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In case of any questions, please contact:

Fraunhofer Institute for Environmental, Safety, and **Energy Technology UMSICHT** Osterfelder Strasse 3 46047 Oberhausen **GERMANY** © Fraunhofer UMSICHT

Dr.-Ing. Christoph Glasner **Biomass and Residues Utilization**

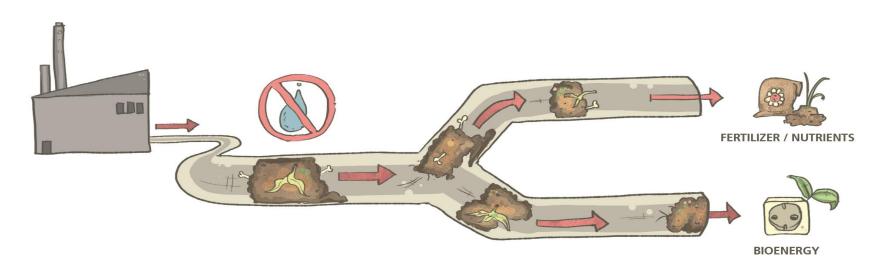
Tel.: +49 208-8598-1133

E-Mail: christoph.glasner@umsicht.fraunhofer.de



Water savings, cost savings and other benefits by separation of mass flows

Dr. Christoph Glasner







BioSuck facts

Duration: 1/09/2014 – 31/12/2017

Funded by: National agencies of Germany, Norway and Poland within the ERA-Net SUSFOOD

Installation of vacuum technology as sewage system...

- ...can separate (waste)water streams
- and makes them usable for bioenergy production





Overview of BioSuck partners







Importance of BioSuck for a Circular Economy

- The food processing industry consumes huge amounts of water
 - corresponding amounts of wastewater are produced

- These amounts will increase,
 - because the global food demand is expected to rise by 50 % by 2050

■ Conclusion: New/innovative solutions are needed to redesign this sector





Goal of BioSuck

Goal: Development a decision support system to predict benefits

The DSS analyzes the current situation based on characteristic parameters

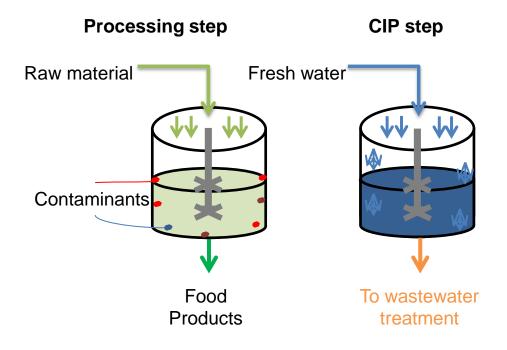
- Is a vacuum waste collection system a potential feasible option?
- Can collected wastes be used for bioenergy production?







Introduction - Food processing industry



- Contaminants
 - Organic matters (DM, Fats, etc.)
 - Pollutants (COD, BOD, TS, etc.)
- Clean in Place (CIP)
 - Water rinse (1st step)!!!
 - Other CIP steps





Issues and effects

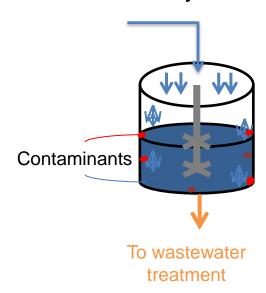
<u>Issues with conventional sewage systems</u>

- Multiple waste streams with multiple characteristics
- Mixing of multiple streams

Effects

- Loss of organic materials
- High wastewater treatment cost

Gravity based sewage system



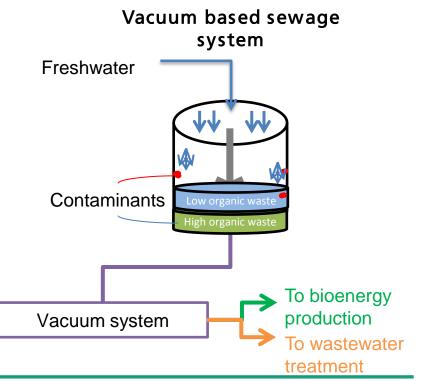




Solution for the food processing industry

Advantages

- Separation of waste streams
- Waste concentration (high organic load)
 - Bioenergy



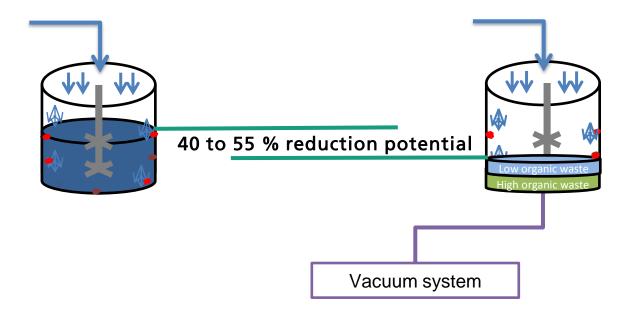




Conventional vs Vacuum system

Gravity based sewage system

Vacuum based sewage system







Relevance of BioSuck for a circular economy





Environmental benefits

- Fresh water reduction
- Wastewater reduction
- Closing of cycles (bioenergy, animal feed, nutrients)

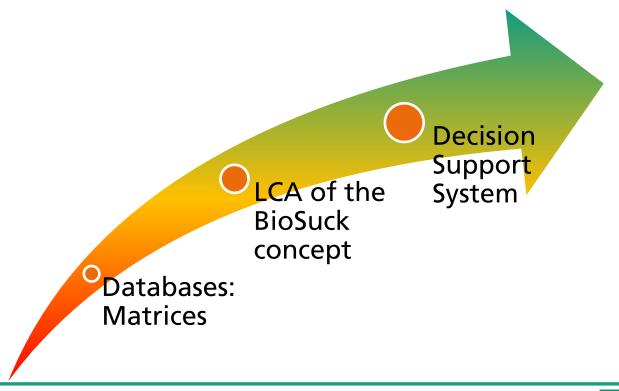
Economical benefits

- Cost savings for fresh water
- Cost savings for wastewater treatment
- Added value by selling or using concentrated mass flows





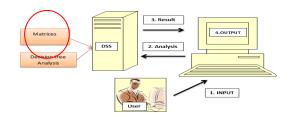
Summary of main BioSuck results







Main BioSuck results: Databases



Vacuum system

- Waste stream characteristics matrix
- Vacuum system performance database

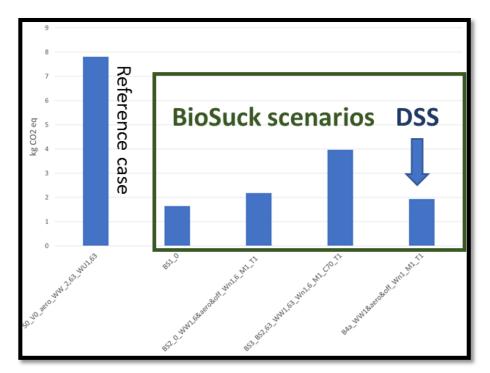
Bioenergy production

- Bioenergy utilization matrix
- Bioenergy estimation matrix





Main BioSuck results: LCA and Sustainability

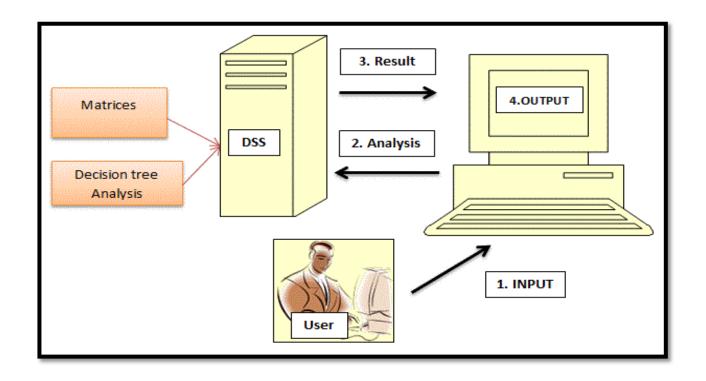


Aspect	Score
Economic	Depends on facility related conditions
	Increasing costs for water and WW treatment will favour BioSuck
Environmental	Highly positive
Social	Highly positive





Main BioSuck results: Decision Support System



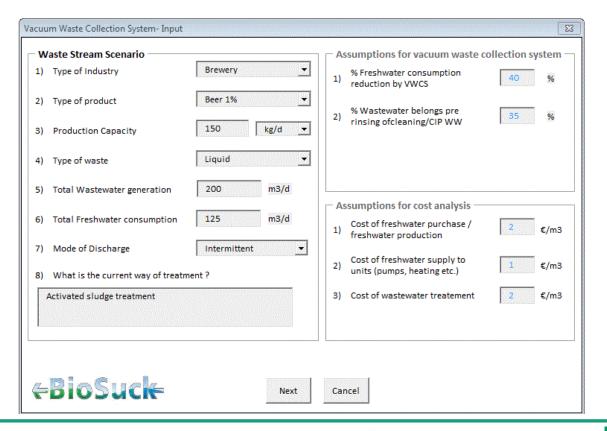






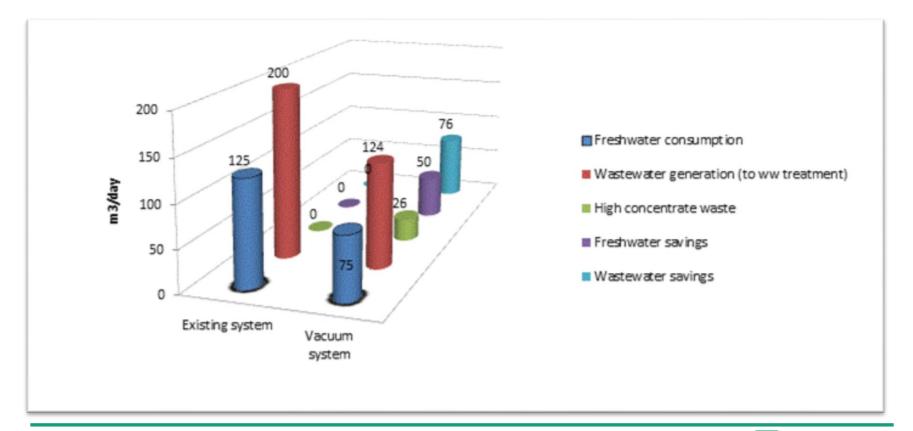






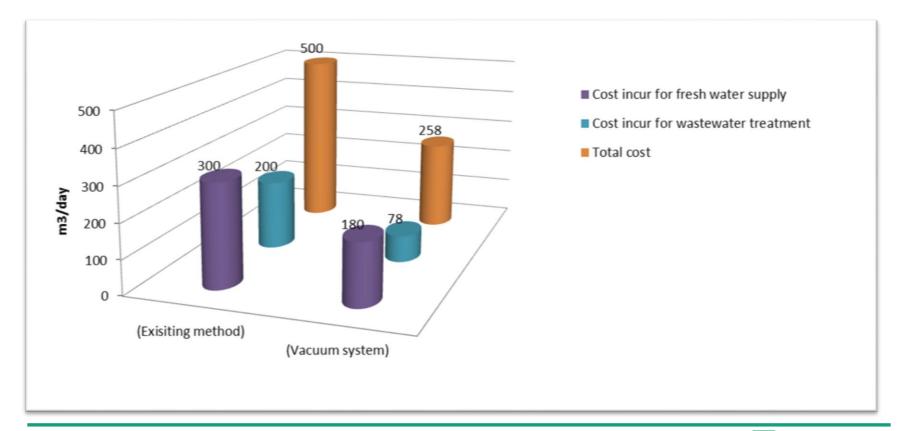
















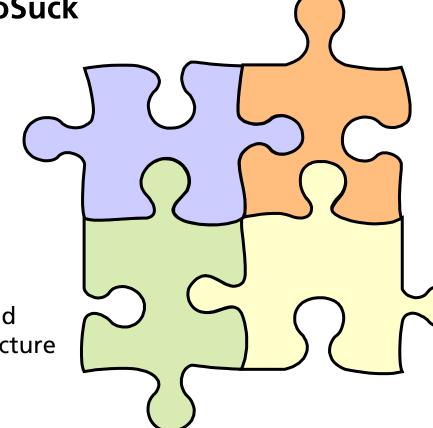
Impacts of BioSuck

R&I:

Transferability to many sectors beyond food processing

Economics:

- Resilient, safe and flexible infrastructure
- Save water
- Reduce costs



SDG 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

SDG 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns





Critical review of BioSuck



Accomplished development of a decision support system



Missing: early adopters



■ Feedback: Cooperation of companies to deliver real life data is insufficient



■ Failure: No food processing company as part of the consortium





R&I: Current standing

■ Technology is already developed → ready to use

Minor adaptions maybe necessary, depending on the media, that needs to be transported

Implementation: Recognized showcase and a big demonstration unit





Implementation: Beneficial preconditions & barriers



Pro

- Necessity to reconstruct the sewage system
- Connected sewage plant reached its limits
- Tightened regulations
- Large distance to existing sewage infrastructure
- Wastewater streams of different composition

Contra

- High remaining depreciation costs
- Connected sewage plant has unused capacities
- Legal uncertainties
- Missing demonstration pilot plants (in the food processing industry)
- Low acceptance for new technologies





Policy support

Put pressure on the (food) processing industry to save energy and water

- Cost savings are not attractive enough → set political framework
- Take up of vacuum sewer systems as Best Available Technique (BAT)
- More/additional funding to disseminate project results professionally





Summary, Conclusions & Recommendations

Summary:

- Matrices and Decision tree analysis
- DSS modelled for waste collection and bioenergy production

Conclusion:

- Further validation of the literature data
- Case study evaluation and implementation of results

Recommendations:

- A (big) pilot plant demonstration for a vacuum sewer system in the food processing industry
- Extensive acquisition of new customers and efficient marketing campaign





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Division Processes Department Process Engineering

Thank you for your attention!



Fraunhofer UMSICHT

Osterfelder Straße 3 46047 Oberhausen

E-Mail: <u>info@umsicht.fraunhofer.de</u>

Internet: http://www.umsicht.fraunhofer.de



Source: photocase.de

Dr.-Ing. Christoph Glasner

Phone: +49-208-8598-1133

E-Mail: christoph.glasner@umsicht.fraunhofer.de



