



FABRIC Asia

Restarting ETP operations

GIZ FABRIC – ETP Operator Course



Contents

Steps to take before restarting

Steps for preliminary restart

Preparing for future ETP shut-down



More difficult than starting new ETP

Common challenges

- No ready made protocol
 - Limited technical support from ETP supplier
 - Responsibility of ETP manager and staff
- Limited availability of funds
 - many parts worn-out and needing servicing
- Pressure from factory management
 - focus on re-starting production
 - less priority or support to ETP while not understanding ETP restart process



Common challenges

- No spare time for re-starting or stabilization
- No lead time from management or environmental authority

After abrupt ETP shut-down

- Less attention to ETP cleanliness
- Increased safety risks



Main issues to keep in mind

- **Safety** risks
 - Exposure to **Hydrogen Sulphide gas** while cleaning pits, manholes and tanks
 - Electric risk due to insulation failures or damages
 - **Corrosion** of mechanical units and weakened structures (e.g. railings, ladders, steps)
- Risk of damage to ETP equipment:
 - Diffuser breakages due to scaling
 - Drive damages due to dust and rust or poor/missing **lubrication**



Main issues to keep in mind

- Process failure
 - System failure when restarting biological ETPs without proper re-commissioning procedure
 - Detailed checking of ETP requires time but
 - saving much money
 - saving lives!



Be aware of rapid corrosion in inoperative ETP







Cleaning of channels, pits and tanks

- Special attention to
 - confined space entry
 - protection against Hydrogen Sulphide gas
- Refamiliarise with and train on safe work and emergency procedures
 - See presentations 9.1 and 9.2
- Check availability and conditions of safety and emergency equipment



Checking electrical installations

- Check all electrical panels for loose wires, dirt and corrosion
- Tighten all terminations
- Check correctness of earthing on panels and motors
- Check working amperage of pumps/blowers for overloads (high amperage) or leaks in suction (low amperage)







Checking mechanical installations

- Manually check all drives for any jams before starting
 - manually moving shafts and fans
- Check for noise or vibration during operation.
- Start and check submersible pumps only when proper water level reached
 - Damage during dry runs
- Check seal warnings before regular operation







Checking mechanical installations

- Remove old sediments from all agitator tank to prevent drive breaking
- Clean blower lube using diesel.
- Change all belts in drives, if any one belt loose
- Ensure good lubrication
 - Replace old oil and top up with new
 - Grease bearings with proper grade before any start up
- Clean filter cloths by soaked in hypo and acid before re-start

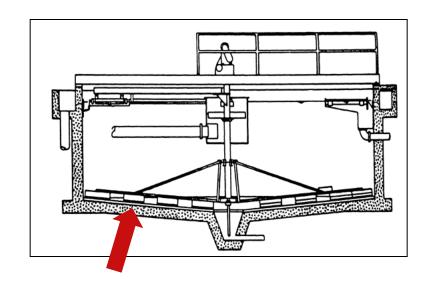






Checking mechanical installations

- Check squeeges of clarifier rake arms
 - To evenly sweep floor
 - Replace if needed





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Restarting screening operations

- Remove any dried screenings
- Manually remove fibers from bristles
- Check bars and spindle in manually cleaned screens
- Check proper lubrication of drives and gears on mechanical screens

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Restarting equalisation

- Empty equalization tank
- Clean diffusers (by removing and soaking in diluted HCl or formic acid
- Run blower with 0.5 m water level for checking of diffuser integrity
 - coarse bubbles: torn diffusers to be replaced
 - no bubbles: choked diffuser to cleaned again
- Start unit only after effluent reaching minimum level 50% of equalization tank.



Restarting primary treatment operation

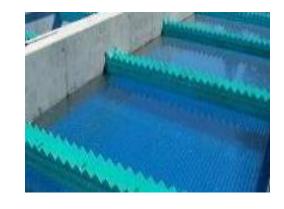
- Empty and clean flash mixer, flocculator and clarifier
- Remove any blockages in sludge underflow pipes prior to loading effluents
- Remove all dust from launder using a broom
- Adjust V notches of clarifier when tanks still dry





Restarting primary treatment operation

- Check feed well drum alignment,
 - check for any bridge sagging
 - correct before loading tanks
- Wash reinstall tubes or plates in tube settler or lamella
- Ensure proper angle of tubes at 40 or 60 degrees
- Check and adjust overflow weir level to be even.
 - If not, replace box



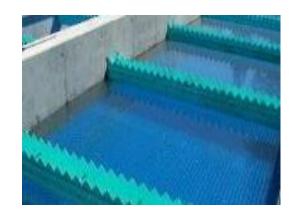
Restarting primary treatment operation

Selecting treatment chemicals

- Ferrous salt for reactive dyes
- Alum and PAC for other.
- Polyelectrolytes for build-up of flocs
 - Opt for branded chemicals and ask for safety data sheets

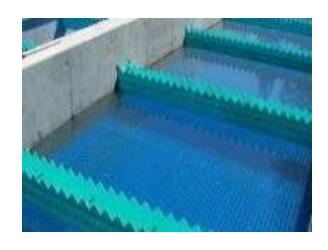
Setting dosage

- No fixed dosages but do jar tests before re-starting
 - Ferrous dosage (FeSO4) till effluent turning pale green.
 - Excess FeSO4 treated effluent turning red later.



Restarting primary treatment operation Preparing and applying chemicals

- Neutralizing agent
 - No Alum/FeSO4 as.
 - Use acid
- Dosing Alum or FeSO4
 - Too low dosage (<50 ppm) useless
 - Too high dosage waste of chemical & excess sludge
 - Lamella and tube settler requiring frequent sludge removal



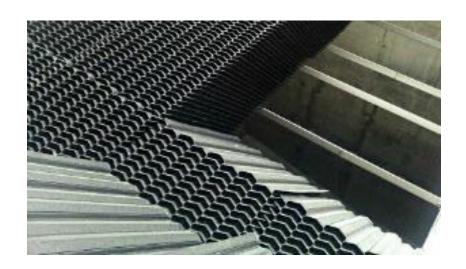
Restarting primary treatment operation Preparing and applying chemicals

- Maintain proper slurry concentration
 - alum/ferrous sulphate about 10-15% and lime 5-10%
 - too high concentration = waste of chemicals.
 - too low concentration = waste of water.



Restarting primary treatment operation

Re-adjust the baffles in tubes in lamella clarifier and complete jar tests before restarting





Restarting primary treatment operation

For further consideration

- Dose polyelectrolyte (PE) in low concentration (e.g. 0.5%)
 - Higher concentration wastage
 - Use separate preparation and dosing tanks
- Dose PE only in flocculation tank, not flash mixers
- Use metering pumps for acid and PAC
- Use centrifugal pumps for lime



Restarting primary treatment operation

For further consideration

- Use primary treatment to match F/M status in aeration
 - no chemical needed if flow is low
 - higher doses for full flow and high COD.
- Evaluate and select chemicals in totality, considering
 - cost of chemicals
 - impact on sludge generation
 - ready availability and supplies



Restarting aerations systems

- Remove and clean diffusers with diluted acid.
 - If not retrievable, spray formic acid mist into air line.
- Check diffusers at 0.5 m water (similar to equalization)
- Do system seeding, if not mixed liquor suspended solids (MLSS)
 - Specialty microbes if no bio-sludge
 - Alternatively cow dung and molasses.



Restarting aerations systems

To restart

- maintain lower feeding matching MLSS
 - higher F/M: 0.3 0.4.
 - higher nutrient addition (BOD:N:P @ 100:8:4)
 - higher dissolved oxygen (3 4 mg/l).
- If two aeration tanks available, commission one first
 - bio-sludge used for quickly second one.
- Start sludge wasting when MLSS level reaching >1000 mg/l.



Restarting aerations systems

Testing aeration system

- (1) Dissolved oxygen (DO)
- (2) Mixed liquor suspended solids (MLSS) level
- (3) Mixed Liquor Volatile Suspended Solids (MLVSS) level
- (4) Sludge volume index (SVI)
- (5) Nutrient addition



Restarting aerations systems

Testing aeration system

- (1) Check **DO** on every shift
 - Portable DO meter good option
 - Alternatively, Winkler's method
- (2) Check MLSS level every day
- (3) Check MLVSS weekly
 - From MLSS, calculate F/M and maintain as suggested



Restarting aerations systems

Testing aeration system

- (4) Check SVI every shift
 - By settling tank contents in jar
 - Normal SVI 400 ml/litre in 30 mins
- (5) Check nutrient addition
 - daily in beginning (to compensate wash offs)
 - every 2-3 days later
 - once a week after commissioning.





Restarting aerations systems

Manage common problems

- Heavy white foaming during start up.
 - Control with water spray.
 - Use silicone based defoamers.
- Poor sludge settling in clarifier.
 - Keep return activated sludge level around 150%
 - Keep at 100-125% once MLSS level >1000 mg/l



Restarting aerations systems

Manage common problems

- Sludge bulking because of filamentous organisms
 - Adjust RAS levels
 - Dose PAC at clarifier inlet.
 - Dose 5 -15 ppm of chlorine in RAS line in sever cases.
 - Check dosage of polymer /color removal agent through jar testing
 - Better no specialty bacteria
 - permanent dosing since killing normal Pseudomonas



Restarting aerations systems

Common problems



Heavy white foaming



Solid overflow

Preparing for future ETP shut-down



Preparing for future ETP shut-down

Applying good shut-down procedures for easier restarting

- Allow for adequate time to properly stop and shutdown ETP
- Keep all raw effluent channels empty and clean
- Cover manholes and drains tightly
- Remove and keep costly controls in safe storage areas
 - thefts common during shutdowns
 - protection against corrosion and rain





Preparing for future ETP shut-down

Applying good shut-down procedures for easier restarting

- Empty tanks (e.g. lift well, equalization, primary clarifier)
 - Initially run only aeration tank and secondary clarifier
 - Empty secondary clarifier after fully removing bio-sludge
- During shut-down until re-starting
 - Maintain minimum aeration (mixing power >30 w/m3 of tank) in aeration tank.
 - Too much aeration quickly consuming all biomass
 - Carry out routine maintenance (e.g. oiling and greasing)
 and periodical corrosion control (painting, coating)





