



# Total Suspended Solids (TSS)

The importance of particules count  
...and their size,  
for an energy efficient  
cooling system



October 3rd, 2012 Doha



# To Save Energy, water and chemicals on cooling systems

Multiple efforts deployed by the HVAC designers, except one which is often overlooked or misunderstood....

## Water Quality



# The Challenge

Most Designers feel that the water quality should be left to the Chemical Companies...

They are right... except when it comes to **Suspended Solids: TSS**

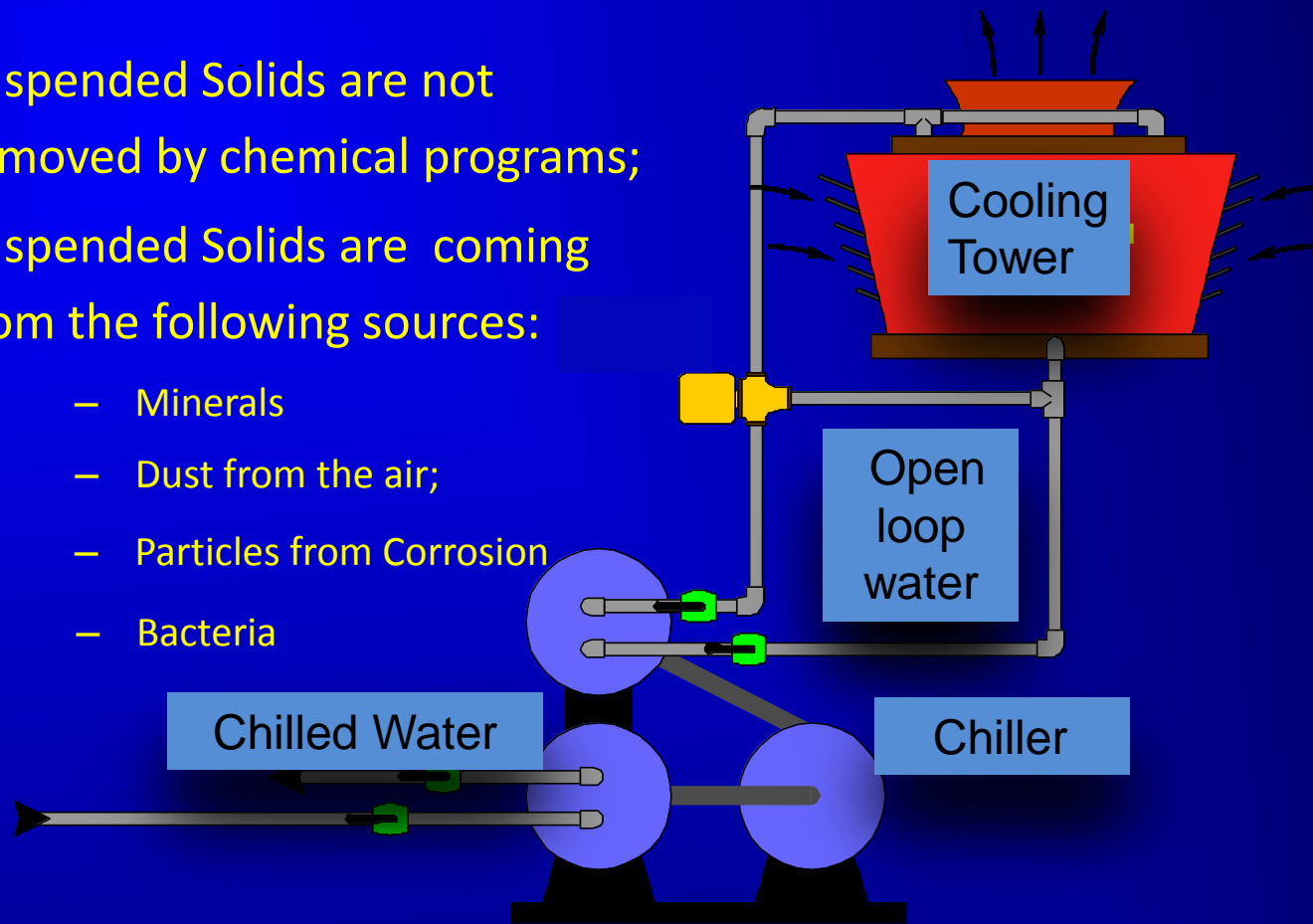
Why?

# The Challenge

## Where do Suspended Solids come from?

Suspended Solids are not removed by chemical programs;  
Suspended Solids are coming from the following sources:

- Minerals
- Dust from the air;
- Particles from Corrosion
- Bacteria



# The Challenge

- *“With the introduction of high-efficiency film fill, **deposit accumulation** in the cooling tower packing has become an area of concern.”*

As per GE Technical Handbook ([http://www.gewater.com/handbook/cooling\\_water\\_systems/ch\\_25\\_deposit.jsp](http://www.gewater.com/handbook/cooling_water_systems/ch_25_deposit.jsp))





# The Challenge

Dust entering the cooling systems (at 60  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ )

Cooling capacity (Tn)	Air Flow (CFM)	Weight of dust after 90 days
240	62 790	31 lbs (14 kg )
400	103 700	50 lbs (23 kg)
828	203 230	99 lbs (45 kg)
1300	302 580	147 lbs (67 kg)

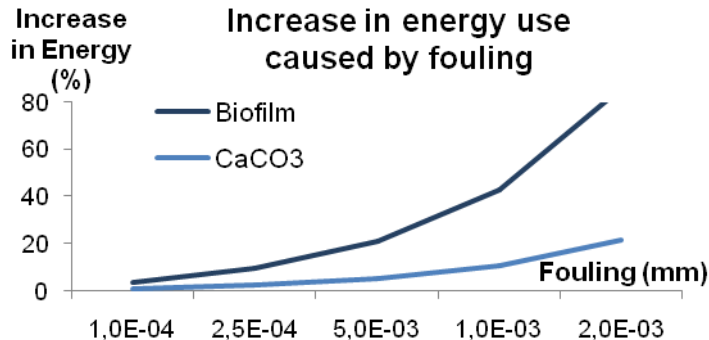
<http://www.epa.gov/airtrends/pm.html>

# Suspended particles cause resource waste, health risks, and environmental impact

## Energy waste

Fouling (insulating layer inside pipes) by unfiltered mineral & organic particles and bacteria

- Reduces energy exchange
- Reduces service life of system



## Water waste

Unfiltered Total Suspended and Air Solids limits Cycles of Concentration at cooling towers

- Increasing blow down water waste
- Increasing risk of cooling tower failure
- Increasing need for filter backwash

Poor filtration and biological loading limit the use of grey water for cooling



## Health risks

Legionella feeds on unfiltered organic solids and bio particles

- Increased need of biocides, dispersants and maintenance

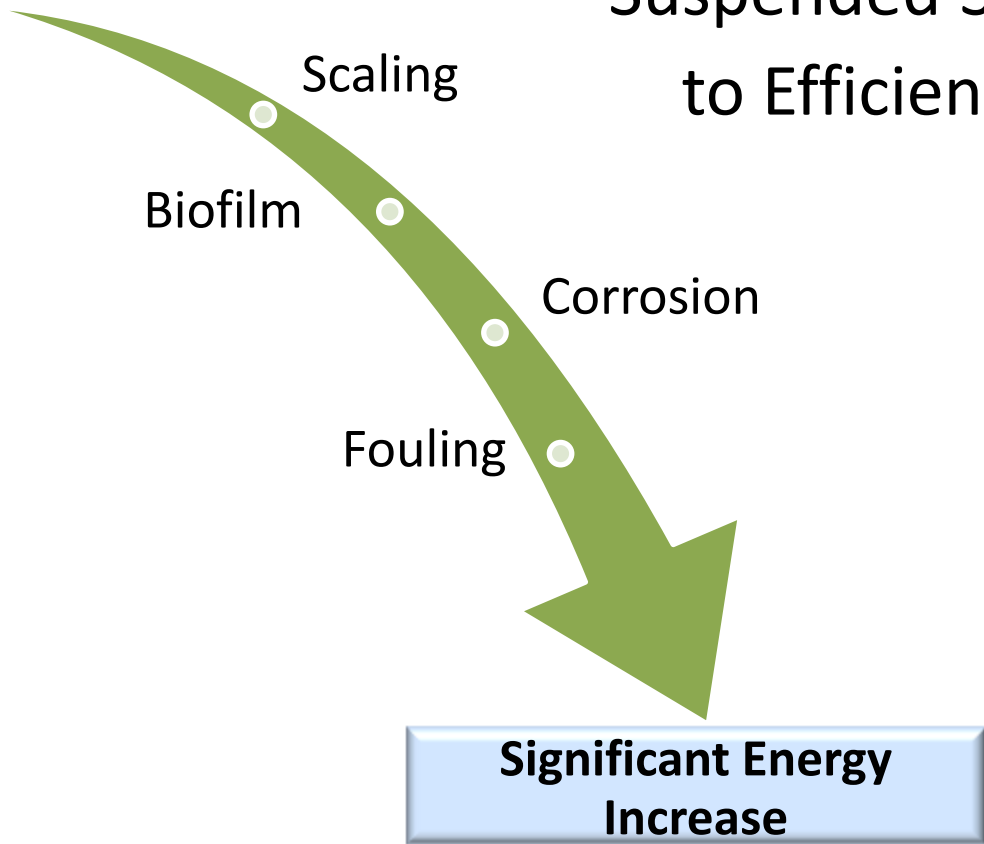




# The Challenge

Particles attached  
to equipment

Suspended Solids leads  
to Efficiency loses.





# The Challenge

As per GE Technical Handbook ([http://www.gewater.com/handbook/cooling\\_water\\_systems/ch\\_25\\_deposit.jsp](http://www.gewater.com/handbook/cooling_water_systems/ch_25_deposit.jsp))

“Deposit formation is influenced strongly by system parameters, such as water and skin temperatures, **water velocity**, residence time, and system metallurgy. The most severe deposition is encountered in process equipment operating with high surface temperatures and/or low water velocities.”

Figure 25-7. Iron and silt fouling of plate cooler

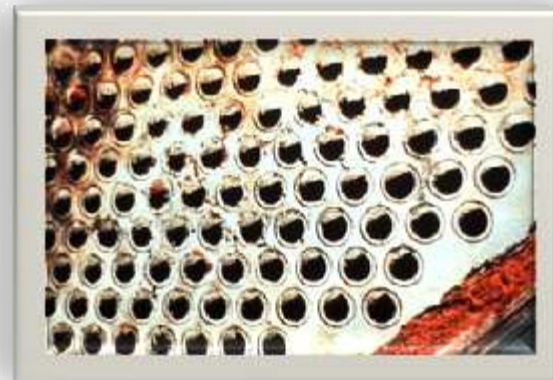


Figure 25-6. Calcium and iron phosphate fouling due to low water velocity (GE Handbook).

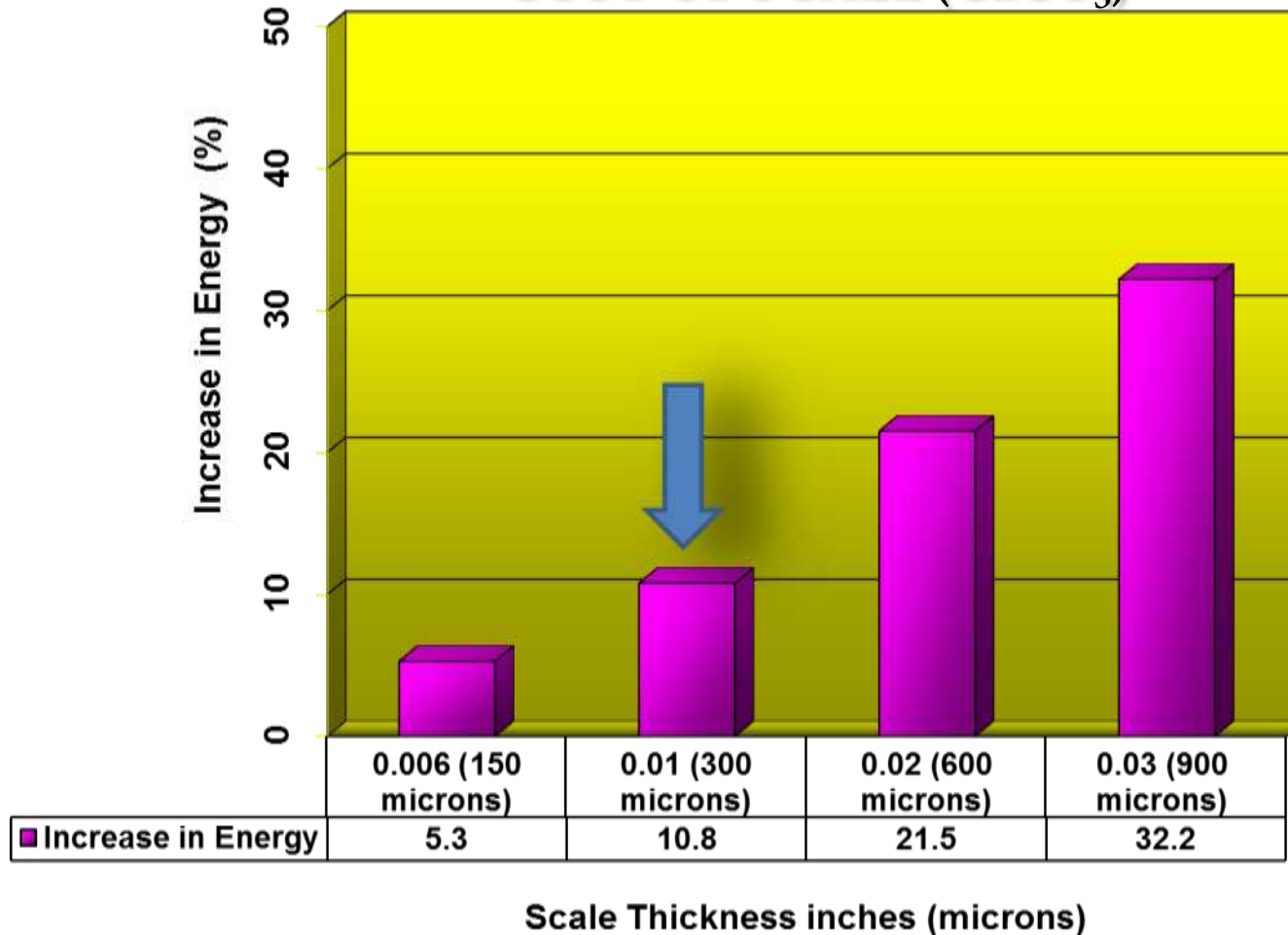


# The Challenge

Scale	Thermal Conductivity (W/MK)
<b>Copper</b>	<b>398</b>
Calcium Carbonate	2.26 – 2.93
Calcium Sulfate	2.31
Calcium Phosphate	2.60
Magnesium Phosphate	2.16
Magnetic Iron Oxide	2.88
Biofilm	0.63

# The Challenge

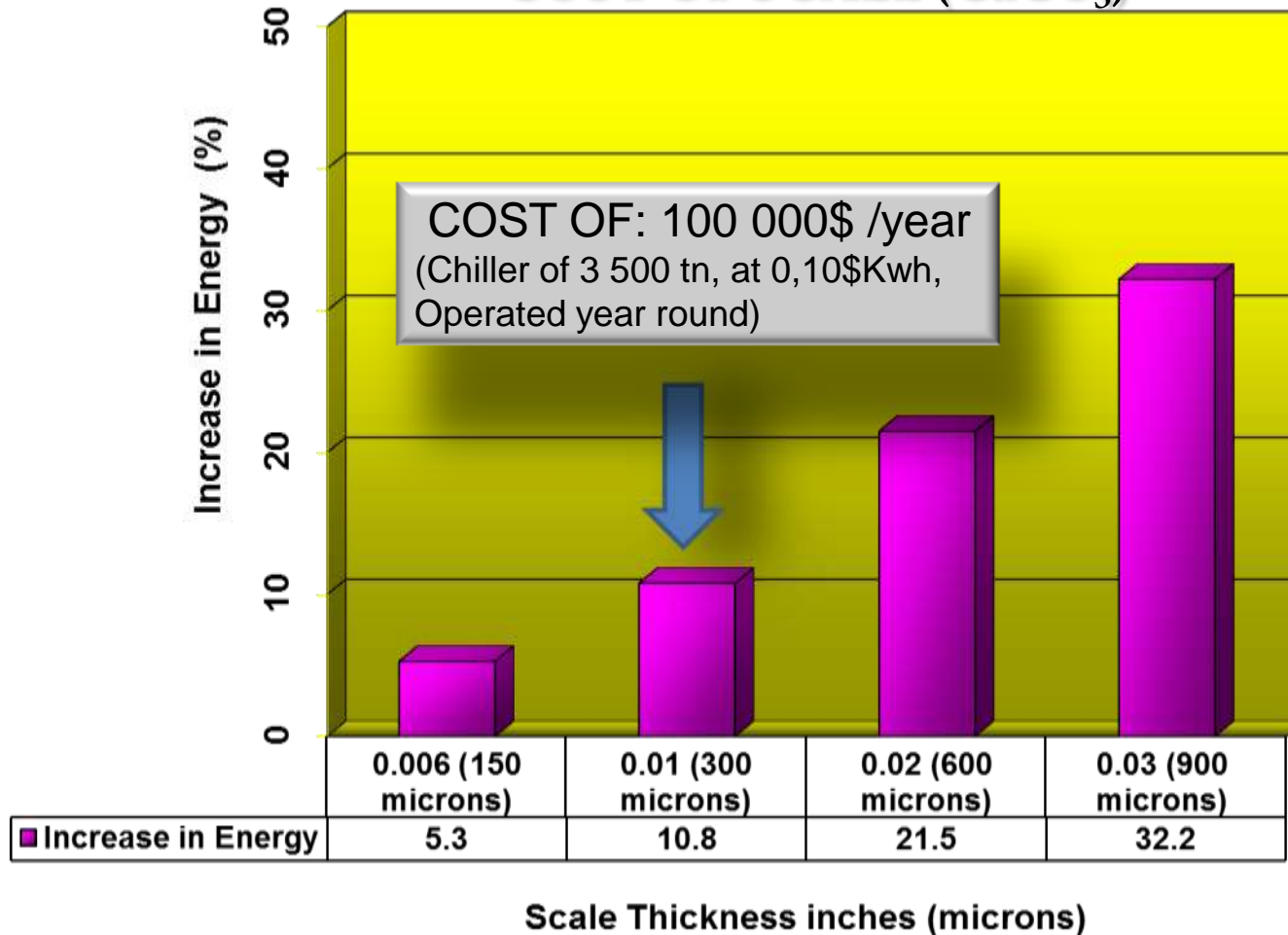
## COST OF SCALE (CaCO<sub>3</sub>)



Source: Odeco-Nalco

# The Challenge

## COST OF SCALE (CaCO<sub>3</sub>)





# The Challenge

A physical treatment is required

***“Removal of particulate does matter***

*The amount of particulate entering a cooling system with the makeup water can be reduced by filtration and/or sedimentation processes. Particulate removal can also be accomplished by **filtration of recirculating cooling water.***

***The level of fouling experienced is influenced by the effectiveness of the particular removal scheme employed, the water velocities in the process equipment, and the cycles of concentration in the cooling tower.”***

As per GE Technical Handbook)

[http://www.gewater.com/handbook/cooling\\_water\\_systems/ch\\_25\\_deposit.jsp](http://www.gewater.com/handbook/cooling_water_systems/ch_25_deposit.jsp))

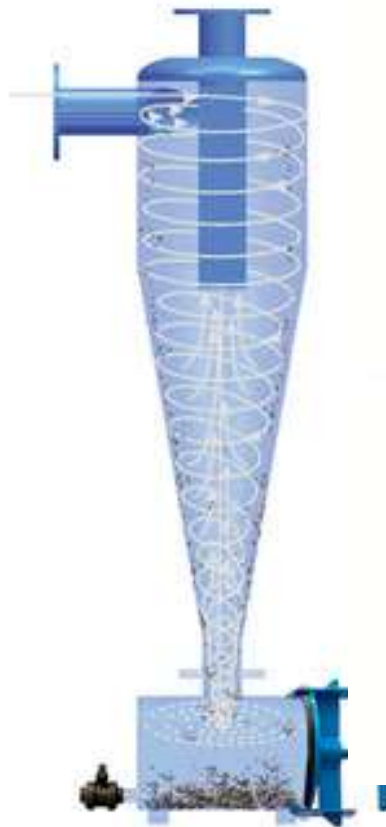
# Common filtration devices



From 1 to 100 micron range



# Hydro cyclones or centrifugal separators...

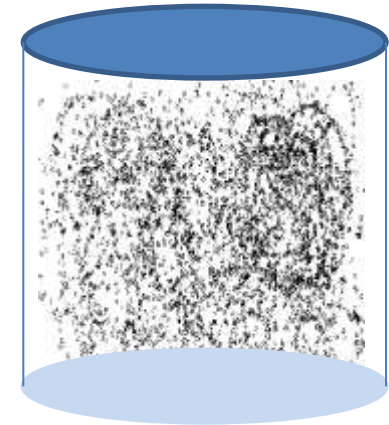
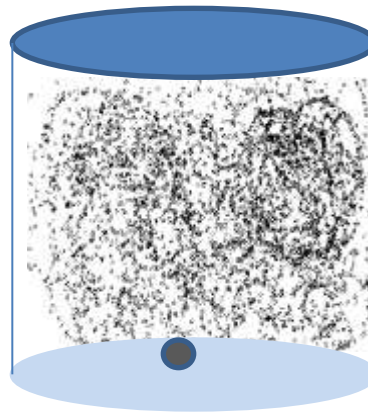
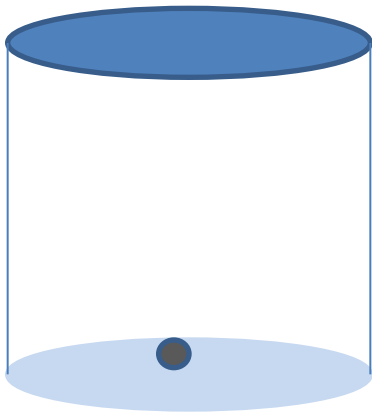


# PPM: A weight measurement

PPM Can be misleading

One 13mm marble = 256 **Billion** particles of 2  $\mu$

Removing the marble means:  
50% removal on a ppm basis  
Inefficient on a particle count basis







# “Size does Count !”

- Based on our 20+ years experience, the particles larger than 5 micron make up for more than 90 % of the weight.
- Typically, 85-90% of the particles found in the recirculation water are smaller than 5 micron in size.

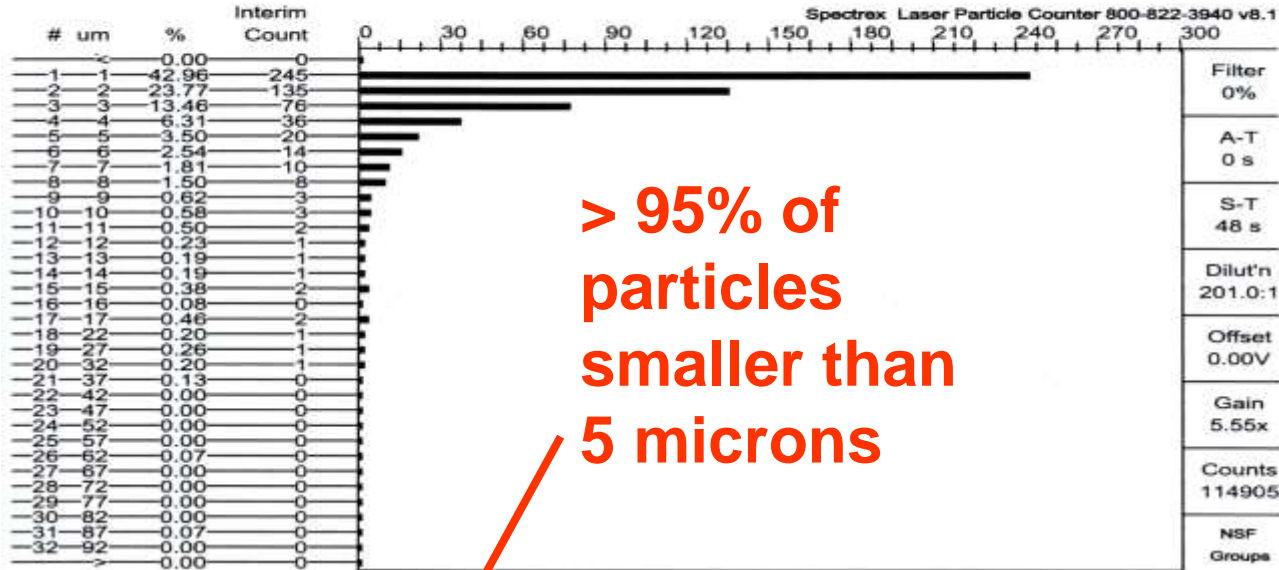
Therefore comparing technologies on a ppm basis will not give you the real picture ...

**look for a Particle Size Distribution Report**  
**before choosing the technology**

# Particulate Size Distribution

SAMPLE: #1 COOLING TOWER  
 FEDERAL RESERVE BANK  
 DATED: NONE TIME: NONE  
 SPECTREX #: 1664A

## Cooling Tower Sample



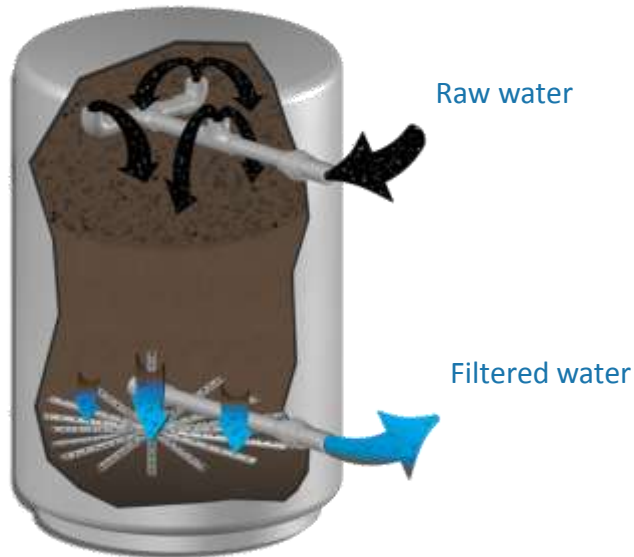
> 95% of particles smaller than 5 microns

NSF Class	Size	Total counts /cc	Counts percent	Surface area percent	Volume percent	Mass/bin ppm
#1	< 1	0.00	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.0000
#2	1-5	99,392.82	86.50%	13.55%	2.23%	0.4599
#3	5-15	13,390.85	11.65%	23.89%	9.14%	1.8887
#4	15-30	1,590.99	1.38%	19.85%	15.10%	3.1187
#5	30-50	378.84	0.33%	14.41%	15.82%	3.2690
#6	50-100	151.52	0.13%	28.31%	57.71%	11.9223

Total counts: 114,905.00/cc  
 Total suspended solids: 20.66ppm (mg/liter)  
 Dilution factor: 201.00:1  
 Spec. gravity: 1.00  
 Mean size: 2.86um  
 Standard dev: 1.29um

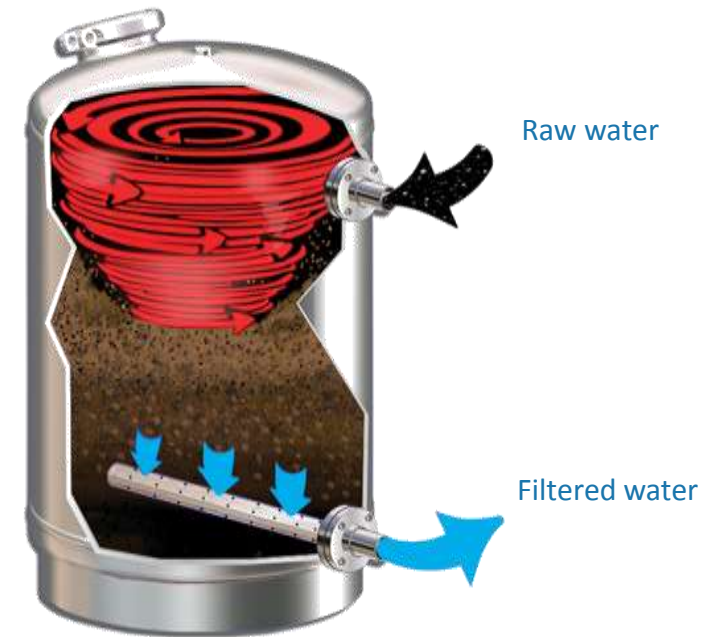
## REGULAR SAND FILTER

- **Downflow** filtration
- 10 to 20 micron filtration by weight
- Ideal Flow rate of 5-10 gal \ sqf.
- 10% of flow rate is a minimum



## VORTISAND<sup>®</sup>

- **Crossflow** filtration
- Down to 0.45 micron by particle count
- Ideal flow rate of 15 to 20 gal/sq.
- 5% of flow rate is usually sufficient



# BACKWASH WATER REQUIREMENTS

## Footprint \ Space savings

Regular Sand Filter

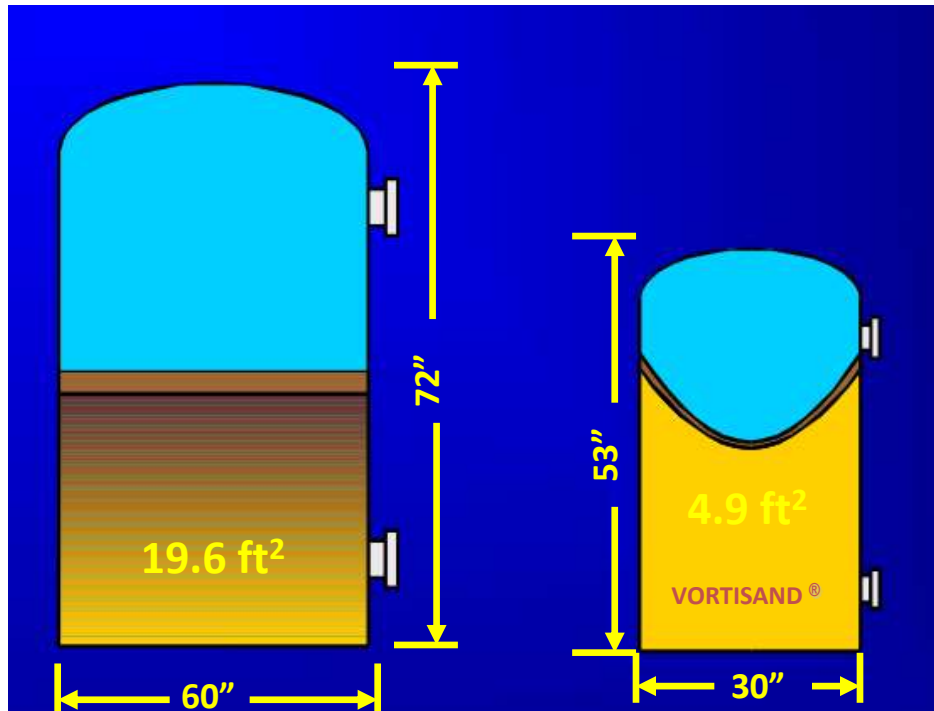
Backwash  
Flow Rate

250 GPM @ 12 min.

3 000 Total Gallons

Backwash Piping  
Supply / Discharge  
4" dia.

Process Flow Rate 100 gpm



Cross Flow  
Filtration  
VORTISAND

Backwash  
Flow Rate

50 GPM @ 4-8 min.

300 Total Gallons

Backwash Piping  
Supply / Discharge  
2" dia.

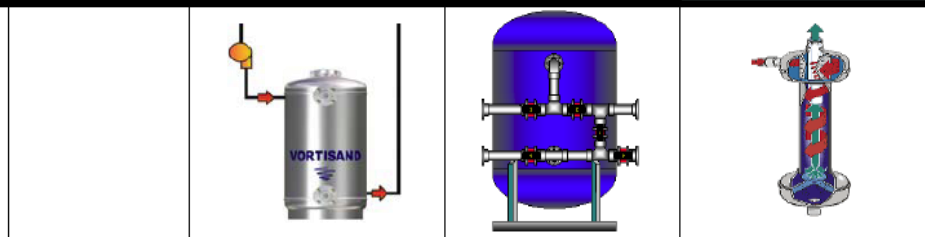
Benefits Of  
Vortisand:

- Less foot print - easier to locate area for installation
- Less backwash rate – possible limited feed flow / pressure
- Less backwash volume – waste water to treat and discharge (90%)
- Lower installation cost – foot print and piping dia. requirements

# FILTRATION TECHNOLOGIES – OPERATING COST

## FILTER COMPARISON

Water Cost / 1000 Gal.	\$ 1.75	Cycles of Concentration	4	Centrifugal Separator
Sewer Cost / 1000 Gal.	\$ 1.75	Operational Hrs / Day	24	
Electrical Cost / KWHr	\$ 0.06	Operational Days / Yr	365	Purge Time / Sec.
Chemical Cost - Monthly \$ / Ton	\$ 3.00	Cooling Tower Tons	1000	5
Media Cost Cu / Ft	\$ 15.00	Recirc Rate GPM	3000	Purge Cycle / Min.
Labor Cost / Hr	\$ 35.00	Vortisand Flow Rate @	5%	15



	Vortisand Cross Flow	Typical Depth Filter	Centrifugal Separator
Vortisand Model	AWT1-36	72 x 60 x 1	
Micron Removal Rate	0.45 - 2.0 Micron	10 - 20 Micron	20 - 40 Micron @ 2.6 SG
Estimated Volume Gallons	10000	10000	10000
Estimated Turnovers / Day	20	40	81
Recirc %	5%	10%	20%
Flow Rate GPM	140	280	560
Backwash Rate GPM	70	420	33
Backwash / Purge Volume / Day	1120	6300	3200
Est. Backwash Volume / YR	817600	2299500	1168000
Tanks / Vessels	1	1	1
Media Requirement	24.1	61.0	0
Filter Pump Hp	3	7.5	15.0
Foot Print	3'7" x 4'2"	73" x 90"	94 1/2" x 40"
Installation Feed Pipe Requirements	3"	5"	6"
** Agitation Recommended	No	Yes	Yes
Annual Water Cost	\$ 1,431	\$ 4,024	\$ 2,044
Annual Sewer Cost	\$ 1,431	\$ 4,024	\$ 2,044
Annual Chemical Cost / Cooling Tower Backwash	\$ -	\$ 9,828	\$ 4,992
Annual Electrical Cost	\$ 1,176	\$ 2,940	\$ 5,879
Annual Media Replacement Cost (Every 5 Years)	\$ 157	\$ 397	\$ -
Operation Total Annual Cost	\$ 4,194	\$ 21,212	\$ 14,959

- Vortisand Filter = Backwash 2 every 24 hrs.
- Typical Filter = Backwash 1 every 24 hrs.
- Typical Media Filter design is based on 15 -18 gal / sq using tower water
- Centrifugal Separator purge 5 sec. every 15 min
- Centrifugal Separators are S.G. dependant – 2.6
- Centrifugal Separators use five times the electrical cost
- Sump sweeper systems are recommended for Typical Depth and Separator to improve filtration efficiency

Company:	Monte Carlo #7074
Total Cooling Capacity	5000
Recirculation Flow - GPM	15000
Average Load (estimated):	50%
Vortisand Filter Model:	AWT3-36-SP
Filtration flow - GPM	420
Vortisand Filter Motor HP	10.0
Hours/Day Operation	24
Days/Year Operation	365
Electrical Cost per KWH	\$ 0.10
Chemical Cost Per Month / Ton	\$ 1.50
Number of Cleanings per Year	2
Number of Workers Used	2
Total Time per Cleaning (Hours)	20
Personnel Cost per Hour	\$ 60.00

System Cost Includes: Vortisand SI, Skid, Startup, Shipping  
Shipping estimated at \$1,200 cost.



A. ENERGY SAVINGS	
Total Tons for Centrifugal Chillers	5000
KW/TON (Average)	0.7
Hours/Day Operation	24
Days/Year Operation	365
Hours of Operation per Year	8760
Electrical Cost per KWH	\$0.10
% Load	50%
Total Yearly Operating Cost of System	\$ 1,533,000
<b>SAVINGS:</b> (Based upon a minimum reduction in system fouling of 0.001", thus providing savings of 5%)	\$ 76,650

B. CHEMICAL SAVINGS (CONDENSER)	
Annual Water Treatment Cost for Cooling Tower at Ton per month	\$ 91,250
Minimum water treatment saving	\$ 13,688

C. OPERATION & MAINTENANCE SAVINGS (COOLING TOWER LOOP)	
Number of Cleanings per Year	2
Number of Workers Used	2
Total Time per Cleaning (Hours)	20
Personnel Cost per Hour	\$ 60
Total Annual Maintenance Cost	\$ 4,800
Minimum Maintenance Savings: Savings of 50% in maintenance costs are gained due to the elimination of sump cleaning and maintenance programs	\$ 2,400
Total Operation and Maintenance Savings	\$ 2,400

Here's how ...

VARIOUS ANNUAL SAVINGS	
Minimum Energy Savings	\$ 76,650
Minimum Water Treatment Savings	\$ 13,688
Minimum Maintenance Savings	\$ 2,400
<b>Operational Cost Savings (See Proposal Page 14) Current Filtration Technology vs. Vortisand Technology</b>	
Water Savings	\$ 5,557.00
Sewer Savings	\$ 5,557.00
Chemical Savings	\$ 23,040.00
Electrical Savings	\$ 19,597.00
Media Service Cost	\$ (470.00)
<b>Total Annual Savings</b>	\$ 146,019
Vortisand Annual Power Supply Cost	\$ (6,532)
<b>Net Annual Savings</b>	<b>\$ 139,486</b>

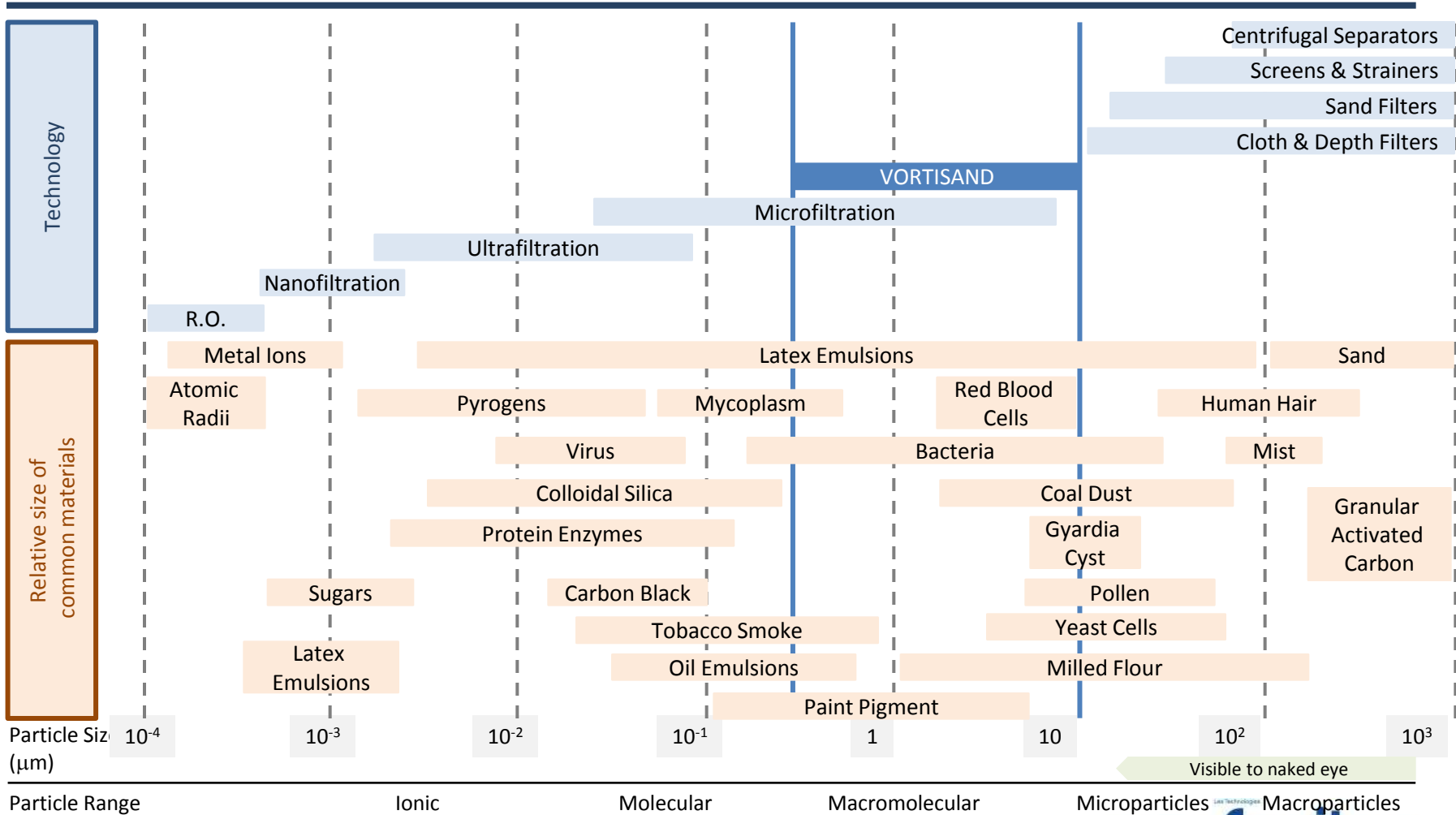
(See over section A, B & C - for details)

<b>VORTISAND SYSTEM COST</b>	\$ 73,383
<b>VORTISAND INSTALLATION (est)</b>	\$ 48,000

PAYBACK PERIOD	
Total Annual Net Savings	\$ 139,486
Vortisand Filter Cost	\$ 121,383
<b>Return on Investment, (Yrs).</b>	<b>0.87</b>

# VORTISAND® RANGE ENABLES TO FILTER PARTICLES SMALLER THAN 1 MICRON

Ranges of filtration process



# VORTISAND® FOR VARIOUS APPLICATIONS



HVAC Commercial & Industrial



Drinking Water



Water reuse - RO



Water Intake



Recreational

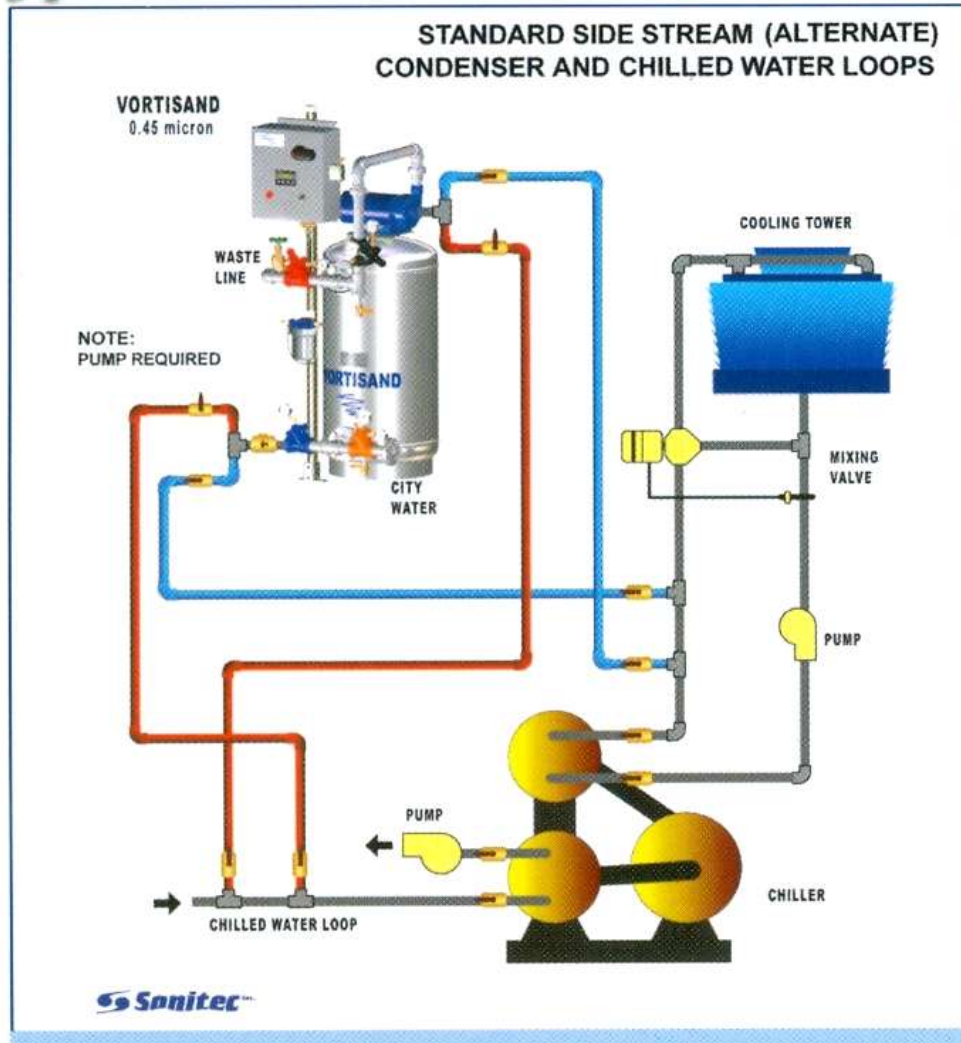
**More than 2,500 systems worldwide**



# Clients Sample of the Vortisand® system



# Typical Side Stream Installation



**Alternate Water Loop** – Filter can be used on both open and closed loop systems. Primary filtration on cooling tower loop and secondary (alternate) filtration on closed loop when required.



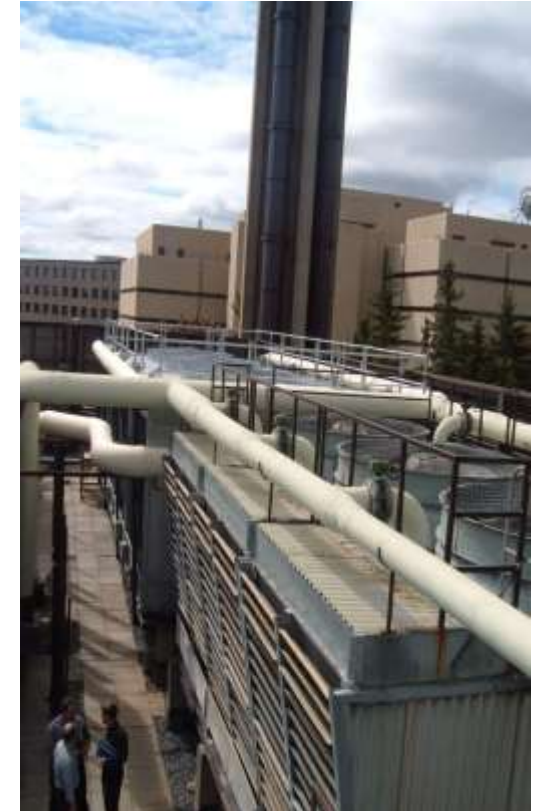
## CONTROL OF LEGIONELLA IN COOLING TOWER

### Best Practices for Control of Legionella

#### Reduce Protected Environment & Reduce Nutrients



- Minimize **Water Stagnation**
- Minimize Process Leaks into the Cooling Tower which can provide **nutrients for bacteria**
- **Minimize the buildup of sediments**
- Apply **scale and corrosion inhibitors**
- Use High-efficiency mist eliminators
- **Control** the overall **microbiological population**



PAPER NO: TP10-04  
CATEGORY: MATERIALS

## COOLING TECHNOLOGY INSTITUTE

# SIMULTANEOUS REMOVAL OF WATERBORNE BACTERIA AND TOTAL SUSPENDED SOLIDS USING AN ANTIMICROBIAL MEDIA IN A CROSSFLOW FILTER SYSTEM

JAMES W. STEPHENS  
SONITEC, INC.



The studies and conclusions reported in this paper are the results of the author's own work. CTI has not investigated, and CTI expressly disclaims any duty to investigate, any product, service process, procedure, design, or the like that may be described herein. The appearance

## Simultaneous Removal of Waterborne Bacteria and Total Suspended Solids Using an Antimicrobial Media in a Crossflow Filter System

James W. Stephens, Sonitec, Inc., 226 Wintergreen Drive, Noblesville, IN 46062, (317) 770-4197.  
REFERENCE: CTI Annual Conference, Houston, TX, February 7-11, 2010.

### ABSTRACT

This paper describes the results of laboratory challenges supported by a series of field demonstrations where an innovative filtration technology is applied for the simultaneous removal and suppression of waterborne bacteria and total suspended solids (TSS). The media includes an EPA-registered antimicrobial agent which permanently bonds to a silica-based substrate. The filter media instantaneously destroys both gram positive and negative bacteria on contact without relying on physical trapping, chemical reaction, or the addition of chemical disinfectants. The media is neither consumed nor dispersed in the treatment stream, leaves no *in-situ* or downstream residue, and is safe to handle. Independent acute toxicity tests, combined with NSF/ANSI 61 certification, supports that the filter media does not produce toxic metabolites in the effluent water. Laboratory efficacy tests conducted against *E. coli*, *Legionella pneumophila*, sulfate reducing bacteria (SRBs), iron fixing bacteria (IFBs), and total coliform bacteria achieved removal efficiencies ranging from 92 to >99.9%.

Successful cooling tower case studies using a crossflow sand filter containing the antimicrobial media are described. Effective bacteria suppression was maintained and simultaneous TSS reduction rates of 95% were achieved while filtering particles down to 0.25 microns. A third field application was achieved using the crossflow sand filter containing the antimicrobial media, where treated effluent from extraction wells that achieved removal efficiencies in excess of 99% against high concentrations of SRBs and IFBs.

The laboratory challenges and field demonstrations support that the antimicrobial filter media is effective for the removal of harmful waterborne bacteria. Furthermore, the use of the antimicrobial media in a crossflow filter device can be used for a variety of applications where both bacteria and TSS are simultaneously required. The use of this integrated treatment approach can provide for high TSS removal efficiency while reducing operating costs.

### MICROBIAL FILTRATION TECHNOLOGY

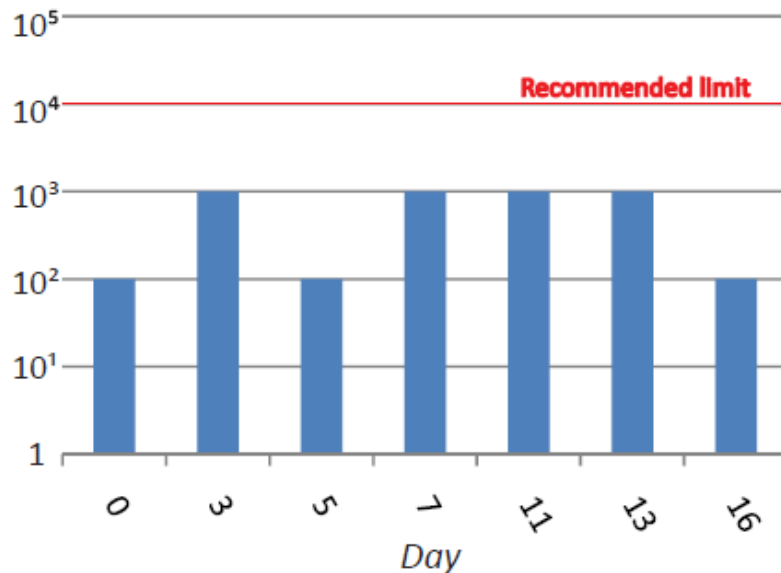
With the ever increasing environmental concern associated with harmful bacteria, an innovative



# Microbial Control Media

NEW ! Scientifically proven effective

## Total Aerobic Bacteria vs. Time



Total Aerobic Bacteria versus days of treatment for a 300 ton process cooling tower using the Vortisand MCM technology. Note: graphic is on a log scale.

## Summary of Legionella Efficacy Tests

Influent Concentration (col/ml)	Effluent Concentration (col/ml)	Removal Efficiency (%)
650	30	95.4
570	<10	99.1

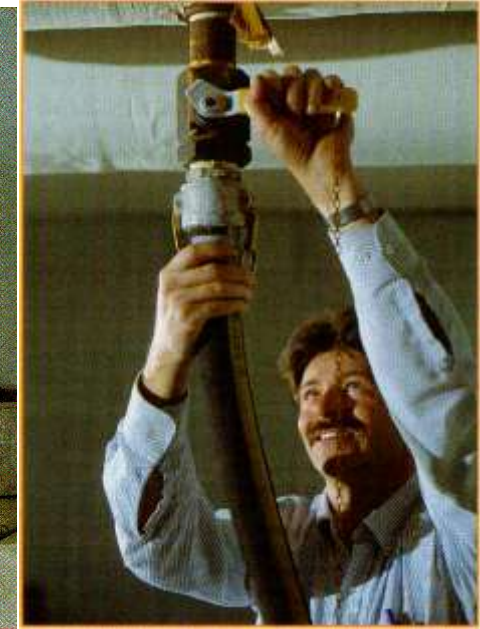
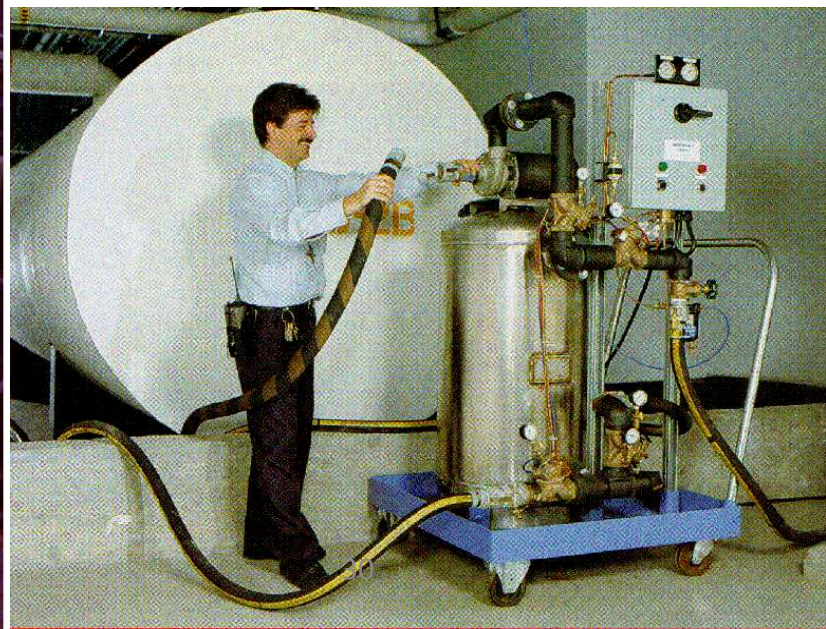
- 4 field sites tested for 4 years
- No presence of CFU  $\geq 10^3$
- Some without any biocide !
- Unique – simple - innovative

# CHILLED LOOPS CLEANUP WITH PORTABLE VORTISAND 1000 LA GAUCHETIERE BUILDING, MONTREAL, CANADA



**PORTABLE UNIT MOUNTED  
ON SKID ON WHEELS**

- ✓ Quick connectors
- ✓ Various sizes (20, 30, 60 ,75 gpm)
- ✓ Multi loops applications (chilled and hot water loops)



1000 Gauchetière. Montréal  
Canada

# 1000 LA GAUCHETIERE BUILDING, MONTREAL, CANADA IRON REMOVAL EFFICIENCY

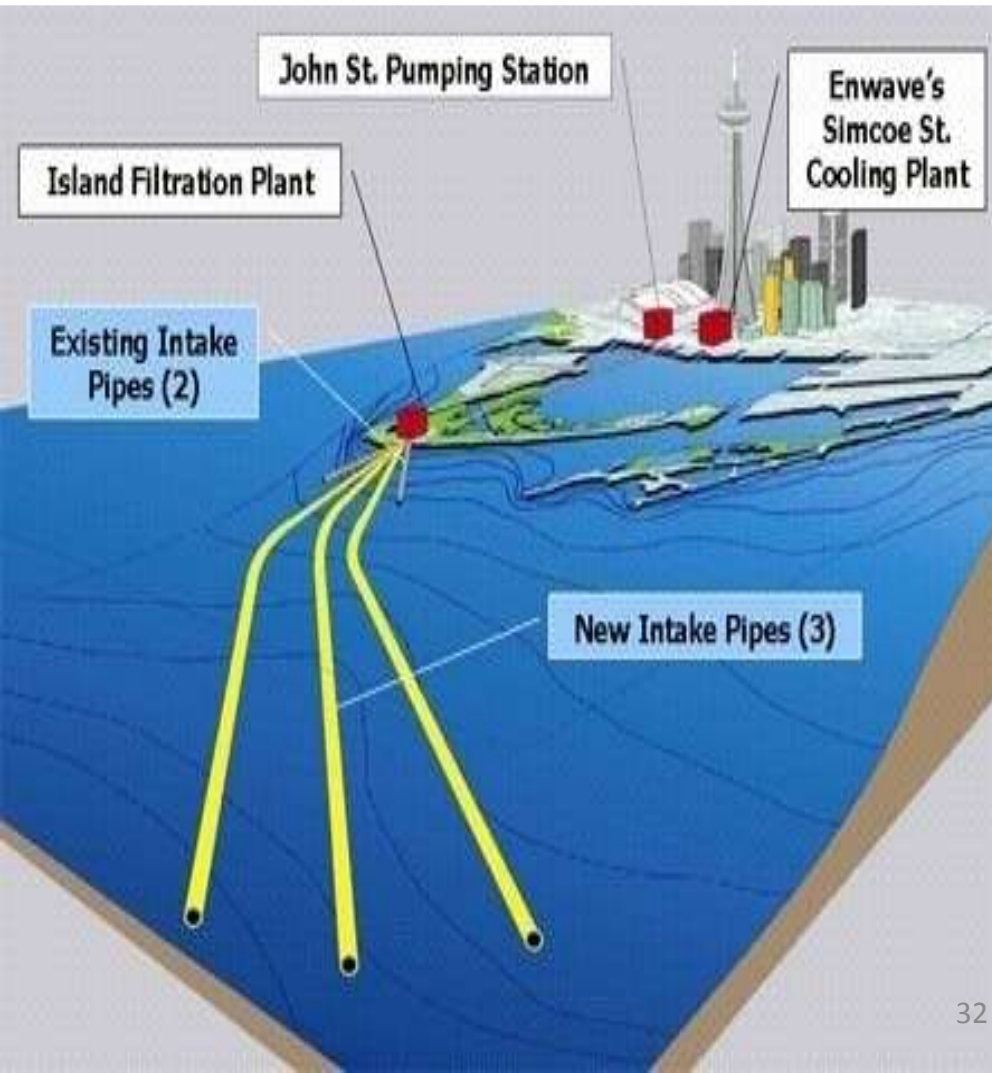
43 ppm Iron removed after only 56 days  
Improved Chemical Efficiency



<b>Date:</b>	<b>20 oct.</b>	<b>4 nov.</b>	<b>11 nov.</b>	<b>18 nov.</b>	<b>2dec.</b>	<b>9 dec.</b>	<b>15 dec.</b>
<b>Iron:</b>	<b>45 ppm</b>	<b>20 ppm</b>	<b>18 ppm</b>	<b>15 ppm</b>	<b>10 ppm</b>	<b>5 ppm</b>	<b>2 ppm</b>
<b>Molyb:</b>	<b>65 ppm</b>	<b>70 ppm</b>	<b>70 ppm</b>	<b>70 ppm</b>	<b>70 ppm</b>	<b>70 ppm</b>	<b>70 ppm</b>



## DISTRICT COOLING - ENWAVE CORP. , TORONTO, CANADA



Enwave and the City of Toronto have created an innovative cooling system that brings an alternative to conventional air conditioning to cool Toronto's downtown core — one that is clean, price competitive and energy efficient.

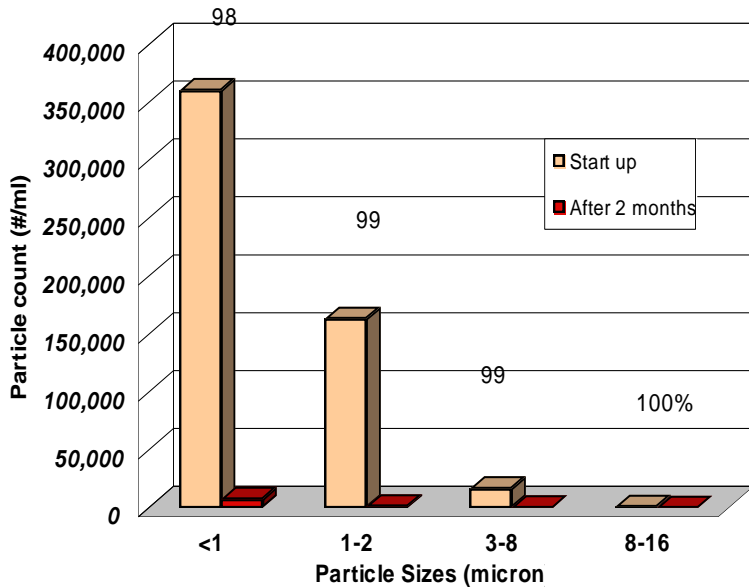
A permanent layer of icy-cold (4°C) water 83 meters below the surface of Lake Ontario provides naturally cold water.

This water is the renewable source of energy that Enwave's leading-edge technology uses to cool office towers, sports & entertainment complexes and proposed waterfront developments.



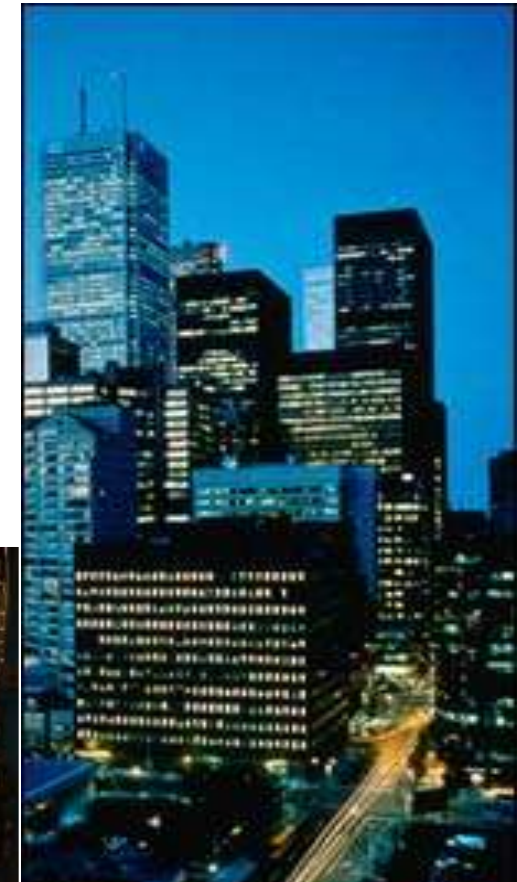
# DISTRICT COOLING - ENWAVE CORP. , TORONTO, CANADA

**ENWAVE Chilled Water Loop**  
Particle Count - Start up / After 2 months



**90% TSS Reduction after 4 weeks**

**CHILLED WATER LOOP**  
suspended particle counts shows that most suspended solids are smaller than 5 microns.



**District Cooling**  
Vortisand model AWT6-30-SI



# Petro-Chemical Industry

Conoco Phillips - Baker, Montana  
Application: Water injection well - 2011



# LAX airport comparative technologies as per original specs : Combined sand filter +bag filters/cartridges

	Alternate Filter	As per Technical Specs	
	Vortisand	Traditional filter + sweeper piping	Cartridge filter
Flowrate	2,800 gpm (5%)	4 x 2,100 gpm (15%)	3,000 gpm (5%)
Filtration Efficiency	0.45 micron	20 microns (at best)	1 micron
Technology	Centrifugal Sand Filter - Automatic Backwash	Traditional Sand Filter Automatic Backwash	Disposable Cartridge Filter
Backwash Flowrate	75 gpm (5)	1,000 gpm	n/a
Backwash Volume	5,625 gallons/day (2,000,000 g/year) 9,000/year (1)	\$ 9,100,000 g/year 41,400 (1)	\$ n/a
Filter Pump	45 HP (30 kW)	4 x 60 HP (180 kW)	75 HP (56 kW)
Electrical Usage (based on 6,000 hrs)	270,000 kWh 40,500 (4)	\$ 1,072,000 kWh 160,800 (4)	\$ 335,000 kWh 50,250 (4)
Additional Cost of Chemicals (use of CT water for BW)	n/a	\$ 30,000 (2)	n/a
Cartridge replacement Frequency	n/a	n/a	1/week min. (3)
Cost per replacement	\$ 10,000 for 5 years or \$ 2,000 / year (media)	\$ 10,000 / year (media)	160 cartridges @ \$ 7 ea. (\$ 1,120 /wk or \$ 58,240 \$ /yr)
Media Disposal Cost	1 every 5 years (10 tons / 5 years)	1 every year (10-12 tons / year)	Once a week (10 -12 tons year)
Storage Cost	n/a	n/a	TBC
Total Operating Costs (estimated)	\$ 60,500	\$ 242,200	\$ 108,290

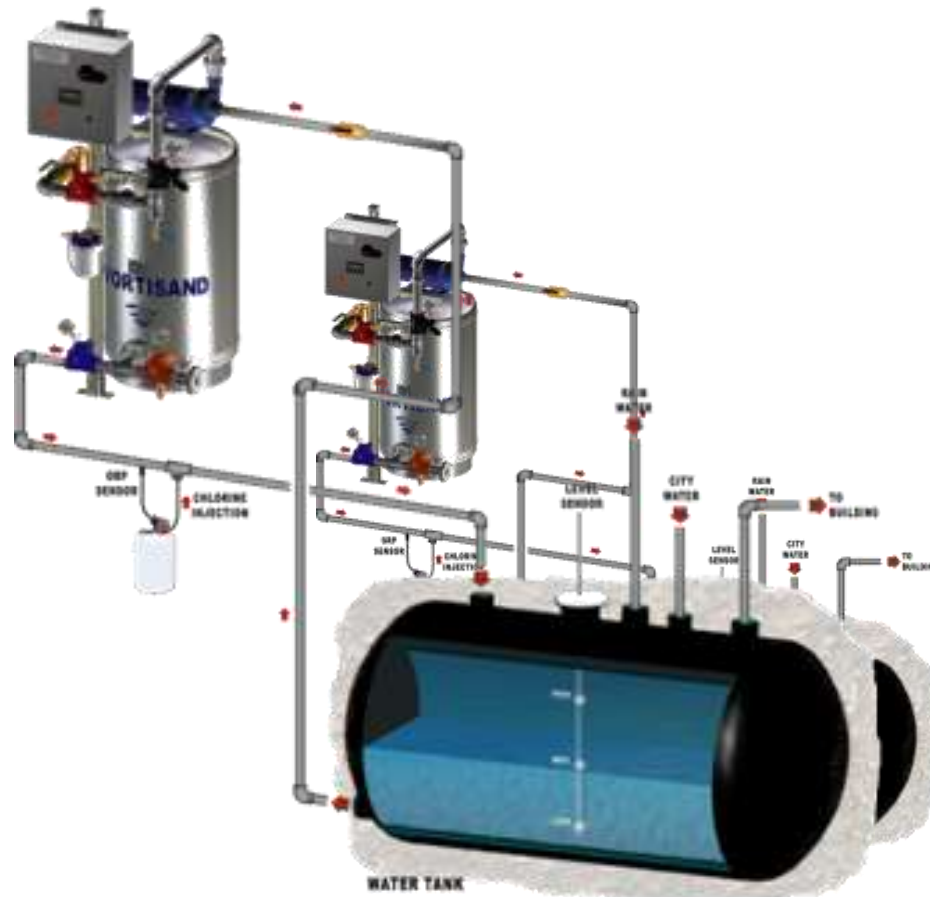
Combined \$ 350,490



# Pre RO Applications



# Rain water Harvesting





# Rain Water Harvesting

- UQAM Sciences Building – Received the prestigious LEED-NC Silver USGBC Certification - 2007;
- Ecole Polytechnique de Montreal, LEED-NC Gold Project – 2005;



## COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS - ONE ALAMO BLDG, SAN ANTONIO, TX

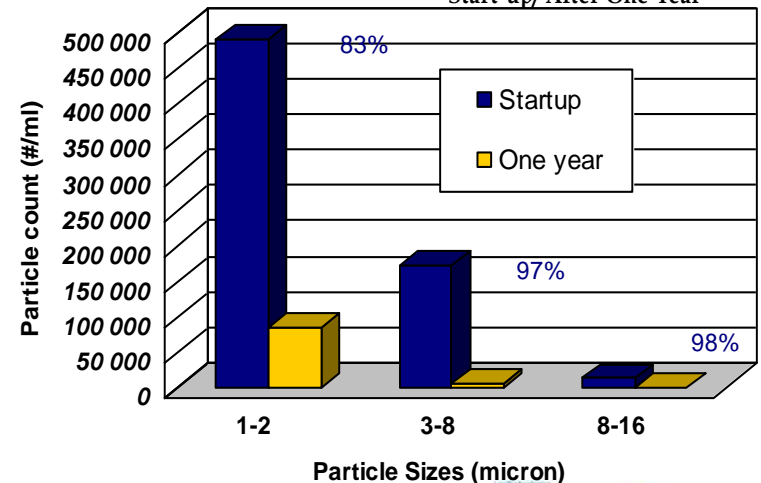
Winner the 2005  
San Antonio Water  
System WATER  
SAVINGS AWARD

“Cycle of concentration raised from 3.7 to 5.5 resulting from reduced suspended solid loads. **50% makeup water reduction** allowed the use of underground water instead of City water. Great water savings which resulted to SAWS Water Saving Award in 2005.

Basin cleanup frequency has been reduced from twice a year to once every two year. Basin water is crystal clear. We also made great savings on strainers maintenance “

Jerry Lovell, Chief Engineer. One Alamo, San Antonio,

Open Water Loop Particle Count  
One Alamo. San Antonio (TX)  
Start-up/ After One Year



TSS load reduced by 99 %



## COMMERCIAL - MANDARIN ORIENTAL HOTEL, WASHINGTON, D.C.

“The hotel doesn't consumer nearly as much cooling tower chemistry now because the Vortisand has made the water much cleaner,”

“We're now realizing a roughly 45% savings on chemistry verses the amount we spent, pre-instalment. Water usage has gone down substantially as well. We've enjoyed a 35% use reduction over last year, the majority of the savings occurring since the Vortisand system has been on line.”

- Kevin Sharp, Mandarin Oriental Energy Manager



**In 21 months of run time the NET RESULT IS:**

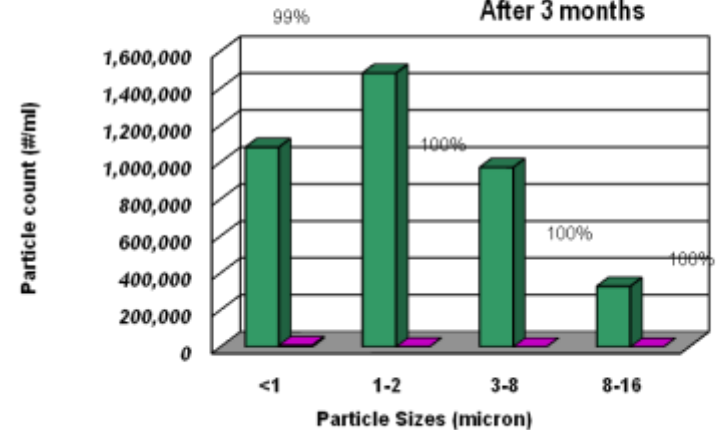
Electrical Savings -- \$152,689.00

Water Savings -- \$117,843.00

Chemical Savings -- \$14,175.00

**Grand TOTAL savings of -- \$284,707.00**  
for an Installed Investment of \$75,000

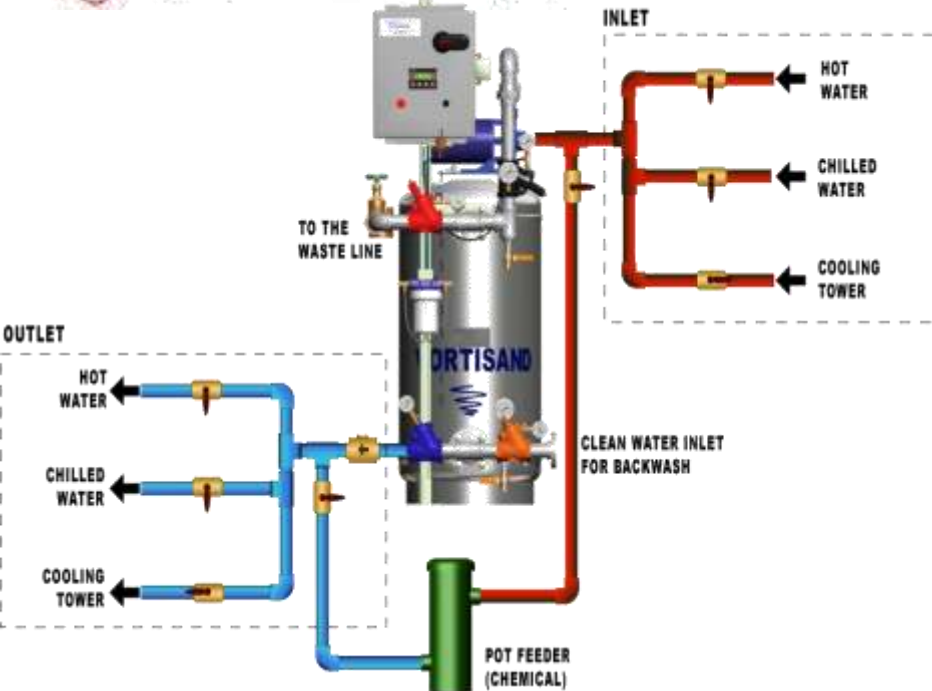
Open Water Loop  
Particle Count  
Mandarin Hotel, DC  
After 3 months



THE HOTEL GROUP  
**Sonitec**  
vortisand inc.  
Technology



## INSTUTIONAL - MCGILL UNIVERSITY, MONTREAL, CANADA



*Mr. Andre Thompson, Facilities Management Supervisor*

Since 1995, more than 20 Vortisand filters installed on the Campus.

Each filter is used for a minimum of 3 chilled/hot water loops.

The largest loop volume to be 20,000 gallons. **Alternate loop filtration**

- SONITEC JOINED USGBC IN 2004
- SONITEC JOINED CAGBC IN 2005
- GREENSPEC LISTED PRODUCT CERTIFICATION (2007)
- SONITEC GREEN REPS NETWORK - GLOBAL
- GREENBUILD EXPO (*First Water Filter Manufacturer*)
  - ✓ ATLANTA 2005
  - ✓ DENVER 2006
  - ✓ CHICAGO 2007
  - ✓ BOSTON 2008
  - ✓ PHOENIX 2009
  - ✓ CHICAGO 2010
  - ✓ TORONTO 2011





Thank You !

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