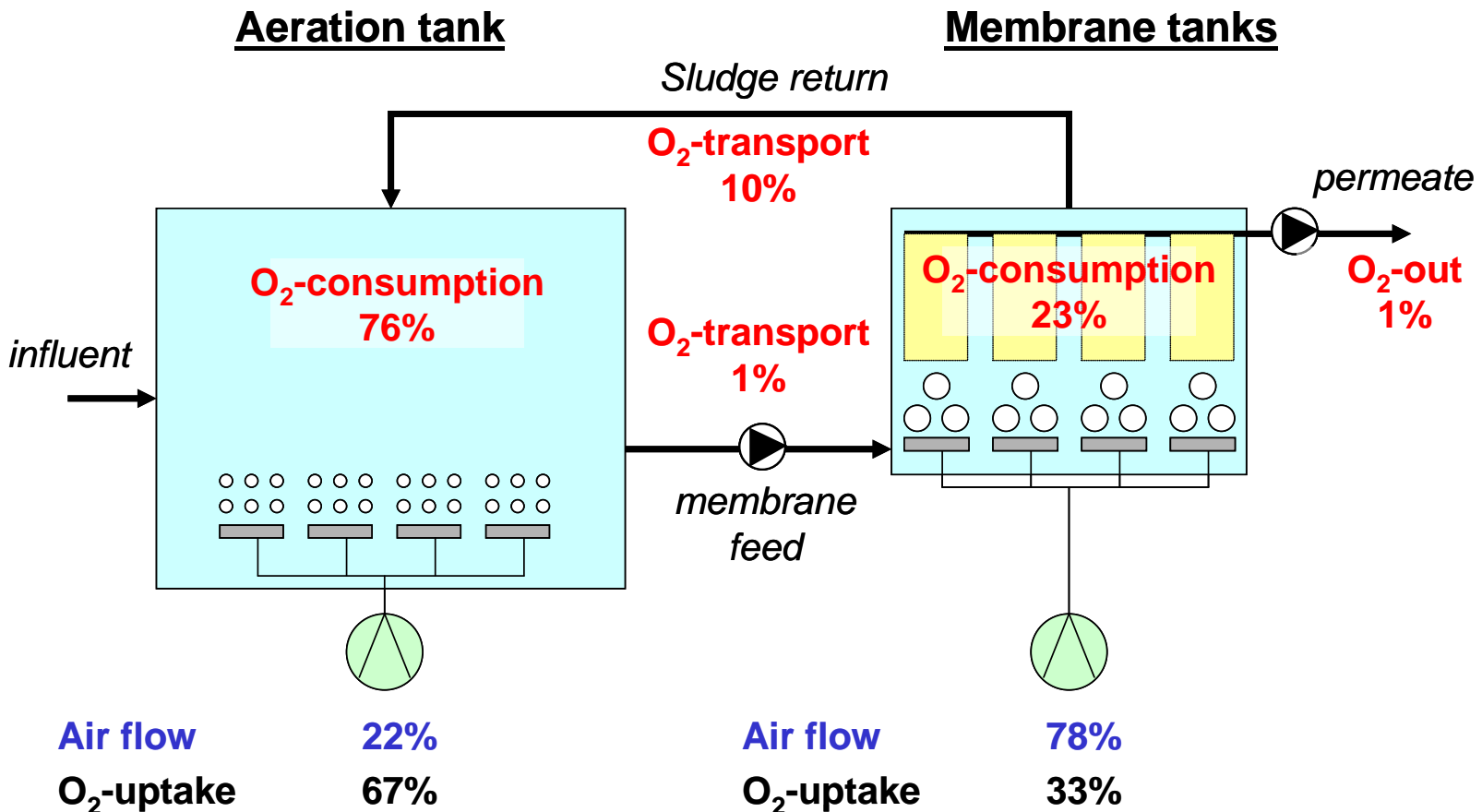
Reduce the maximum membrane capacity as far as possible

- Smart selection of average and maximum flux
- Peak-shaving using existing tanks/clarifiers
- Hybrids



Lessons Learnt

The air cross-flow is the largest energy consumer, optimization essential for acceptable running costs



Lessons Learnt

The air cross-flow is the largest energy consumer, optimization essential for acceptable running costs

- Ensure good biosludge characteristics
- Switch-off membrane lines to operate remaining lines close to optimum flux
- Reduce air flow at higher temperature
- Intermittent operation
- Optimize the critical flux
- Optimize air flow during stand-by mode



Lessons Learnt

In a good designed MBR, it is not the membrane that causes the operational problems.

Lessons Learnt

Expect higher scum productions in MBR's

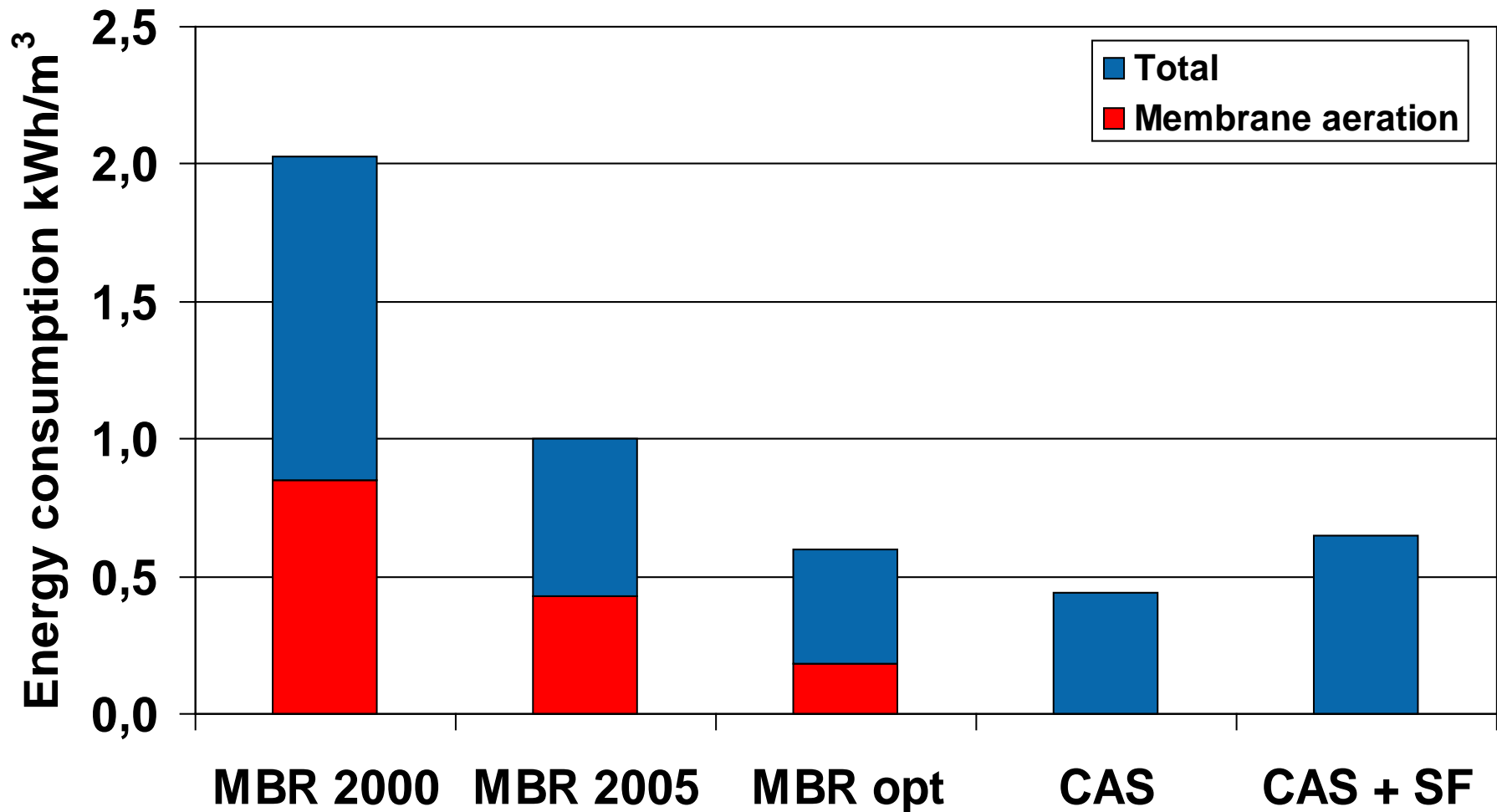
- Higher hydrophobicity by accumulation of hydrophobic compounds
- High air input (membrane cross-flow)
- Higher DS

Lessons Learnt

A MBR is often not the preferred technology if treatment objectives can be met with conventional activated sludge systems or new breakthroughs like the Nereda aerobic granule technology

- MBR versus CAS
 - Energy (optimized systems!)
 - CAS without filter: 50-100% higher
 - CAS with filter: 0- 20%
 - Investments: higher
 - Operating costs: 10-20% higher
WE Price Level, sludge disposal = approx. 40% OPEX
- Use only if “perfect” effluent quality is essential
(e.g. as building block to water reuse)

MBR and CAS





Lessons Learnt

To get a well-performing MBR against acceptable plant-life-time costs a smart tender strategy is often essential



Why a tender strategy ?

- MBR is not a commodity, but tailor-made engineered solution
- Technology is still quickly developing: no standards, no global “know-how sharing”
- Life-cycle-cost depends strongly on
 - Design & Membrane selection
 - Construction details & Appropriate operation
- Sub-optimal design → high costs and/or low performance

Tender strategy aim:

- Get a plant that works well and shows low running costs
- At reasonable investment

Ensure “working well”

Get a guarantee

Design & Construct

Design, Build & Operate

→ Limited effect

- water characteristics never well defined
- limited liability (and endless for the enduser?)
- does not protect against know-how gaps contractor
- contractor blames the operation (not DBO)

Include pilot validation ?

- difficult to fully mimic actual plant
- representative wastewater
- limited inputs for process stability
- limits project competition and makes competition field very/too transparent

→ Essential for industrial wastewater, but focus on

- “transferability” of data
- pilot setup
- experience the wastewater “problems”

The key to success

Ensure appropriate integrated know-how on:

- Biology
- Membranes
- Hands-on operation

How?

- Contractor/Designer/Consultant with proven track-record and experienced team (that will work on your project) → not much parties
- Increase role experienced consultant
 - verify / optimize design
 - “green light” critical details & operation procedures
 - coach during plant start-up & plant optimization



Ensure “reasonable investments”

Use market & competition

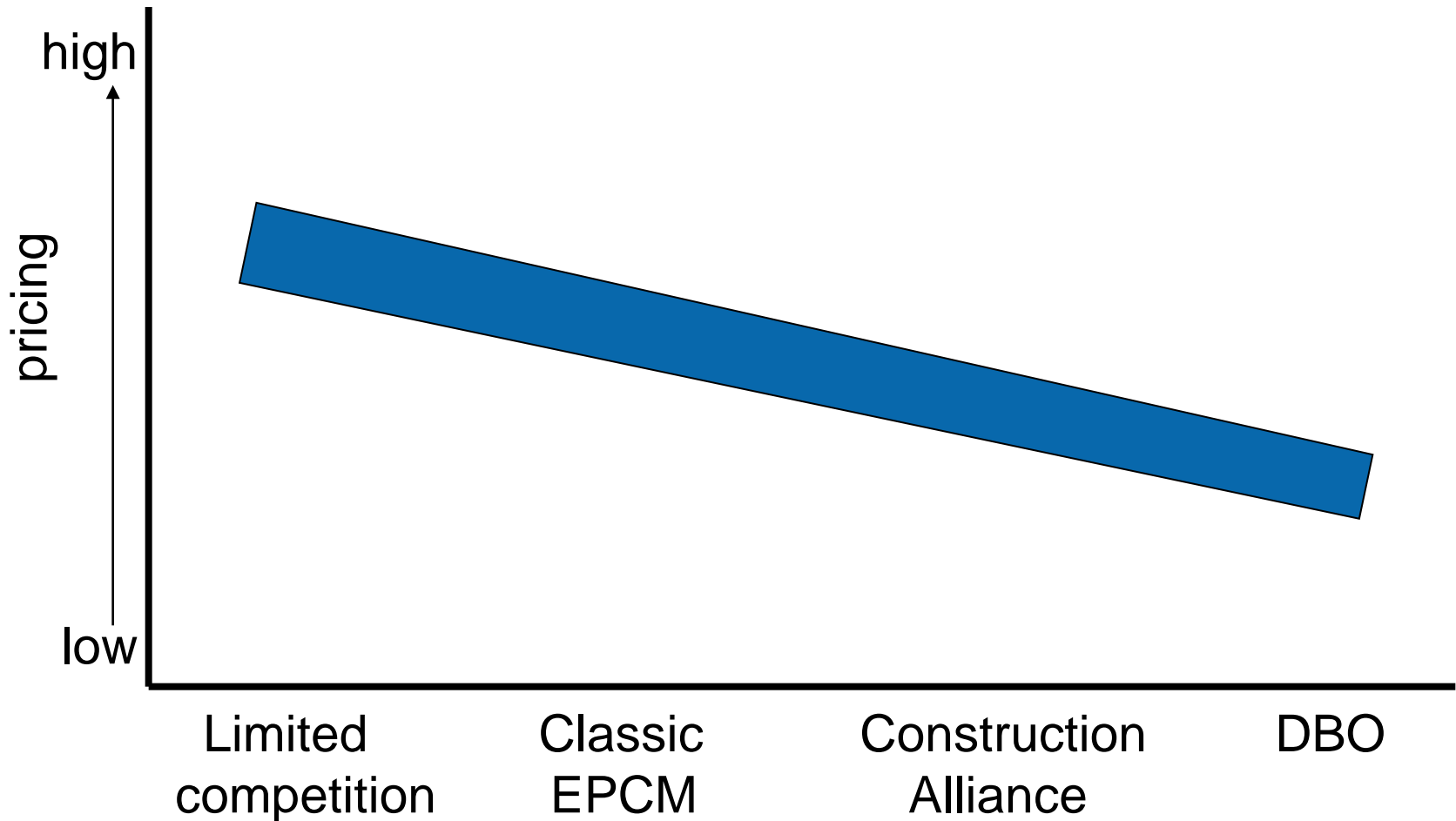
- DB(O)
 - Designers/consultants
 - Construction contractors → many
- } Limited experienced parties

Focus competition in project phase with highest volume → construction

- EPCM with experienced designer
- Increased role experienced consultant
 - verify / optimize design
 - “green light” critical details & operation procedures
 - coach during plant start-up & plant optimization
- Construction Alliance
 - Alliance is Client – Designer
 - Synergy: Classic EPMC and DB



Pricing contract models



Membrane interchangeability

Make the plant independent from the selected membranes during construction phase

- Increase competition
- Rapid improvements

Options:

1. Flexible/Generic membrane box
 - Housing / control adapted to various membranes
 - Active or Latent changeability
2. Plug&Play Concept (Membrane Tank = “Disposable”)
 - Maximum flexibility
 - Complex control interactions
 - Changeability can be expensive

Nautilus™ MBR

DHV's universal Membrane Housing

Consultancy and Engineering



Generic (Exchangable)
Membrane Housing for e.g.:
HUBER / KUBOTA / KOCH
MITSUBISHI / TORAY / ZENON



Membrane independence
Cost reduction
Flexibility

Nautilus™ MBR ASF

Leachate and digester wastewater

Consultancy and Engineering



Item	Influent mg/l	Effluent mg/l	Efficiency %
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10 – 12 g MLSS/l

MC in air (developed in Beverwijk)

start-up with membrane X (2002), 20 m³/h

extended with membrane Y (2005), 40 m³/h

replace first set of membranes by membrane Y (2006)

Conclusion

Consultancy and Engineering



- MBR is a mature and reliable technology, but not yet a commodity and still shows fast evolution
- Especially of interest for water reuse
- MBR requires extensive know-how on design & operation of biology, membranes and interactions
- Many lessons were learnt in design and tendering (and one will continue to do so)
 - make optimal use of existing know-how
- Use international Best-in-Class MBR know-how

Conclusion

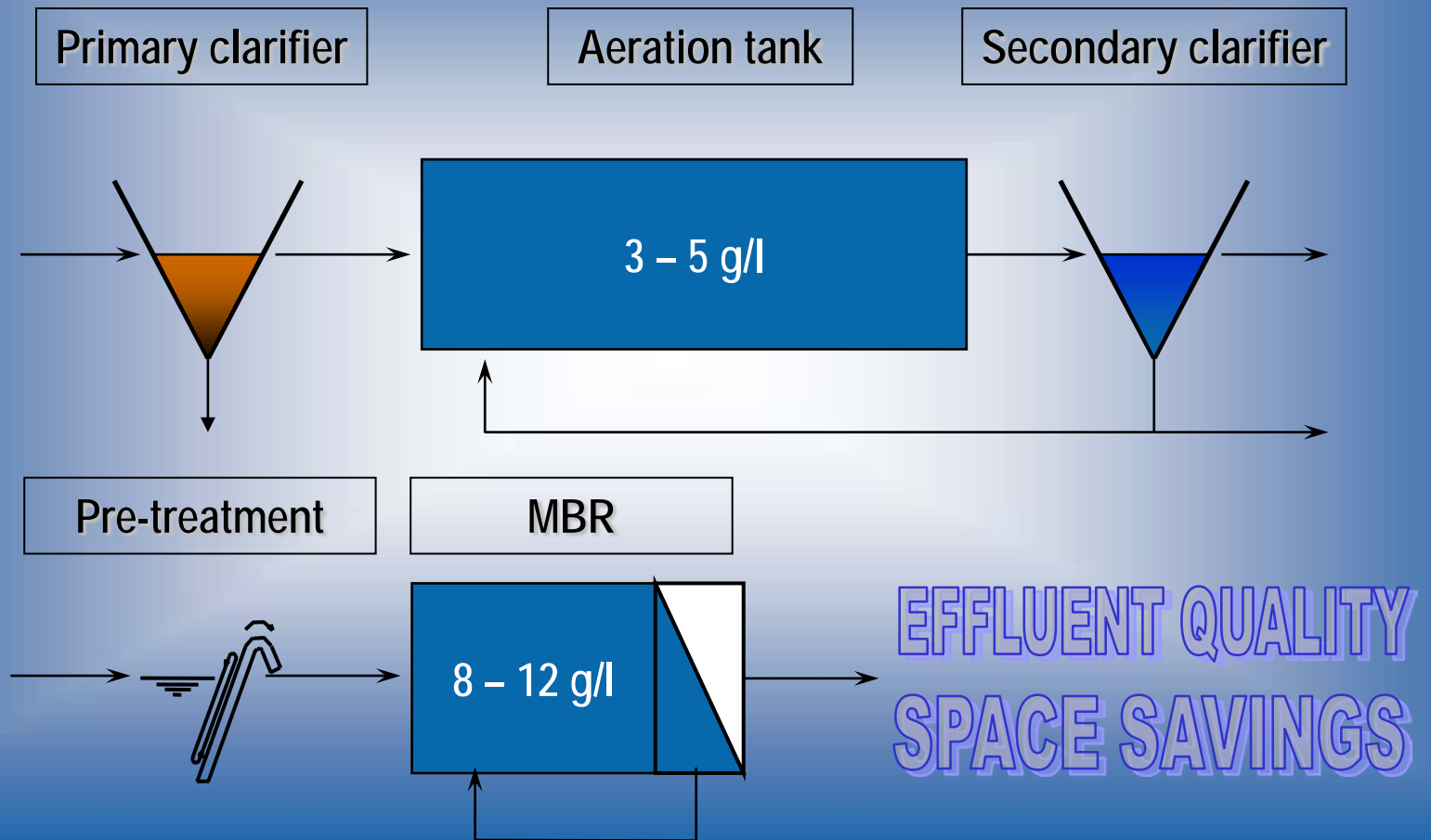
Consultancy and Engineering



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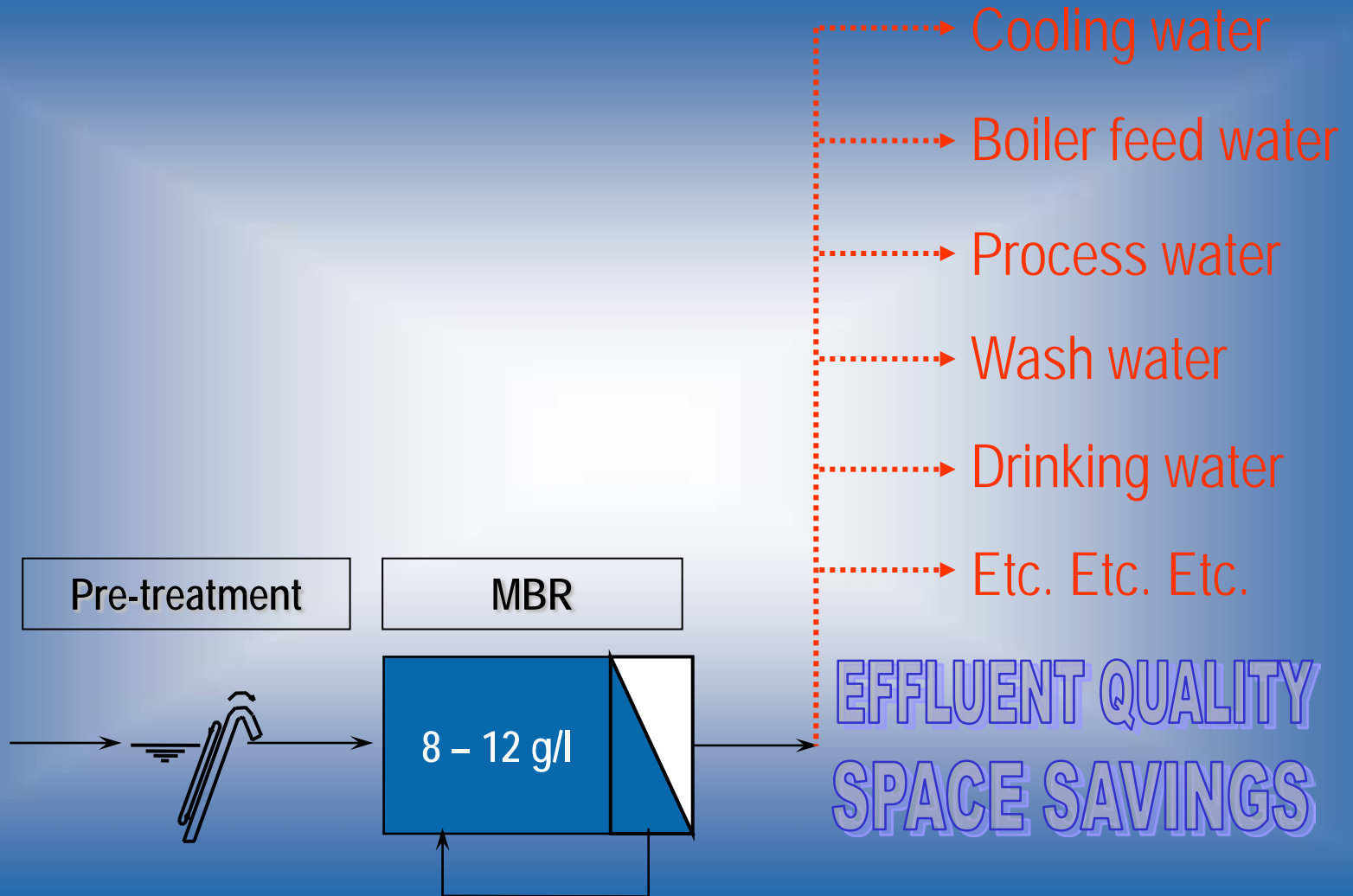


MBR technology





MBR technology



MBR as enabler for integrated and sustainable urban developments

Consultancy and Engineering



MBR Varsseveld

Design and load

Parameter		Design	Influent	
			Average	Min. – Max.
Flow	m ³ /h	755		
	m ³ /d	5,000	4,225	2,100 – 15,600
COD	kg/d	3,000	3,340	990 – 14,900
Total Nitrogen	kg/d	280	228	70 – 820
Total Phosphorous	kg/d	50	66	20 – 330
Energy	kWh/m ³	1.0	0.85	0.8 – 1.2

MBR and energy

MBR Varsseveld

1	2	1	3	4
1	2	2	3	4
1	2	3	3	4
1	2	4	3	4

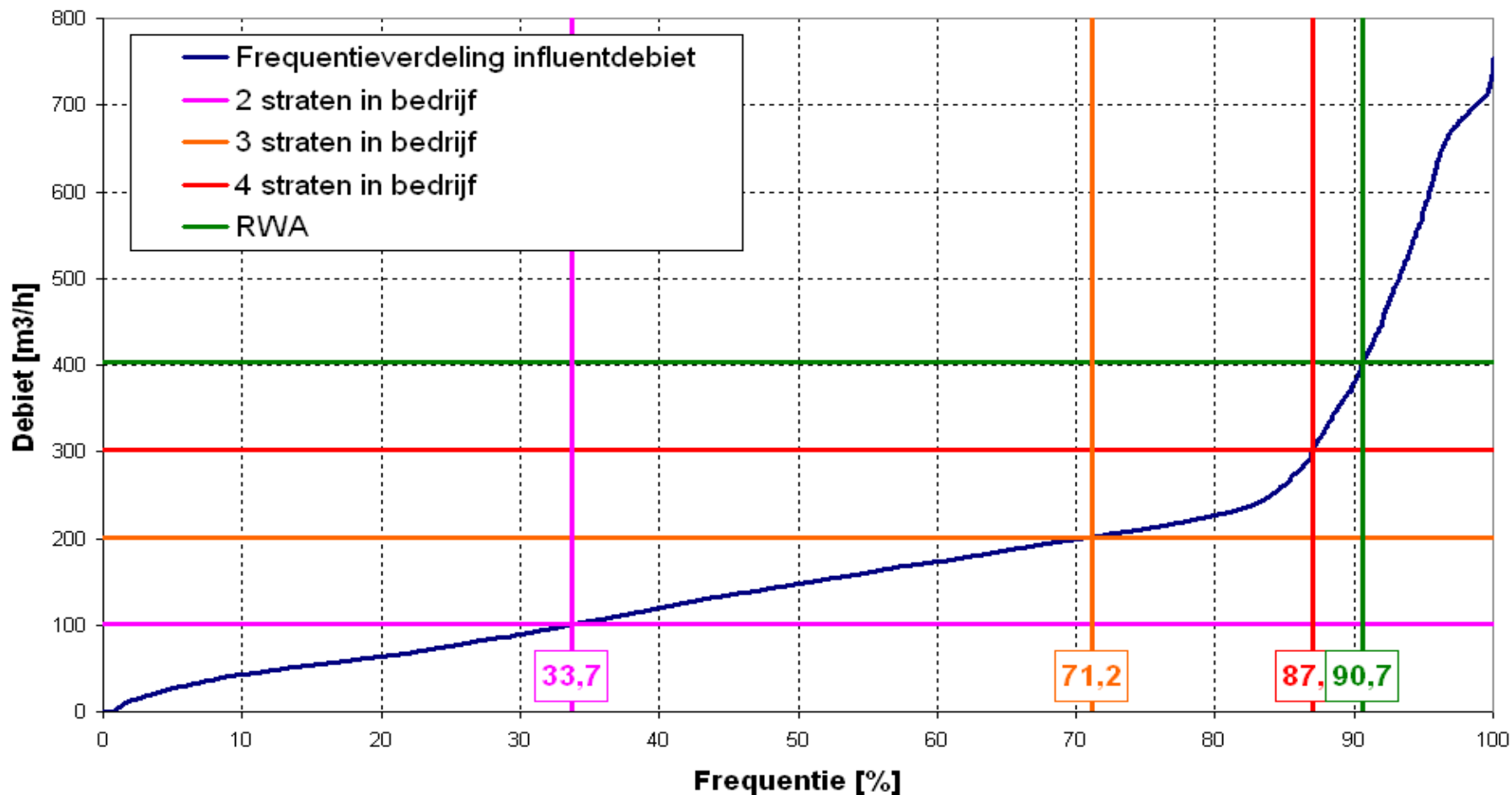


Case	Nett Flux l/(m ² .h)	Period h	Flow per tank m ³ /h
Minimum	10	-	50
Optimal	15 - 25	-	75 - 125
Design	37,5	72	190
Maximum	50	8	250

MBR and energy

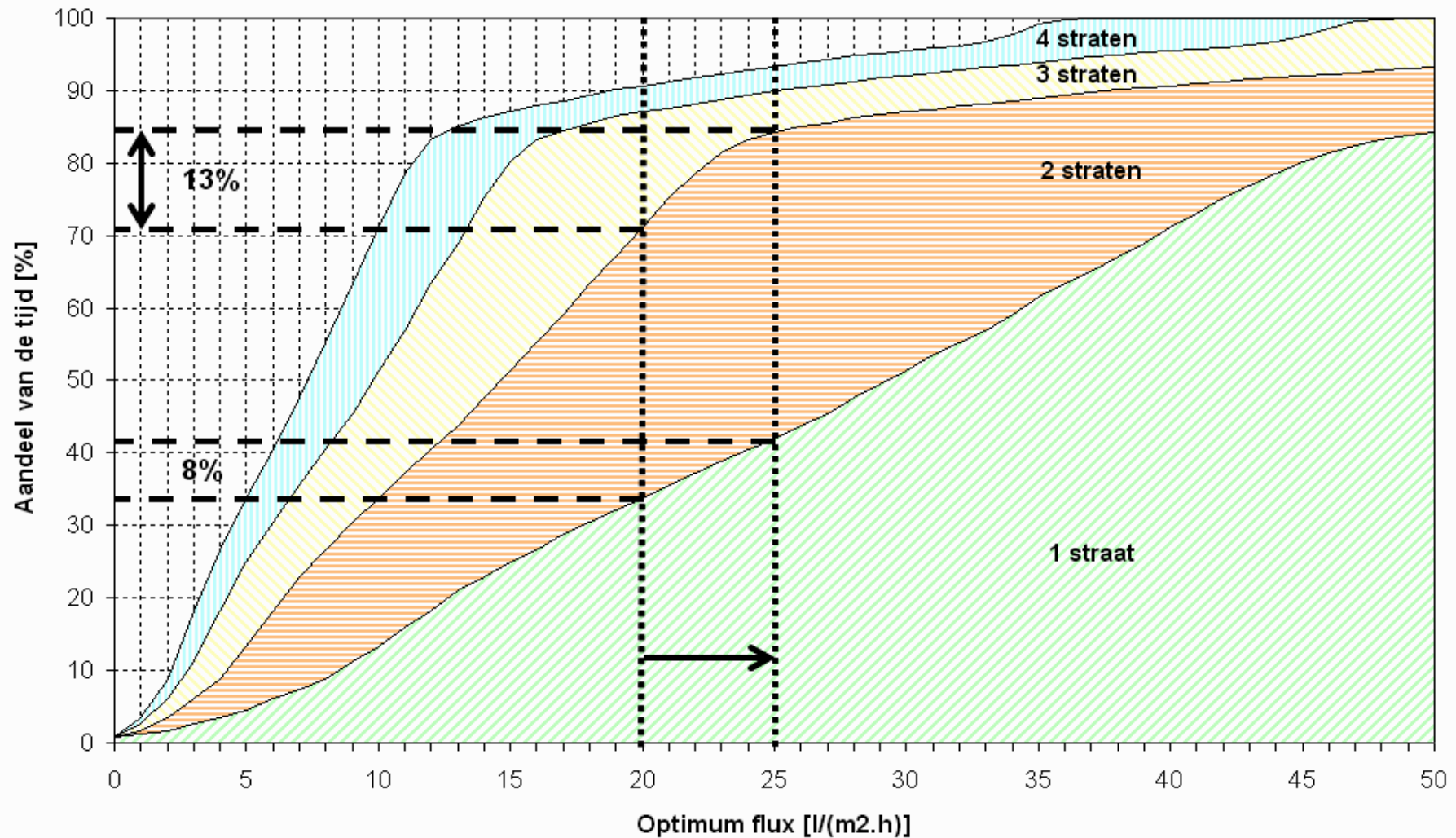
Optimumflux of 20 l/(m².h)

Cumulatieve verdeling influentdebiet



Energy saving by increased optimum flux

consultancy and Engineering



MBR at Rendac

EPCM project

Consultancy and Engineering



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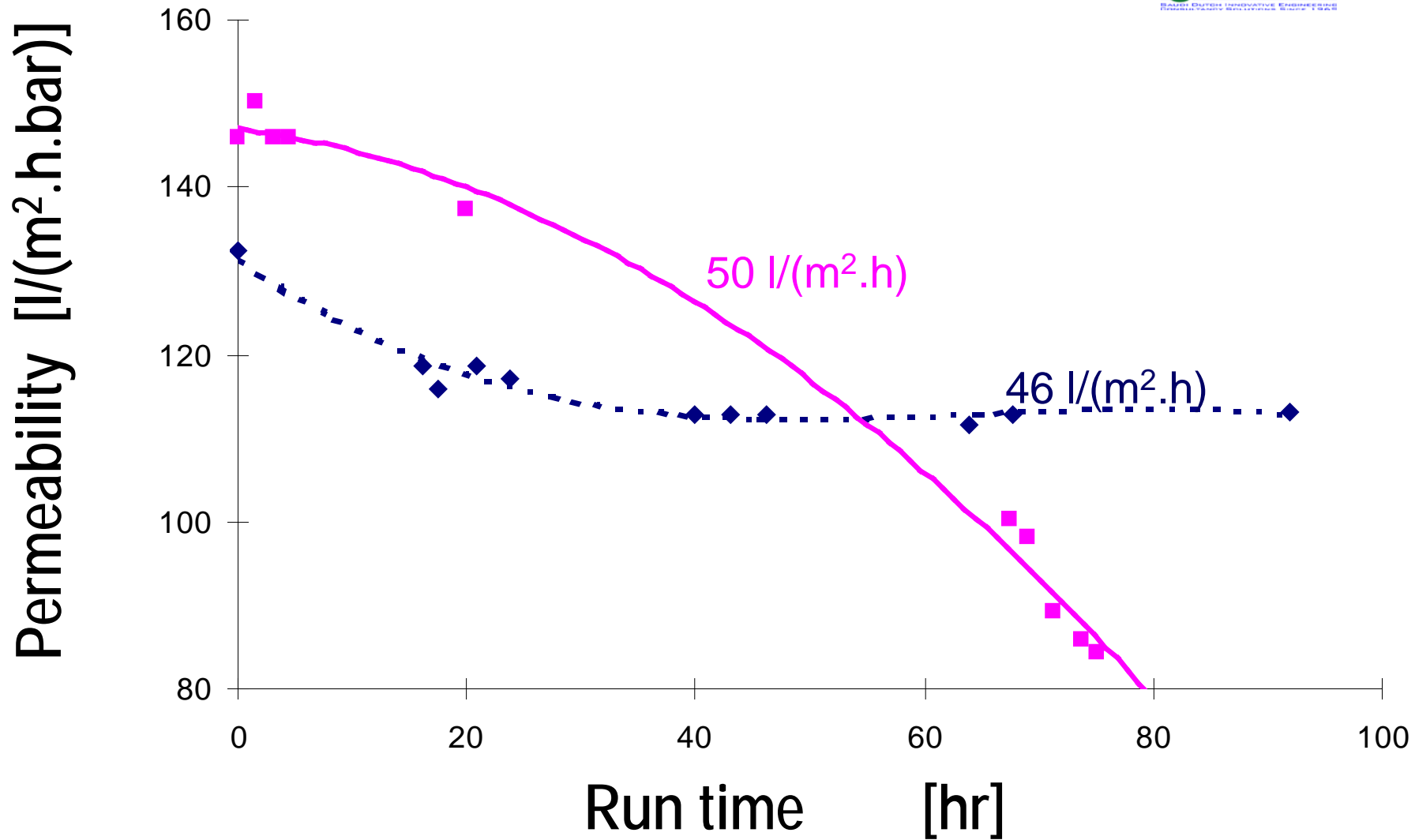
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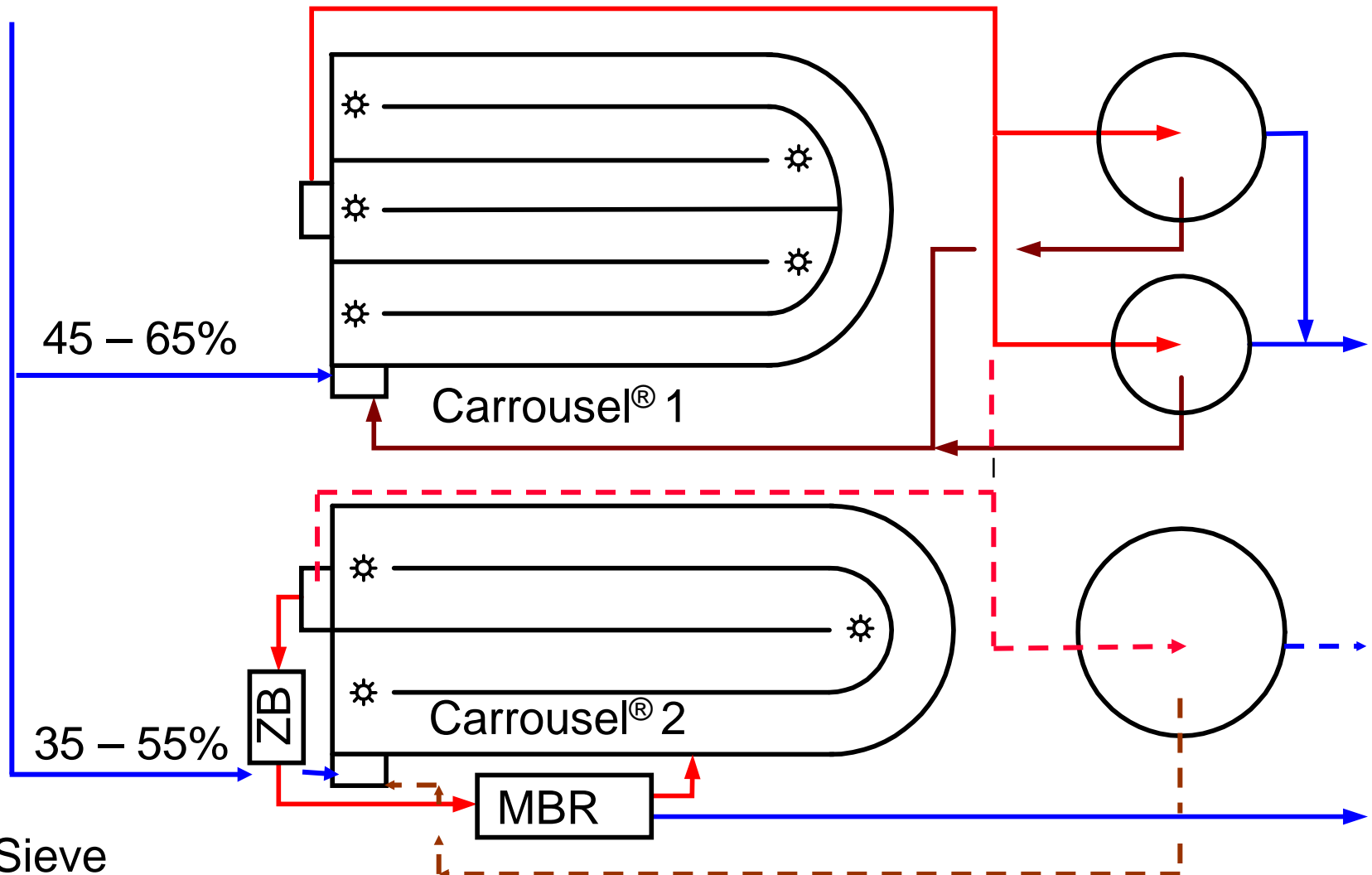
MC in air (developed in Beverwijk)

start-up: 2002

Permeability critical



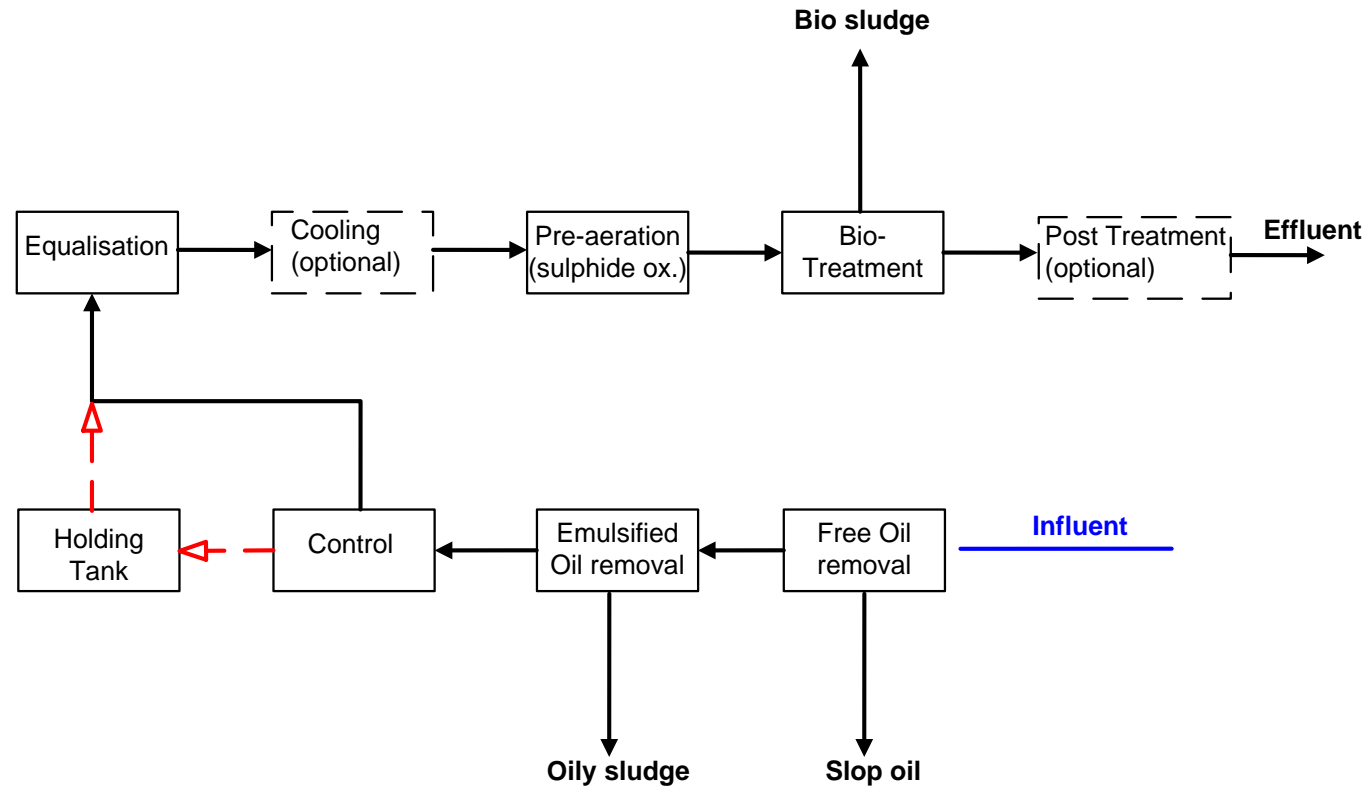
PFD MBR-Carrousel® (Hybrid)



ZB = Sieve

MBR for produced water (Azerbaijan)

Highly Saline (30 – 60 g/l)
Extensive pretreatment required



- COD removal >95% Feasible
 - Very high influent COD (average 25.000 ppm) prohibit meeting effluent demand
- Substantial Biomass growth:
 - ABR reduces surplus sludge
- Cleaning Feasible:
 - Repeated Recovery to permeability >100 l/(m².h.bar)
- Net Flux 5 – 8 l/(m².h)

Visual result

Consultancy and Engineering



Produced water

ABR

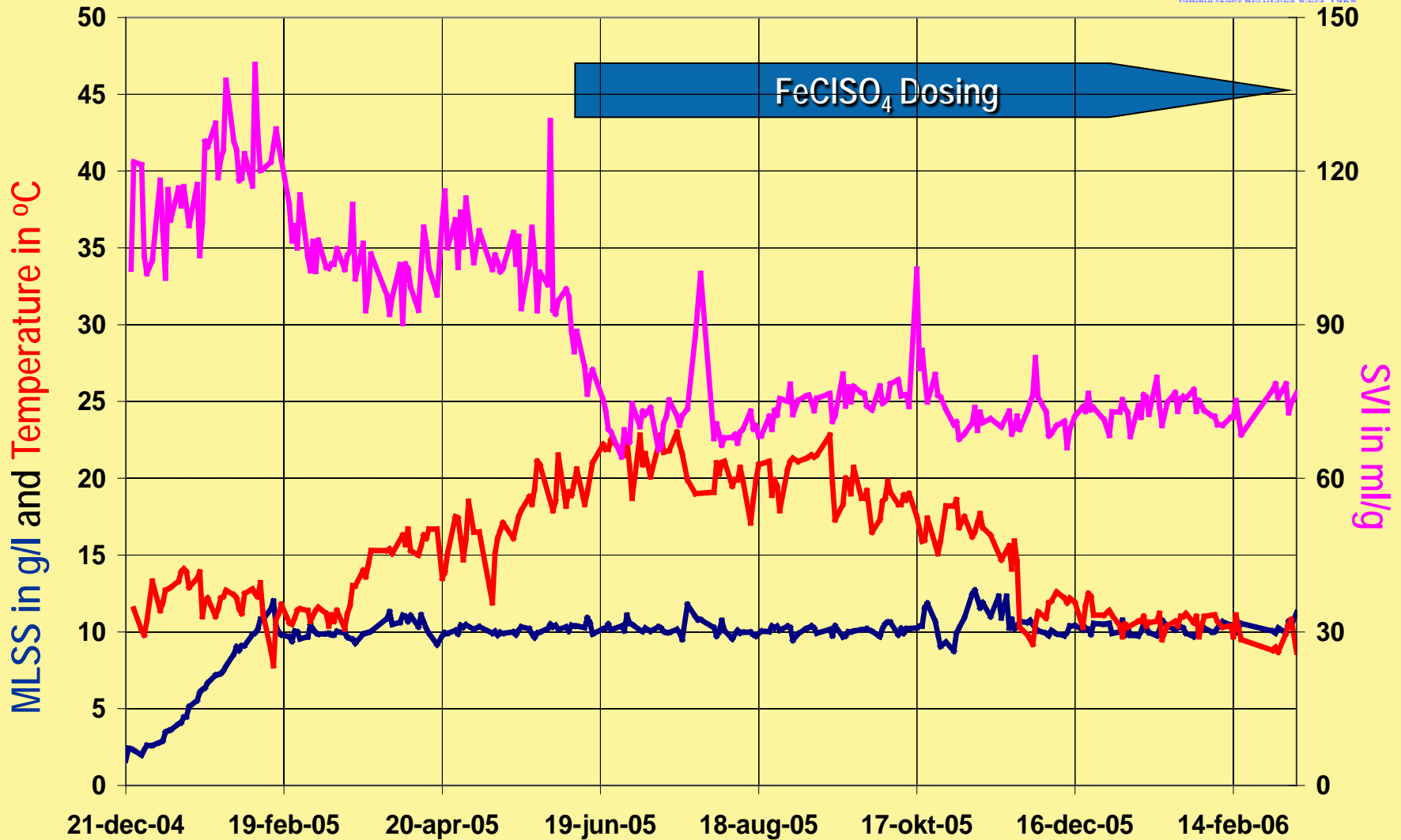
MBR

Effluent



MBR Varsseveld

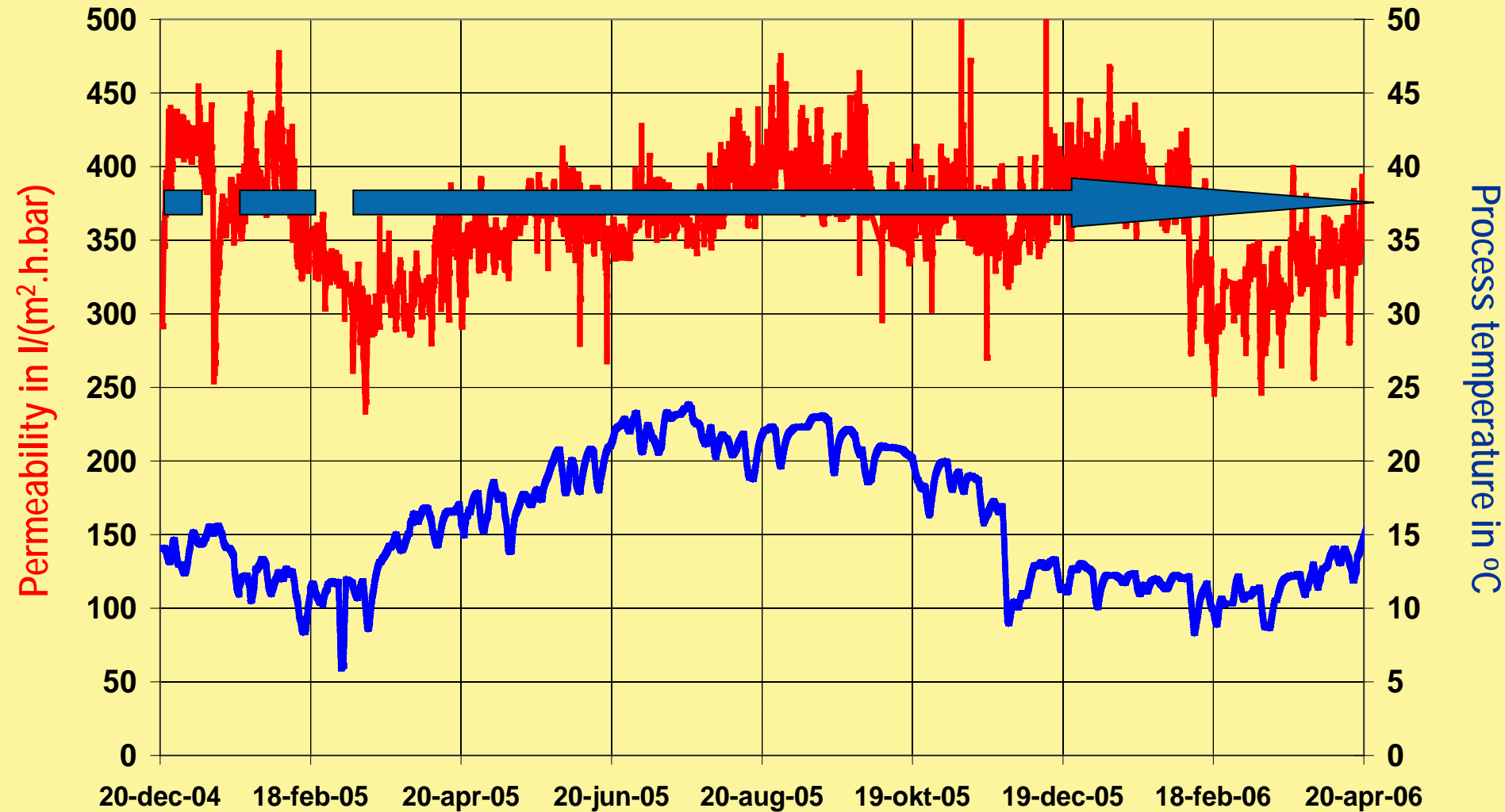
Process conditions



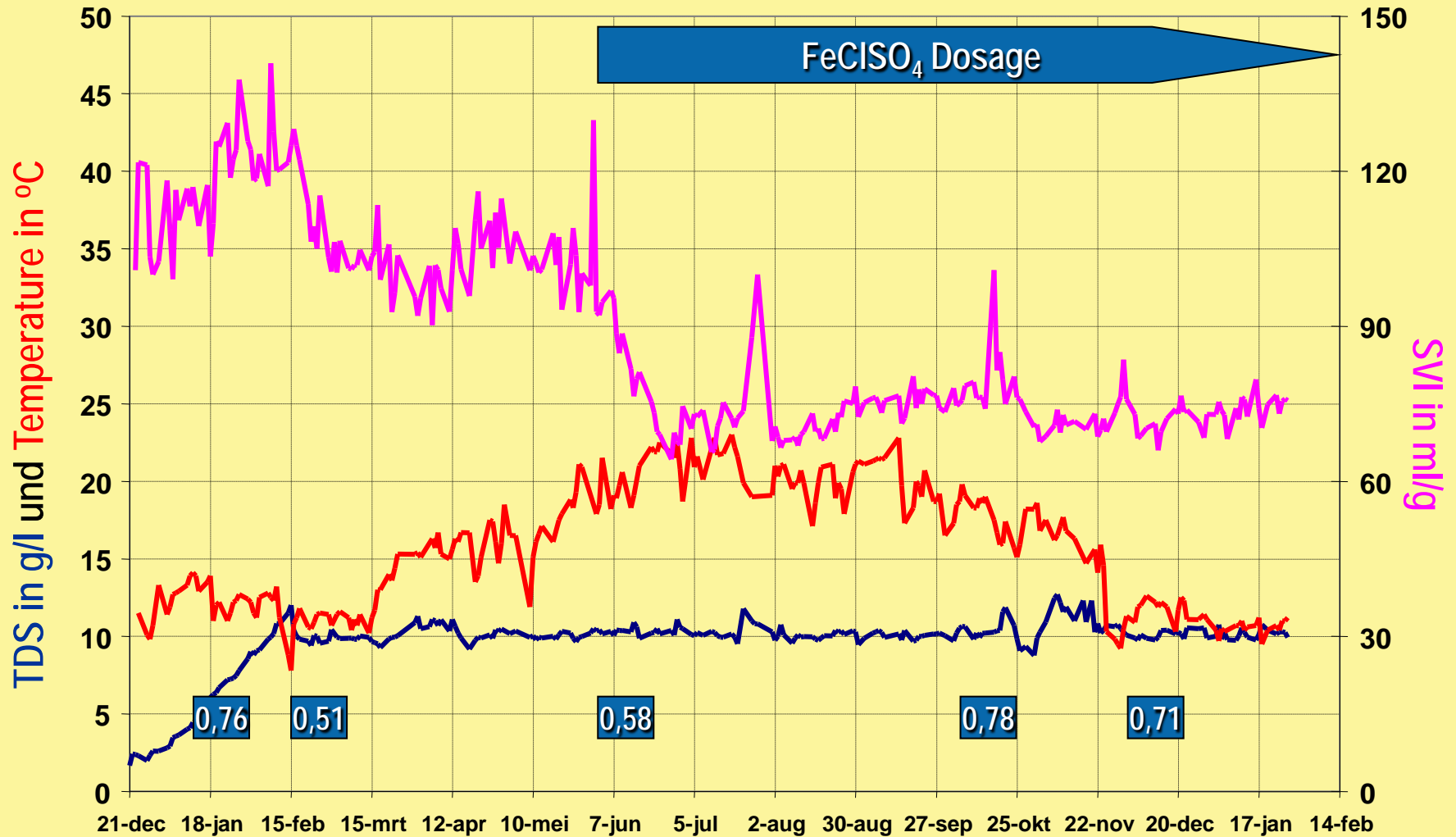
MBR Varsseveld

Control Membrane fouling

Consultancy and Engineering

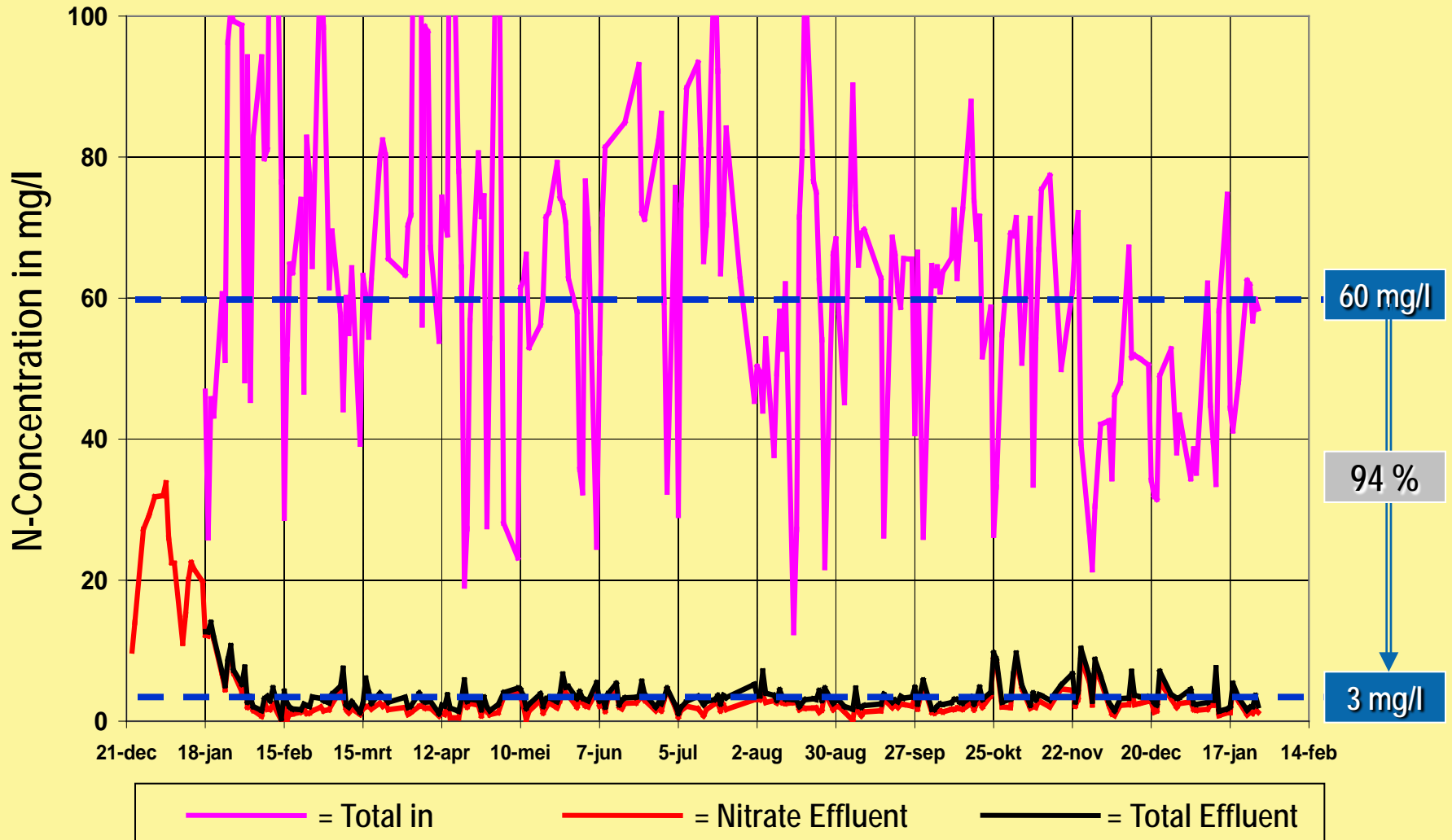


MBR Varsseveld



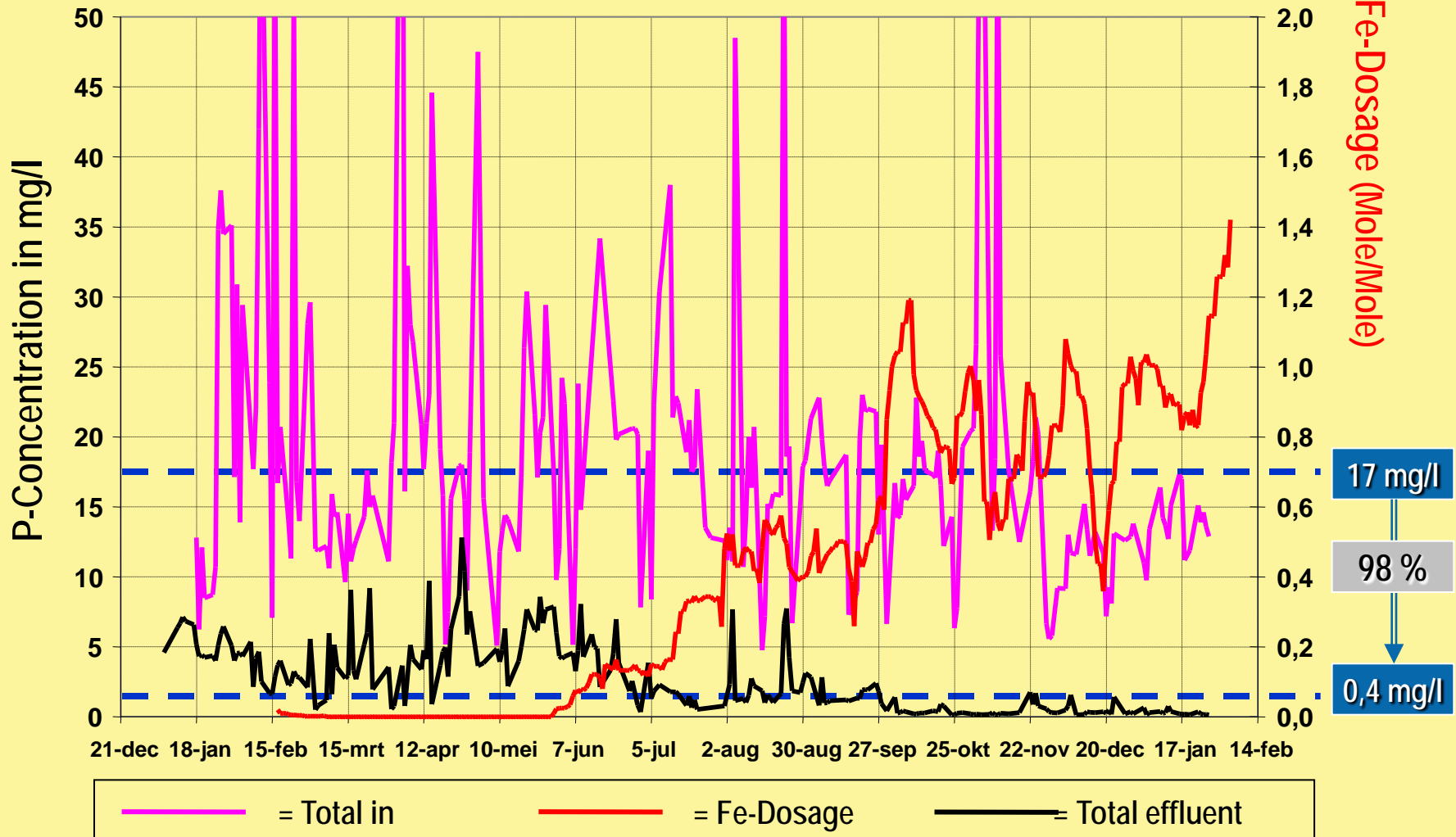
MBR Varsseveld

N-Removal



MBR Varsseveld

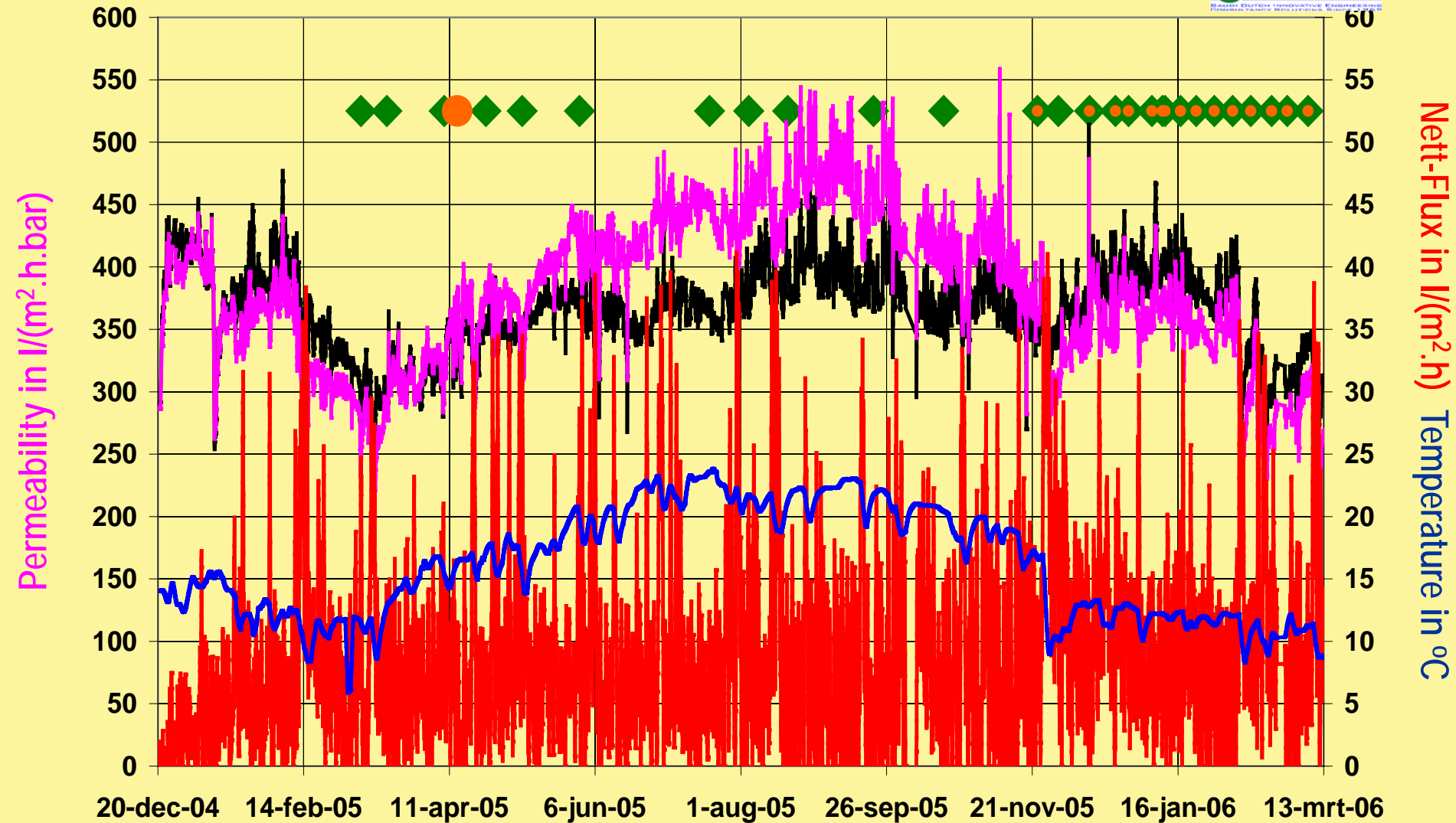
P-Removal



MBR Varsseveld

Membrane performance

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Thank you