

Or-Tec Blue Whale 1mm Microbar Screen

RBW Waste Management, Ltd. -- Industrial Application



Or-Tec Blue Whale Microbar Screen in operation at RBW Waste Management, Ltd.

Or-Tec's Blue Whale Microbar Screen is a superfine mechanical bar screen that screens wastewater to 1mm and eliminates downstream matting and clogging without the use of wash water or brushes. It is the only 1mm, multi-rake bar screen in North America.

RBW Waste Management, Ltd., which is in Alberta, Canada, removes oil from rags, absorbent pads and filters. The company uses a **1mm Or-Tec Blue Whale Microbar Screen** to remove pieces of cloth, wood, metal, rags and other debris from its 10,000-gallon wastewater pit before it enters a 30,000 tank for gravity separation of the oil and water.

Sean Marvin, Technical Sales Representative, John Brooks Company recommended the Or-Tec Blue Whale Microbar Screen to RBW because of its 1mm size. He says RBW needed a screen that could remove this debris from oily wash water without plugging up, something the company was struggling with.

Bob Moldenhauer, RBW Process Manager says that the previous screen plugged up constantly. "It was a job babysitting this thing (former screen) ...," he recalls, "We had to have an operator pulling out the screen,

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-Sean Marvin, Technical Sales Representative,
Alberta, Canada, John Brooks Company

cleaning it, washing it, putting it back in and then doing it over again in five minutes!"



Marvin knew that the Or-Tec Blue Whale Microbar Screen could handle the oily water and debris without plugging up because of its unique self-cleaning process in which the rakes penetrate the screen face, grab debris and drop it in a collection chamber. "It's like a comb running through your hair," he laughs, "So, it continually operates, and it doesn't clog up...we refer to it as a sludge buster!"

Moldenhauer says that the Or-Tec Blue Whale Microbar Screen has worked well and does not plug up – saving huge amounts of labor. "We have two guys that are taking care of our water system and they have a lot more time to do other stuff (now)," he stresses.

In addition, he says that the tanks and pit are cleaner. "We're taking a lot less sludge out of the 30,000 tank, so there's a lot less cleaning, and, were taking more sludge out of our 10,000 gallon pit - that also equals less cleaning." This means less scheduled shut downs for cleaning.

"When we clean it (the pit) we have to drain it out, pull all the lids off of it, get a vac truck out and then suck it out...." Moldenhauer explains, "It's quite a large job. It's a full day of dirty. The whole crew is in there with Tyvek® overalls and getting filthy." Now, he says, there is far less need for this expensive, labor-intensive maintenance.

The Or-Tec Blue Whale Microbar Screen has also reduced disposal costs. Moldenhauer says that RBW used to pay a premium to dispose of mixed sludge and water. This has changed, he says, "We have the ability now to dewater it and send away a sludge rather than a slurry."

Application Conditions

- ✓ 1mm screen
- ✓ up to 30 gpm
- ✓ Water with oil, pieces of cloth, wood and metal
- ✓ Plant removes 1 cubic meter of solids weekly
- ✓ Plant produces 14-18 cubic meters of oil and 30-45 cubic meters of wastewater weekly
- ✓ Screen sits on the floor of the pit at a 75° incline and rakes solids up into a collection chamber