



**WEBER  
ENTEC**

# **INCREASED EFFICIENCY ON BIOGAS PLANTS AND WWTP THROUGH ULTRASOUND DISINTEGRATION**



# WEBER ENTEC ULTRASOUND AT ENVIRONMENTAL SECTOR

- ▶ Founded in 2010
- ▶ Worldwide sales and support network
- ▶ > 200 installations in 17 countries
- ▶ Market leader at ultrasound disintegration



# SELECTED CUSTOMERS



OVER 200 INSTALLATIONS  
WORLDWIDE



Shell  
Low Carbon Solutions  
Biogas

nature  
energy



ABWASSERVERBAND  
ALTENRHEIN



NAWARO<sup>®</sup>  
BioEnergie AG

BIO CIRC

enercity

agri.capital

swb

Haslachhof  
Familie Wiggert

e.on

PUB  
SINGAPORE'S  
NATIONAL  
WATER AGENCY

ATAGO  
CORPORATION

KTG  
Energie AG

OptiGas  
BY NEF

TSK  
TSUKISHIMA  
KIKAI

渠務署  
Drainage Services Department

(주)성진엠텍  
Sungjin M-Tec Co., Ltd.

KURITA

# APPLICATION OF ULTRASOUND DISINTEGRATION



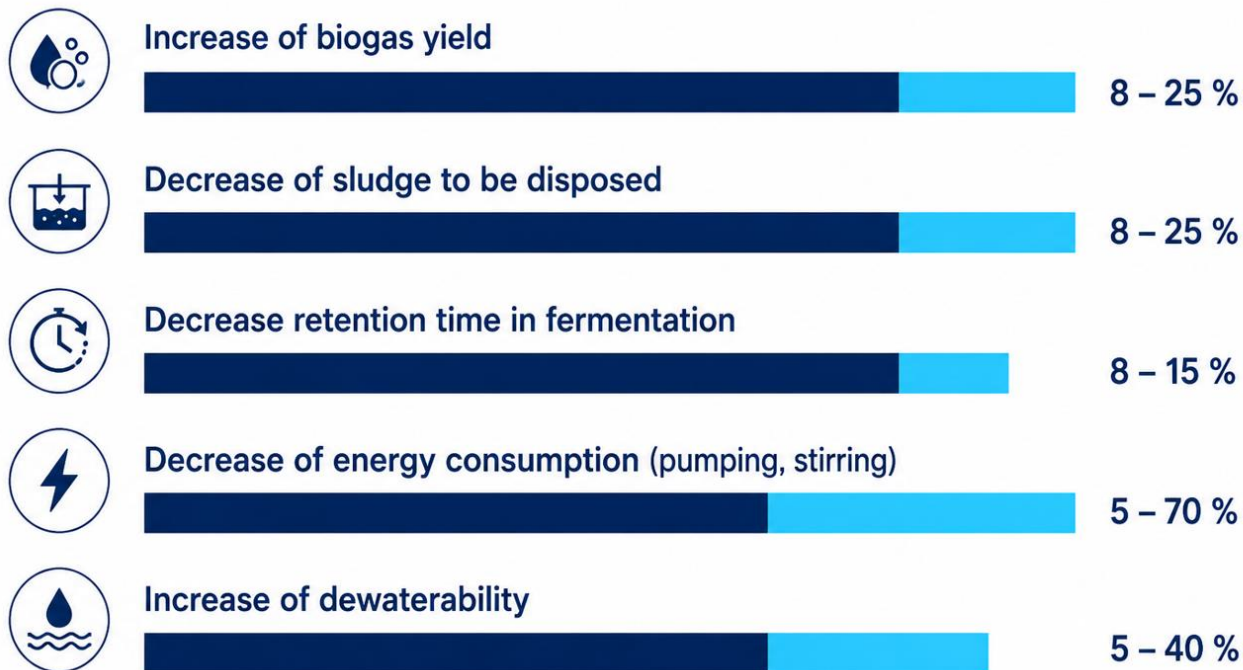
- ▶ Increase of biogas production
- ▶ Reduction of feed stock at equal performance
- ▶ Acceleration of organic degradation
- ▶ Consistent decrease of viscosity
- ▶ Reduction of pump- and stirring energy demand



- ▶ Increase of biogas production
- ▶ Reduction of sludge to be disposed
- ▶ Consistent decrease of viscosity
- ▶ Improved decanting
- ▶ Elimination of foam / filamentous bacteria

# RANGE OF PERFORMANCE

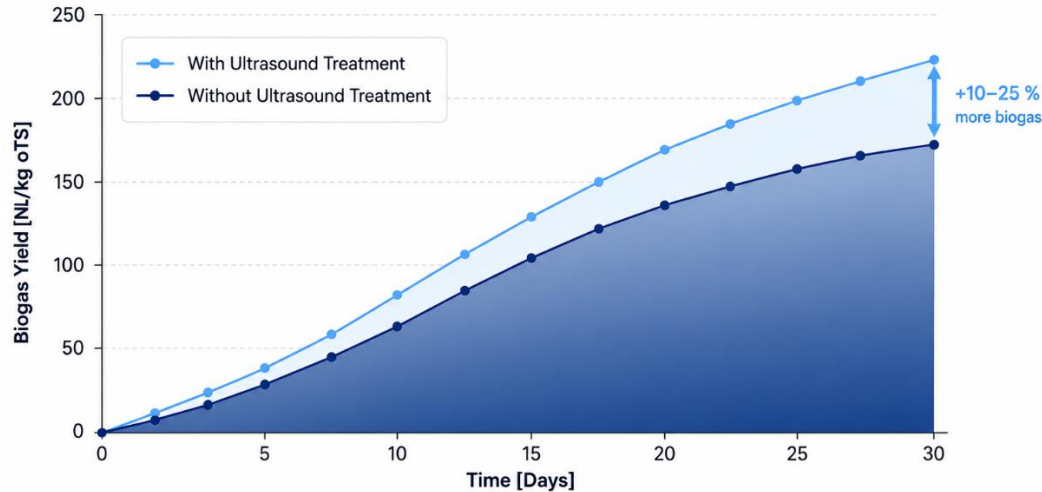
## EFFECTS OF ULTRASOUND DISINTEGRATION



# HIGHER GAS YIELD

## Biogas Yield over 30 Days (BMP Test)

Ultrasound disintegration increases biogas yield.



+10-25 %  
more biogas

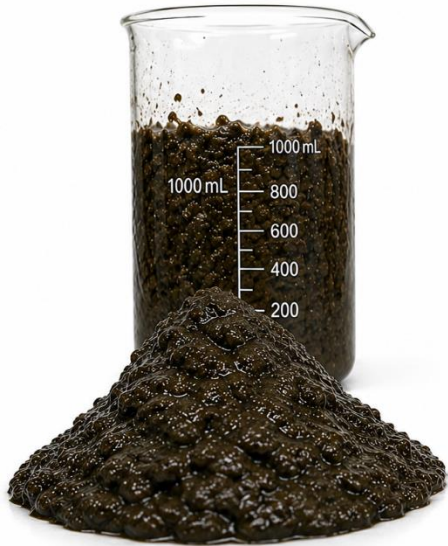


Ultrasound disintegration increases biogas yield by 10–25 % and improves the economic efficiency of biogas plants.

## How ultrasound drives performance

- Increases effective biomass surface area for microbial activity.
- Improves contact between microbes and substrate, boosting mass transfer.
- Accelerates biological conversion (faster hydrolysis and downstream steps).
- Delivers higher gas yield from the same feedstock, or the same yield with less substrate.
- Supports processing of more challenging substrates by improving conversion kinetics.

# REDUCED VISCOSITY



**BEFORE ULTRASOUND**

High viscosity



**AFTER ULTRASOUND**

Reduced viscosity

## After BioPush Treatment:

- ▶ Reduced viscosity
- ▶ Ultrasound improves dewaterability through cell lysis
- ▶ Improved flow characteristics
- ▶ Lower energy demand for pumping, stirring
- ▶ Increased biological stability
- ▶ Higher share of difficult substrates can be processed (e.g. grass, manure, etc)

# IMPROVED DRAINABILITY



WEBER  
ENTEC



- Ultrasound causes **cell lysis**  
→ **Intracellular water** is released



- **Capillary water** is also liberated  
→ Water is **less tightly bound**



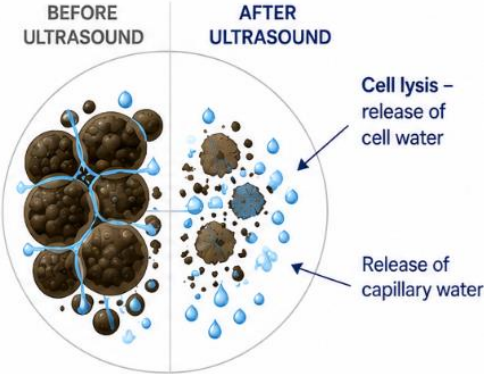
- **Improved floc structure** and drainability



- **Higher solids content**



- **Reduced sludge volume** and disposal costs



# INTEGRATION AT DEWATERING PLANT

Usual  
installation

3-5 % DS



Dewatering machine



25 % DS

Installation  
with US

3-5 % DS



Ultrasound unit



Dewatering machine



37,5 % DS

***50 % improvement***

# SIGNIFICANT CO<sub>2</sub> REDUCTION !



Operating a biogas plant requires energy

- Stirrers
- Pumps
- Feeding
- Recirculation, etc.



Production of substrates requires energy



Substrates emit CO<sub>2</sub>



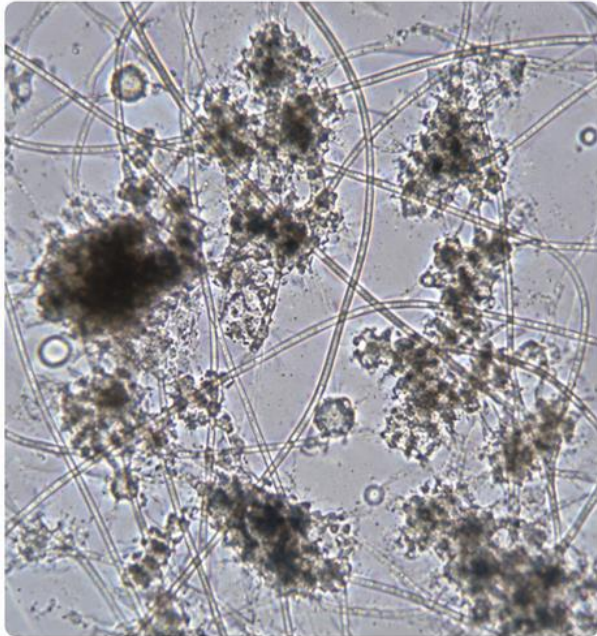
Disposal of the fermentation product requires energy



Ultrasound technology reduces energy demand at multiple points and significantly lowers CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

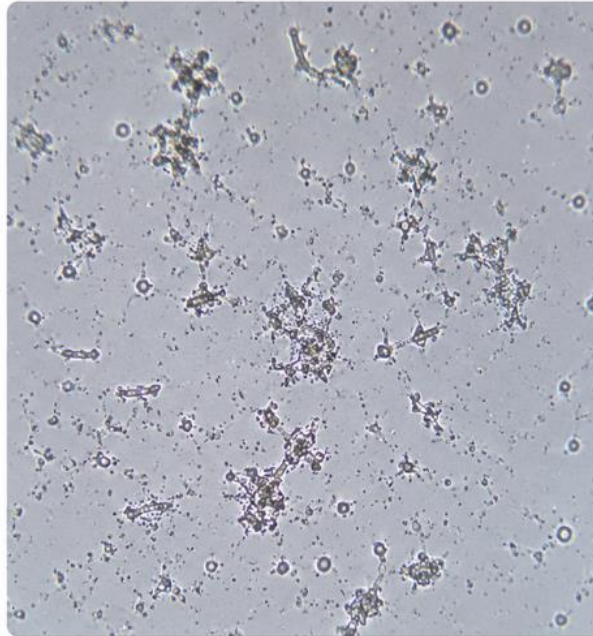
# ELIMINATING FILAMENTOUS BACTERIA

BEFORE ULTRASOUND TREATMENT



Intact filamentous bacteria (e.g. *Microthrix parvicella*) cause foam formation and can lead to fermenter overflow.

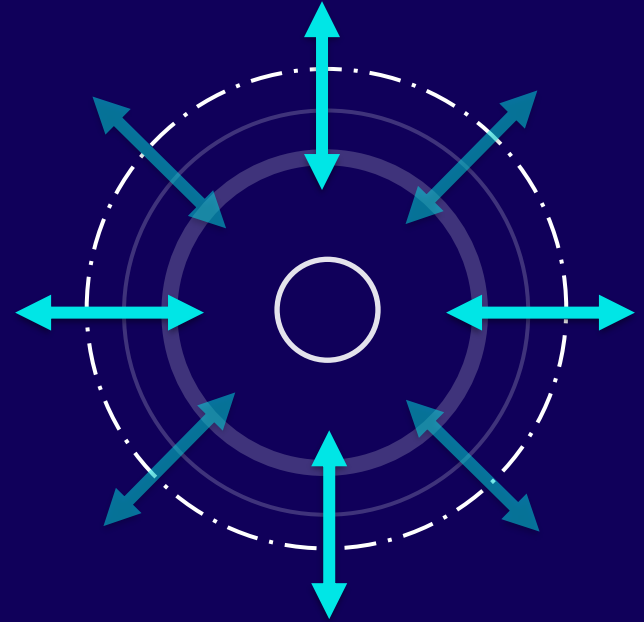
AFTER ULTRASOUND TREATMENT



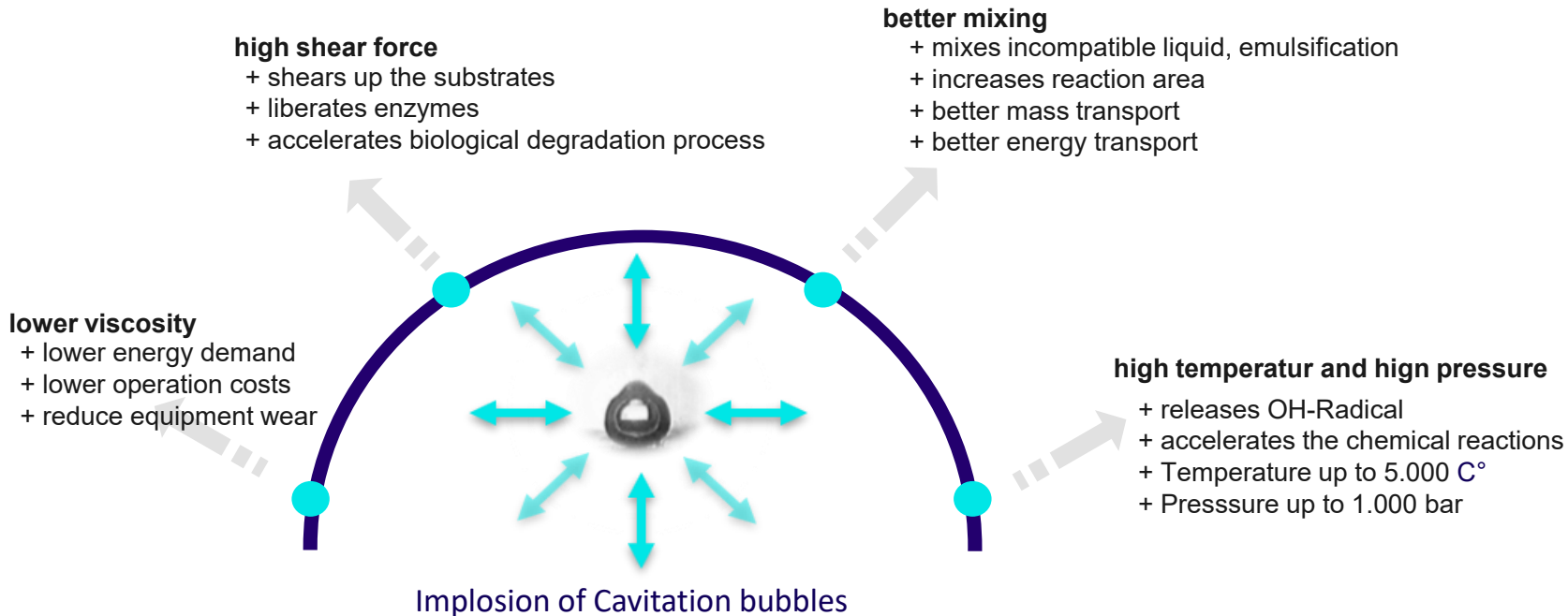
Ultrasound effectively destroys filamentous bacteria reliably and energy-efficiently – without chemicals.

Filamentous bacteria such as *Microthrix parvicella* frequently cause foam formation and can even lead to fermenter overflow. Ultrasound destroys filamentous bacteria reliably and energy-efficiently — without the use of chemicals.

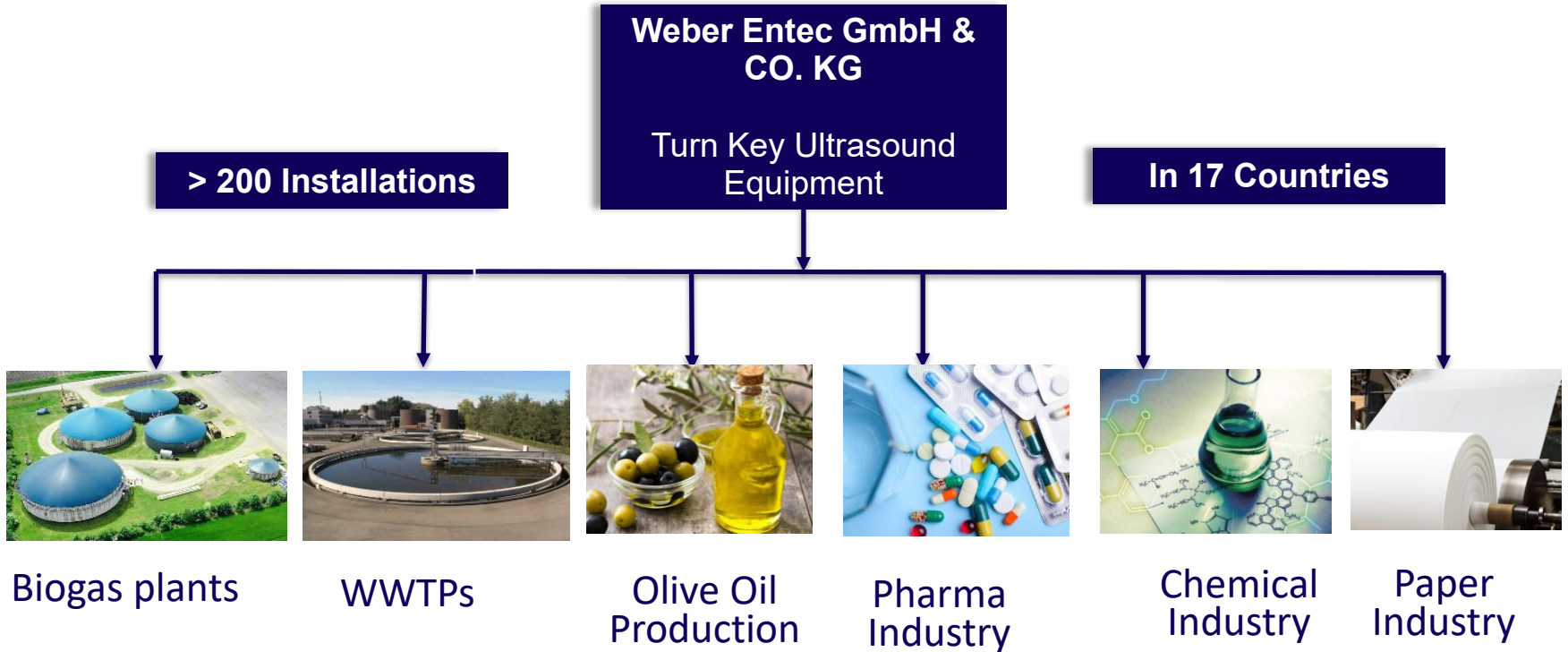
# Physical Principle



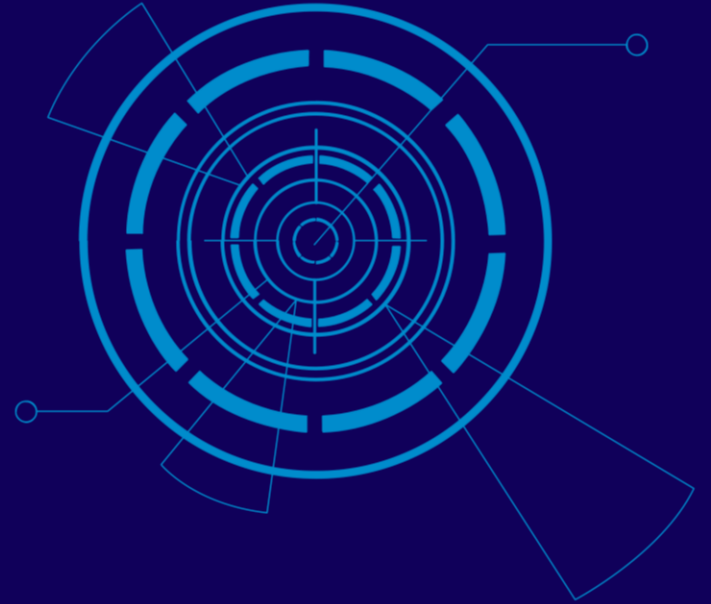
# CAVITATION- BENEFITS



# WEBER ENTEC APPLICATIONS



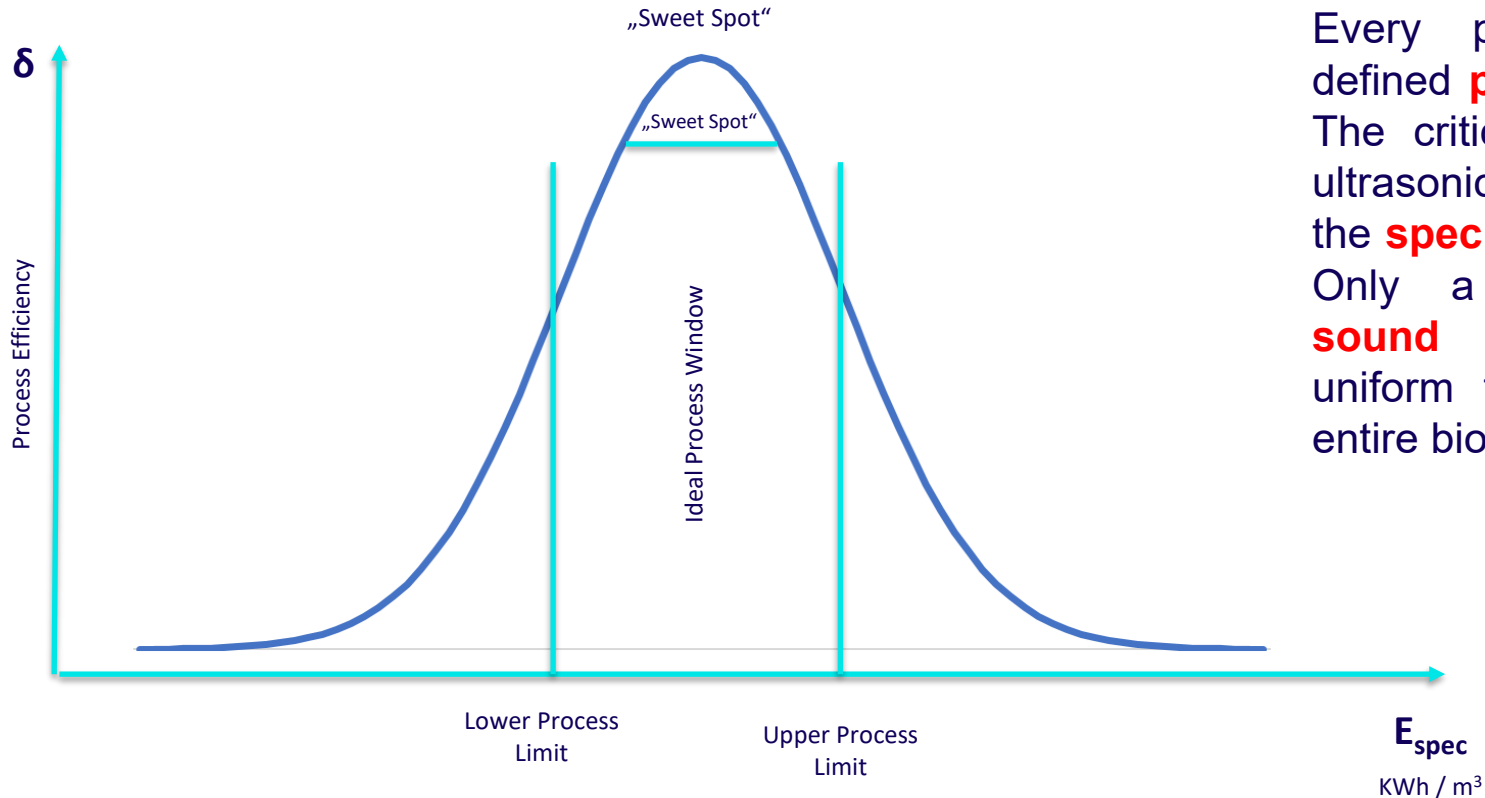
USP, Technical  
advantages,  
Product structure and  
performance



# SPECIFIC ENERGY – PROCESS WINDOW

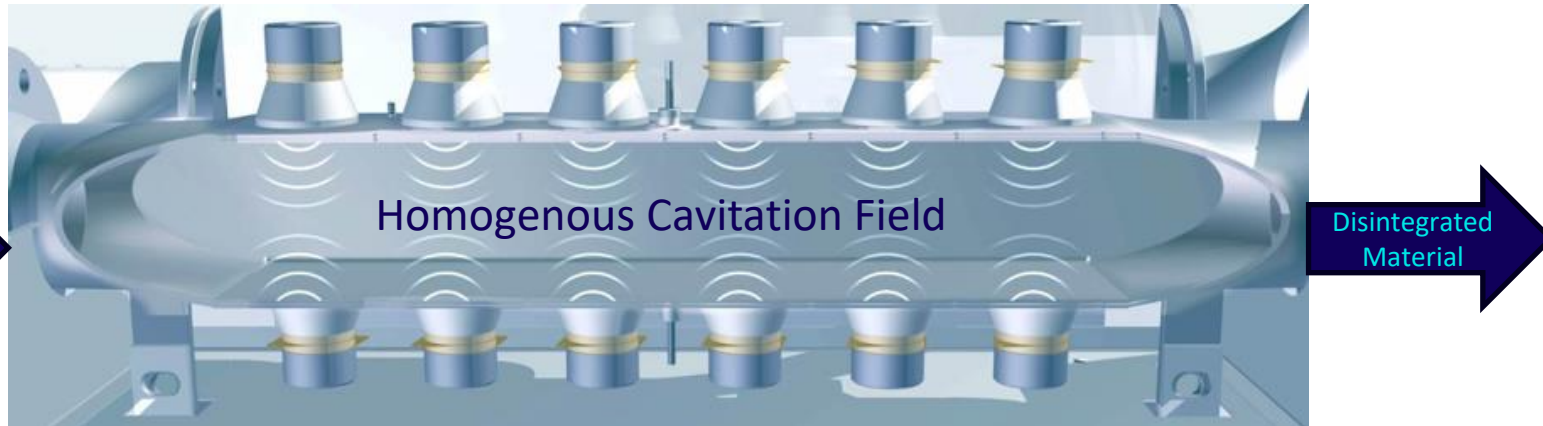


WEBER  
ENTEC



Every process has a defined **process window**. The critical parameter in ultrasonic disintegration is the **specific energy** input. Only a **homogeneous sound field** ensures uniform treatment of the entire biomass.

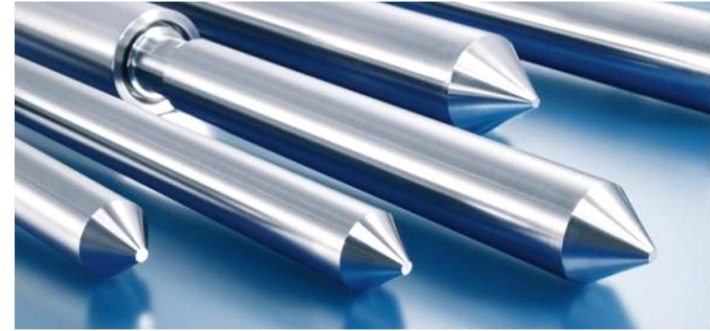
# ULTRASOUND REACTOR BIOPUSH



- Clogging free, maintenance free, high durability
- Homogeneous treatment
- Defined intensity of treatment

# TRADITIONAL ULTRASOUND TECHNOLOGY

- ▶ High erosion
- ▶ Inhomogeneous ultrasound field, due to spot irradiation
- ▶ Significant performance decrease due to erosion
- ▶ Thereby higher maintenance because permanent rinsing is necessary
- ▶ Reactors obstruct easily
- ▶ Higher operating and maintenance costs



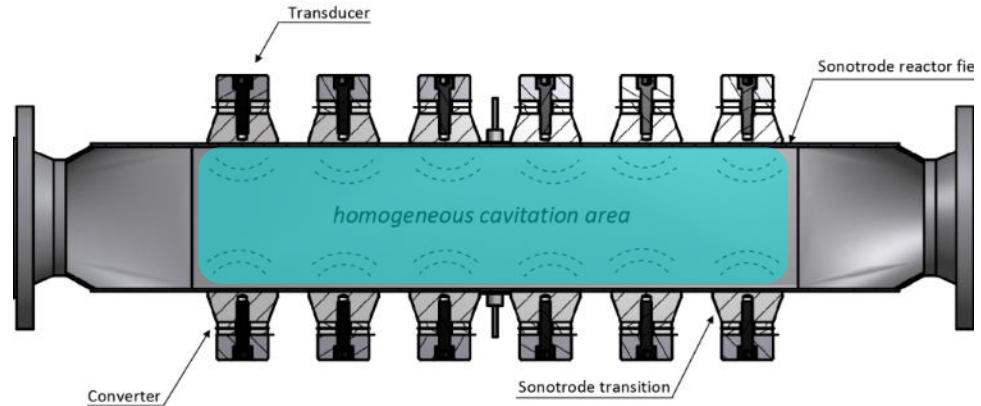
# STD ULTRASOUND VS BIOPUSH IN FLOW



WEBER  
ENTEC

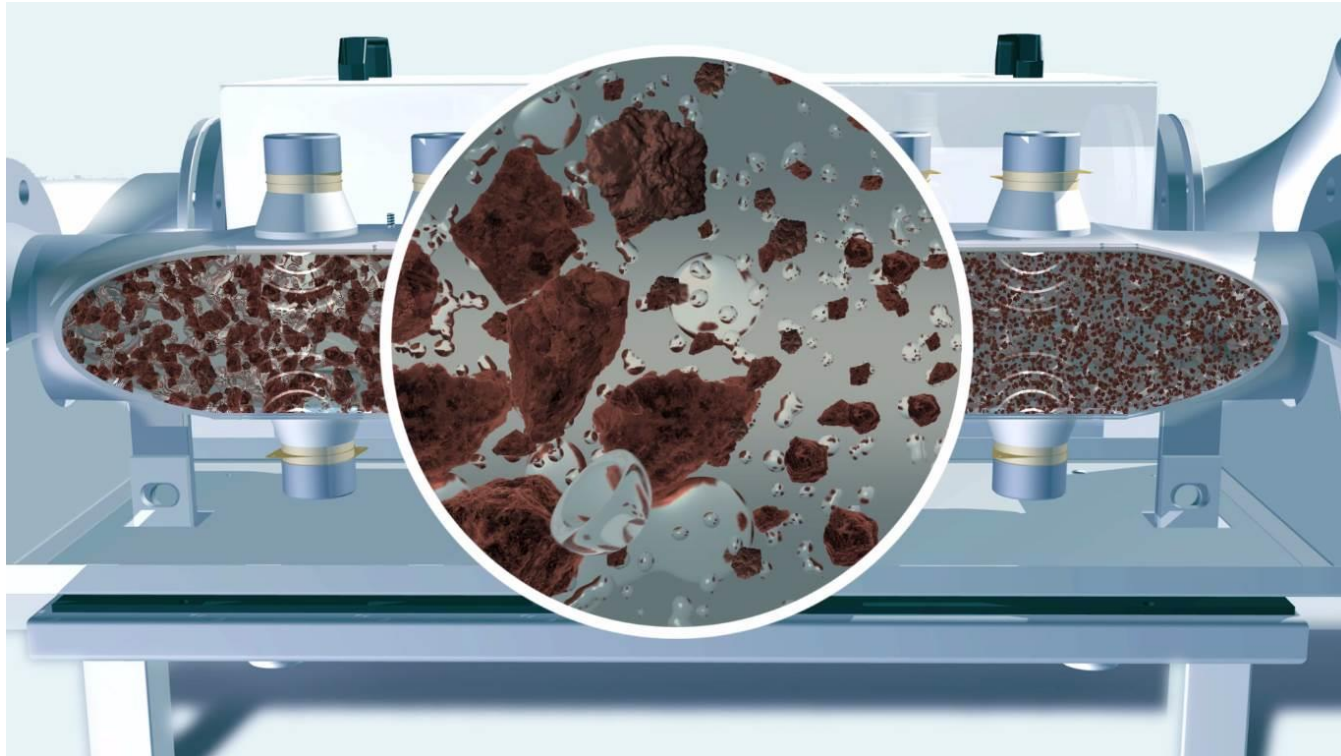


- **Hot Spots** – Inhomogeneous sound field
- High **erosion**
- **Poor** energy yield
- High **maintenance** / risk of clogging



- **Homogeneous** cavitation field
- Long **duration**
- Precise energy entry **control**
- No clogging – **process stability**

# ULTRASOUND REACTOR BIOPUSH – THE NEXT GENERATION ULTRASOUND



# GENERAL MACHINE DESIGN DESIUS

## 1 Ultrasound unit

Cell rupture and surface  
augmentation

Mobilization of  
Exo-Enzymes

Sustained decrease  
of viscosity in fermenter

Ultrasonic power  
1.2 kW per unit

High durability –  
up to 6 years and more



## 2 Mechanical Pre- treatment

Improved sound efficiency  
and machine protection  
RotaCut

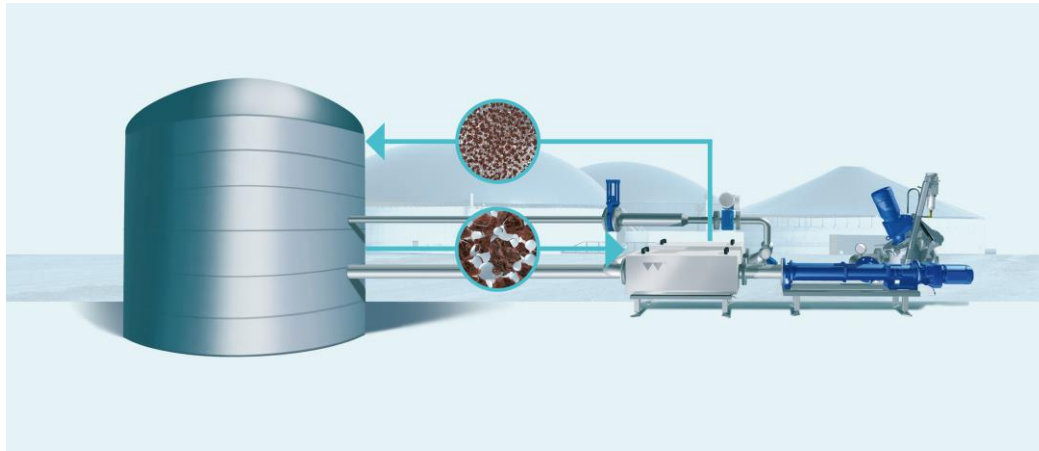
## 3 Feeding pump

Excentric screw pump

## Sensors

- 2 x pressure gages,
- 2 x temperature sensor,
- 1 x flow meter

# INTEGRATION IN BIOGAS PLANTS

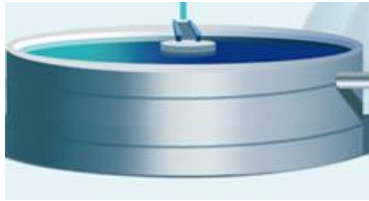


Main digester

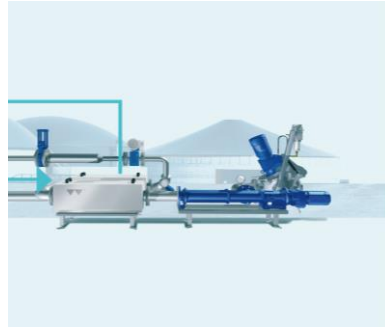
Ultrasound unit

In most cases, the ideal integration is a recirculation loop at the main digester. Biomass is continuously extracted, treated with ultrasound, and returned to the digester. Depending on the process design, recirculation from the secondary digester or feeding from hydrolysis directly into the main digester via ultrasound treatment can also be beneficial.

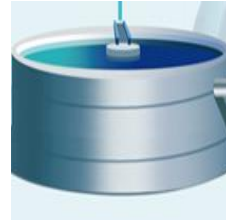
# POSSIBLE INTEGRATION EXAMPLES IN WWTP



Prethickner



Ultrasound unit



Dosing Tank

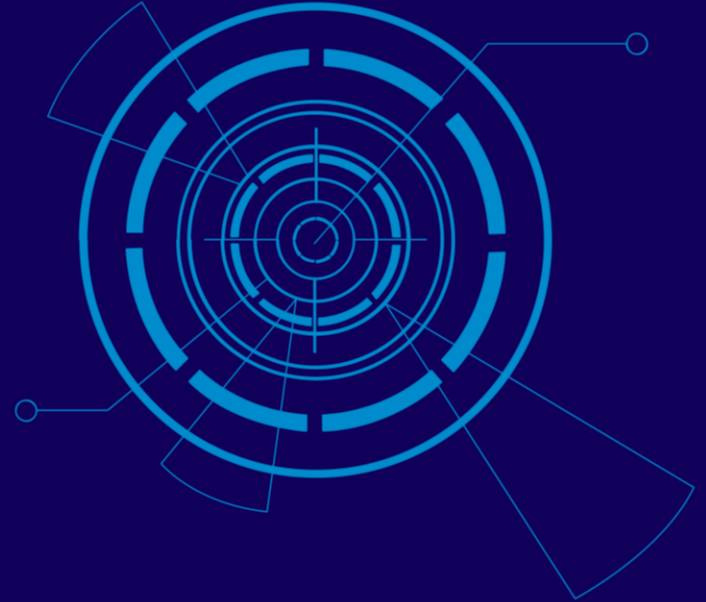


Dewatering

# REFERENCelist AND CASE STUDIES

NOTE: WE HAVE NUMEROUS  
FURTHER CASE STUDIES AND  
REFERENCES. IN CASE OF  
INTEREST PLEASE CONTACT  
US AT:

[MAIL@WEBER-ENTEC.COM](mailto:MAIL@WEBER-ENTEC.COM)



# BIOGAS PLANT DENMARK



WEBER  
ENTEC

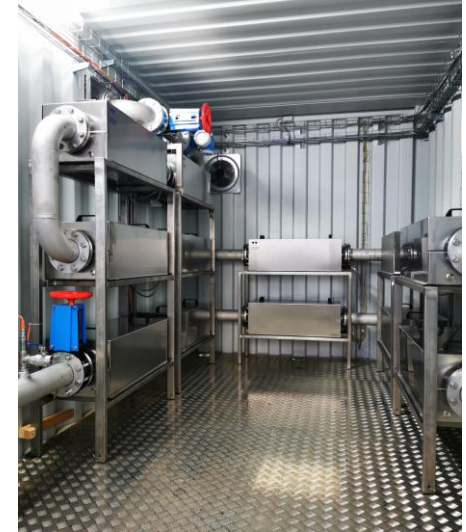


Location

Mansson

Ultrasound power

24 kW



# BIOGAS PLANT DENMARK



WEBER  
ENTEC

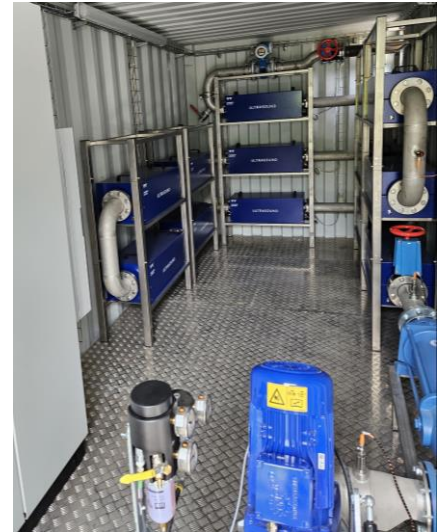


Location

Vaarst

Ultrasound power

78 kW



# BIOGAS PLANT DENMARK



Location

Vaarst

Ultrasound power

78 kW

- ▶ 3 Ultrasound machines
- ▶ Each 13 ultrasound reactors
- ▶ Current feedstock: Manure, deep litter, food waste, solid biomass

# BIOGAS PLANT DENMARK



Location

Midtfyn

Ultrasound power

158 kW

- ▶ 5 Ultrasound machines
- ▶ 4 containers with 17 ultrasound reactors
- ▶ 1 container with 11 ultrasound reactors
- ▶ Current feedstock: Manure, deep litter, crops, food waste



WEBER  
ENTEC

# BIOGAS PLANT 250 KW RASTEDE

**Target:** Alternative feeding: Replace maize through grass

Location	Rastede
CHP	250kW
Ultrasound power	2 kW
Feedstock	Maize silage, Grass, slurry, manure, whole plant silage



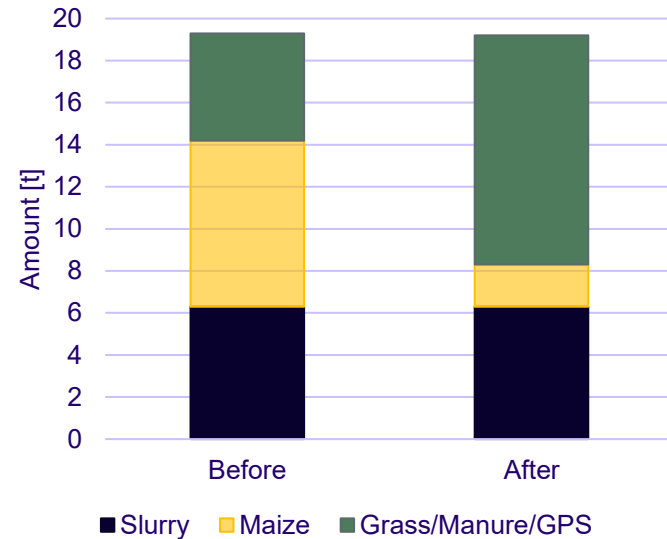
# BIOGAS PLANT 250 KW RASTEDE

**Base line:** Maximum possible feed of grass is 4 t/d before getting problems at the biogas plant. 10t/d cheap grass are available

## Result:

- 1) 10 t/d of grass can be fed now
- 2) reduction of feeding costs: **25 %**
- 3) Operation of the biogas plant without any problems

Input before and after installation of ultrasound



# BIOGAS PLANT 1250 KW GROSSENWIEHE

**Target:** Reduction of viscosity, saving of substrate

Location	Großenwiehe
CHP	2570 kW
Rated power	1250 kW
Ultrasound power	12 kW
Feedstock	Maize silage, Grass, Grain-whole plant silage



# BIOGAS PLANT 1250 KW GROSSENWIEHE

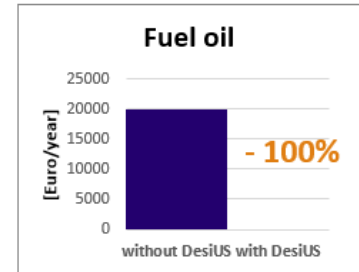
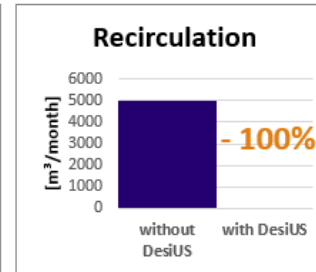
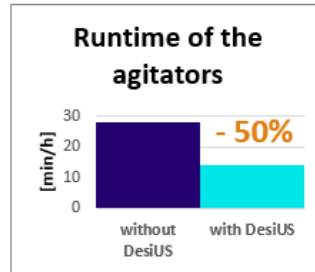
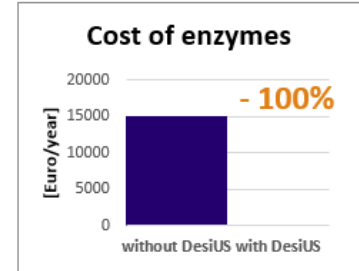
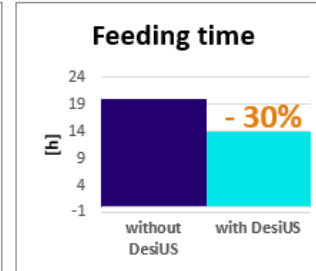
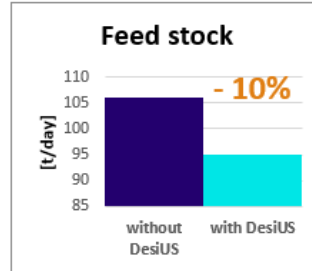
## Result:

Several improvements to the biogas plant increase efficiency.

The overall process stability is improved. This leads to less down times at the biogas plant.

The heating network can now be fully supplied by the biogas plant in winter.

## Production efficiency improvements



# WWTP – ALTENRHEIN SWITZERLAND

In the year 2013 a test plant with 2 kW ultrasound power was integrated at a Swiss WWTP with 80.000 population equivalents for a test period of one year. The effect of the ultrasound disintegration on the organic degradation of different substrates should be proved.



# WWTP – ALTENRHEIN SWITZERLAND

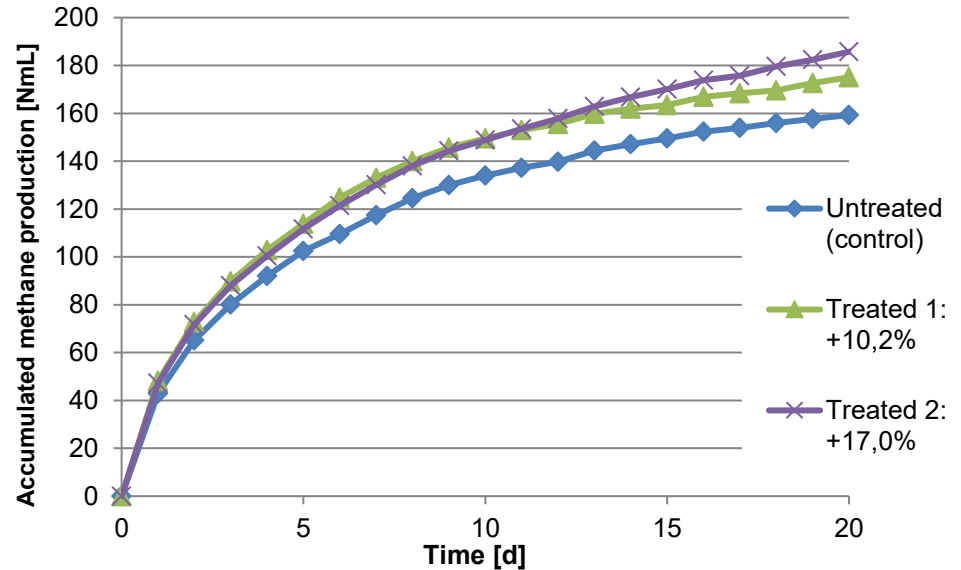
After one year of testing, the full scale implementation with an ultrasound power of 12 kW for treating digested sludge and co- substratum takes place in the year 2016.



# WWTP – ALTENRHEIN SWITZERLAND

## Result:

- ▶ 17% higher gas production
- ▶ Improved flow properties
- ▶ Reduced sludge



WWTP Altenrhein

# BIOGAS PLANT 395 kW KLEVE

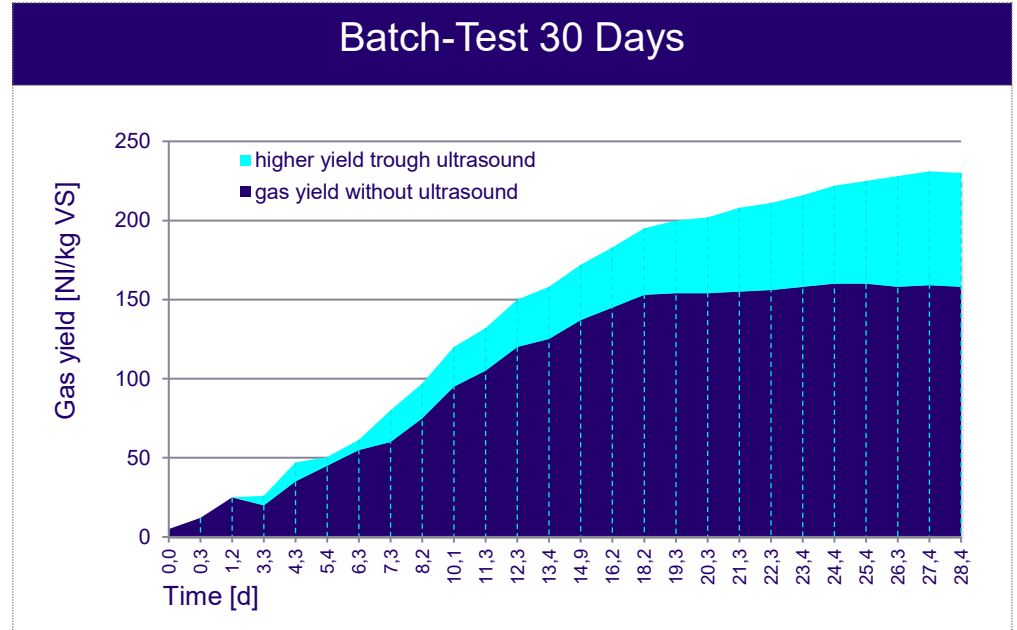
**Target:** Increase of biogas yield, reduction of feed stock (maize silage)

Location	D-Kleve
CHP	250 kW
Ultrasound power	2 kW
Feed stock	manure, maize silage, poultry manure



# BIOGAS PLANT 395 kW KLEVE

**Result:** The generator operated at 450 kWh instead of 395 kWh before.



# BIOMETHANE PLANT (~2MW<sub>EL</sub>)

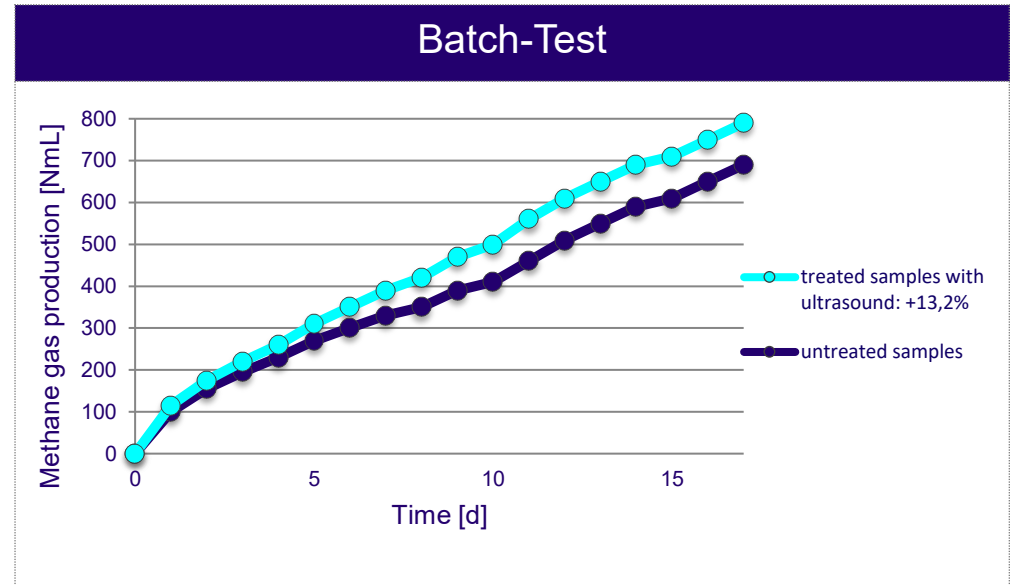
**Target:** Increase of efficiency – More biogas, less feed stock

Location	D-Mühlacker
Biomethane Nm <sup>3</sup> /h	2 x 500 Nm <sup>3</sup> /h
Ultrasound power	16 kW
Feed stock	maize silage



# BIOMETHANE PLANT ( $\sim 2\text{MW}_{\text{EL}}$ )

- ▶ **Result:**
- ▶ More than 13% higher biogas production



# BIOGAS PLANT 777 kW TECHENTIN

► **Target:** Increase of biogas yield, reduction of feed stock

Location D-Techentin

CHP 777 kW

Ultrasound power 4 kW

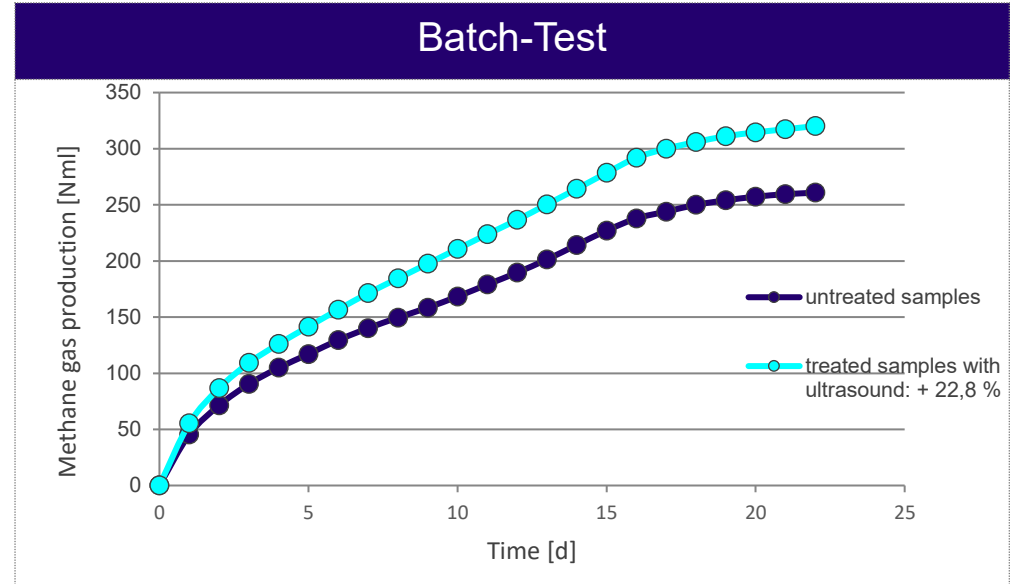
Feed stock maize silage



# BIOGAS PLANT 777 kW TECHENTIN

## Result:

22,8% higher biogas production



# BIOGAS PLANT 250 kW RASTDORF

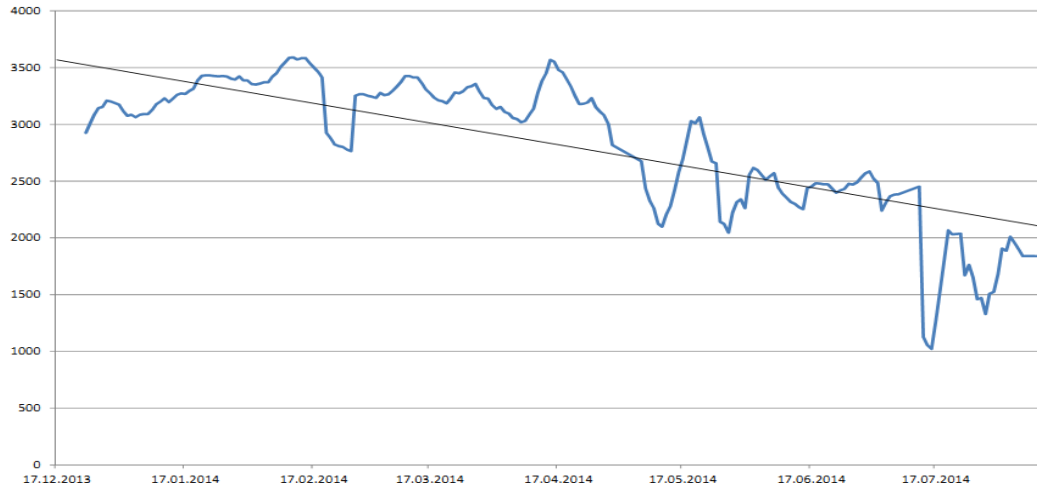
- ▶ **Target:** Preparation of the difficult substrate mixture

Location	D-Rastdorf
CHP	250 kW
Ultrasound power	4 kW
Feed stock	Cattle and horse manure, maize, catch crops



# BIOGAS PLANT 250 kW RASTDORF

► **Result:** more homogenous substrate, reduced viscosity



Feeding VS after installation of disintegration plant in 7-days average

# BIOGAS PLANT 999 kW MAGLIANO

- ▶ **Target:** Increase of efficiency – More biogas, less feed stock

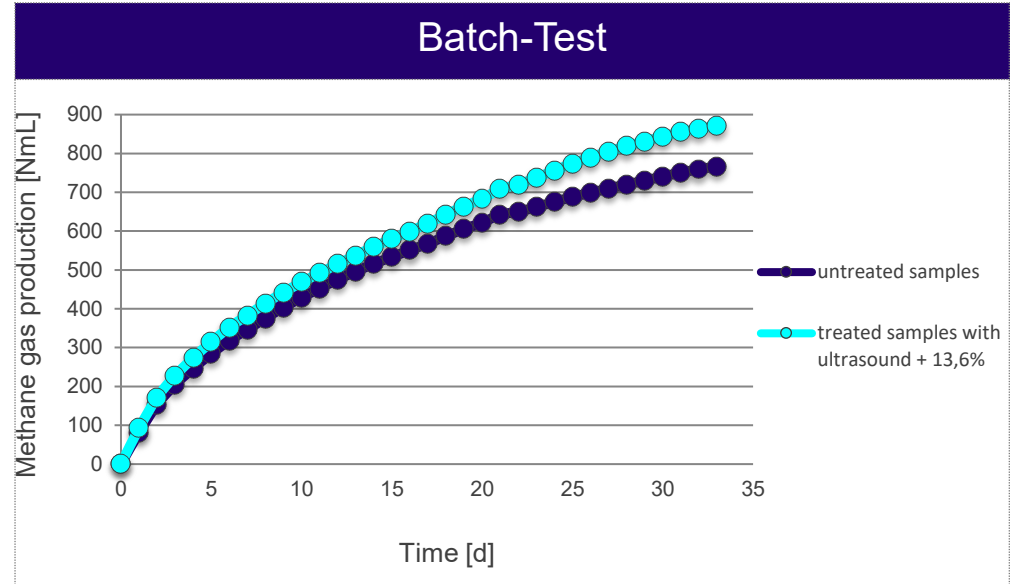
Location	I-Magliano i. d. Toscana
CHP	999 kW
Ultrasound power	6 kW
Feed stock	sorghum, maize silage, field beans, oats, clover, pasture grass



# BIOGAS PLANT 999 kW MAGLIANO

## Result:

More than 13% higher biogas production



# BIOGAS PLANT 330 kW ROSENBACH

- ▶ **Target:** Increase of efficiency – More biogas, less feed stock

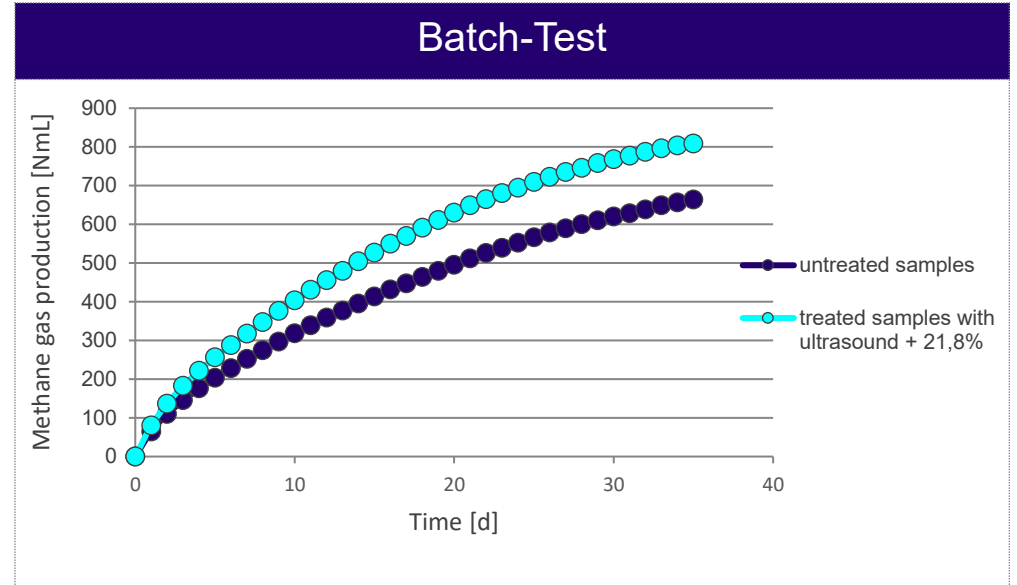
Location	D-Rosenbach
CHP	330 kW
Ultrasound power	2 kW
Feed stock	Maize silage, liquid manure



# BIOGAS PLANT 330 kW ROSENBAACH

## Result:

More than 21% higher biogas production



# BIOGAS PLANT 1,8 MW

► **Target:** Reduction of viscosity and of feedstock

Location	Germany
CHP	1,8 MW
Ultrasound power	16 kW
Feed stock	Maize, beet, poultry manure liquid manure

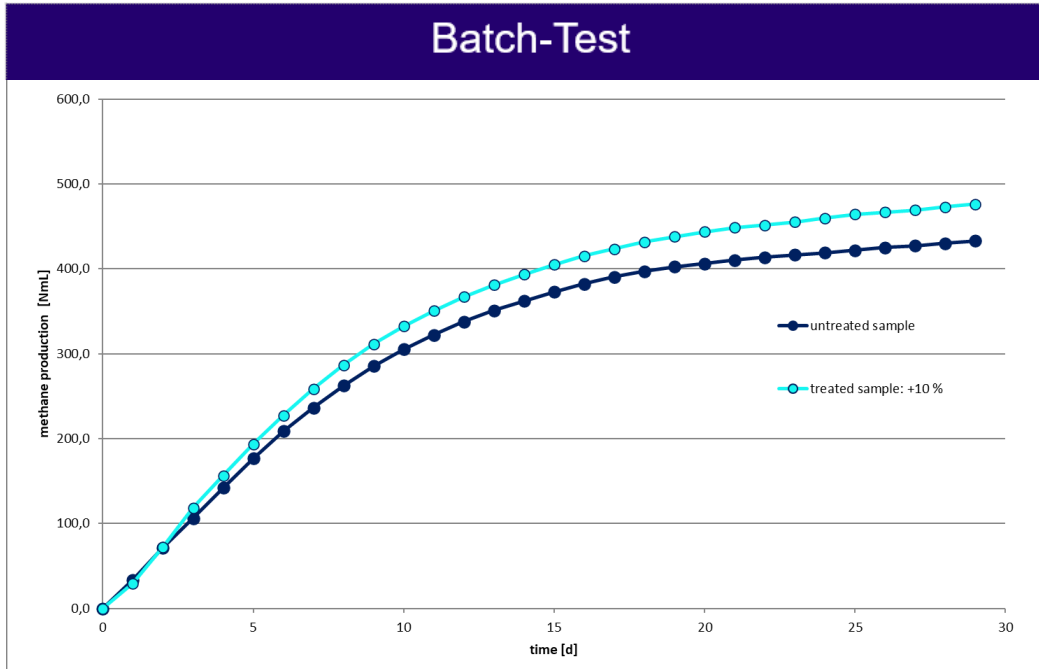


# BIOGAS PLANT 1,8 MW



WEBER  
ENTEC

- ▶ **Result:** 10 % more methane



# BIOGAS PLANT 2,2 MW DENMARK

- ▶ **Target:** Reduction of viscosity, Increase of biogas production

Location	Denmark
CHP	2,2 MW
Ultrasound power	24 kW
Feed stock	Manure, vegetables, grass, sludge



# BIOGAS PLANT 2,2 MW DENMARK

- ▶ **Target:** Reduction of viscosity, Increase of biogas production



# BIOGAS PLANT Netherlands

296 Nm<sup>3</sup>/h

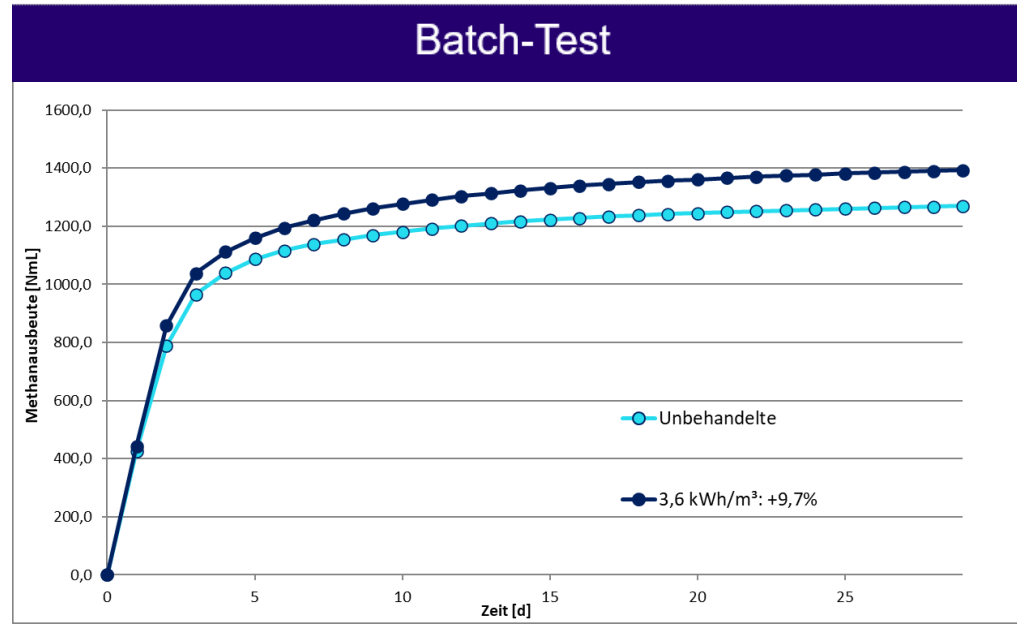
- ▶ **Target:** Erhöhung der Biogasproduktion,  
Viskositätsreduzierung im Hydrolysetank

Location	Niederlande
Heizleistung	1,5 MW/h
Ultrasound power	8 kW
Feed stock	poultry manure, Molke-Konzentrat



# BIOGAS PLANT 296 Nm<sup>3</sup>/h Netherlands

- ▶ **Result:** About 10 % higher gas yield



# WWTP IN FRANCE

► **Target:** Increase of biogas production, Better grade of organic degradation, Reduction of disposal costs for sludge

Location	France
CHP	950 kW
Ultrasound power	10 kW
Feed stock	secondary & primary sludge, greases, external sludge

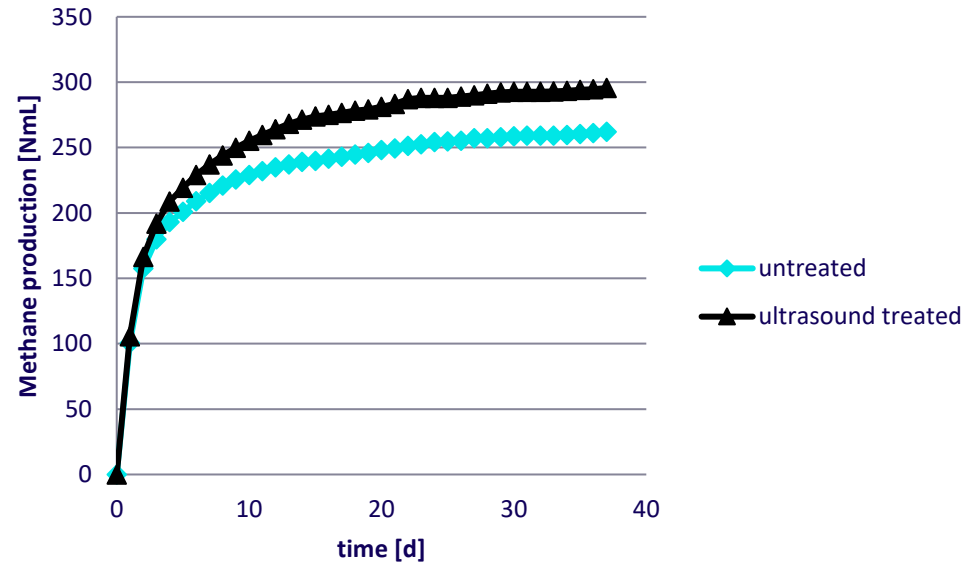


# WWTP IN FRANCE

► **Result:** About 13 % higher gas yield

## Batch-Test

### BMP Test Mont De Marsan



# WWTP – MOSCOW, RUSSIA

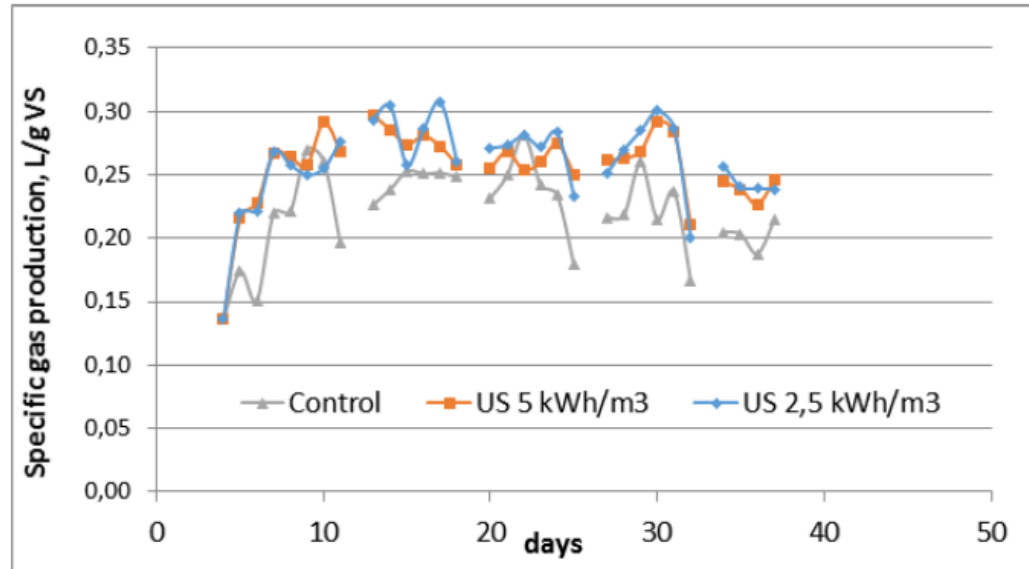
▶ **Target:** More biogas, reduction of disposal costs (less sludge)

Location	RUS-Moscow
Population equivalents	12.000.000
Ultrasound power	2 kW test plant



# WWTP– MOSCOW, RUSSIA

- ▶ **Result:** The plant operator bought a test plant from Weber Entec. A laboratory in Moscow carried out tests and wrote a final report. An increase up to 17% of the gas yield of the ultrasound treated samples was confirmed.



# WWTP SINGAPORE

- ▶ **Target:** More biogas, reduction of disposal costs (less sludge)

Location	Singapore
Population equivalents	1.500.000
Ultrasound power	32 kW

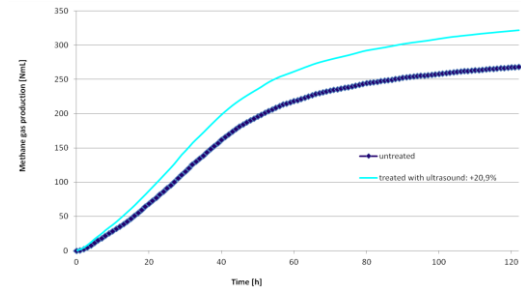
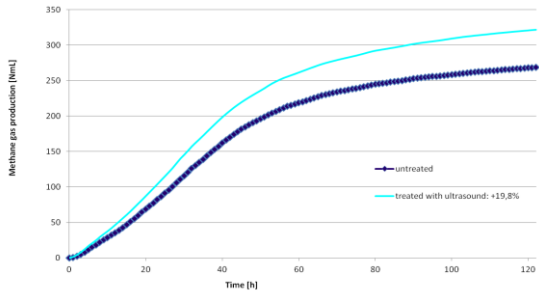
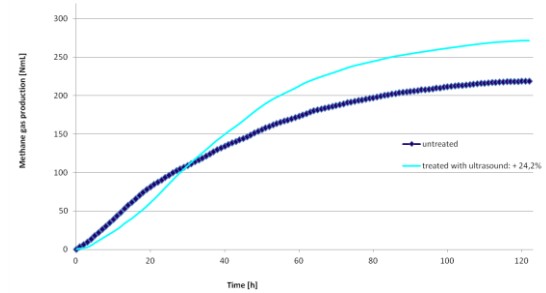
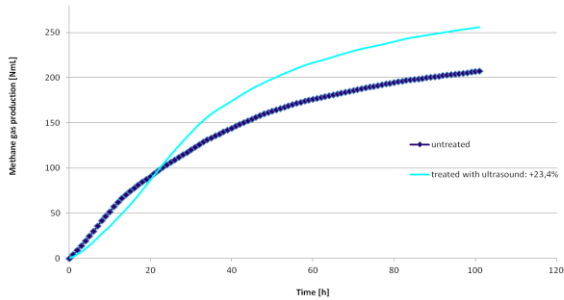


Over a period of 8 weeks, various samples were taken and the increase of gas yield of the ultrasound treated samples compared to the untreated samples.

A selection of these tests is to find on the next slide.

# WWTP SINGAPORE

► **Result:** An independent laboratory confirmed the average performance increase as 22%.



# WWTP ULLU PANADAN SINGAPUR



# WWTP TAIPO - HONGKONG

**Target:** More biogas, decrease of disposal costs (less sludge)

PE	900.000
----	---------

Ultrasound power	24 kW
---------------------	-------



Customer wanted to improve his plant. Decision for ultrasound disintegration.  
Weber Entec won the tender for delivery of the turn key machine.

# WWTP TAIPO - HONGKONG



WEBER  
ENTEC



# WWTP TAIPO - HONGKONG



# WWTP TAIPO - HONGKONG



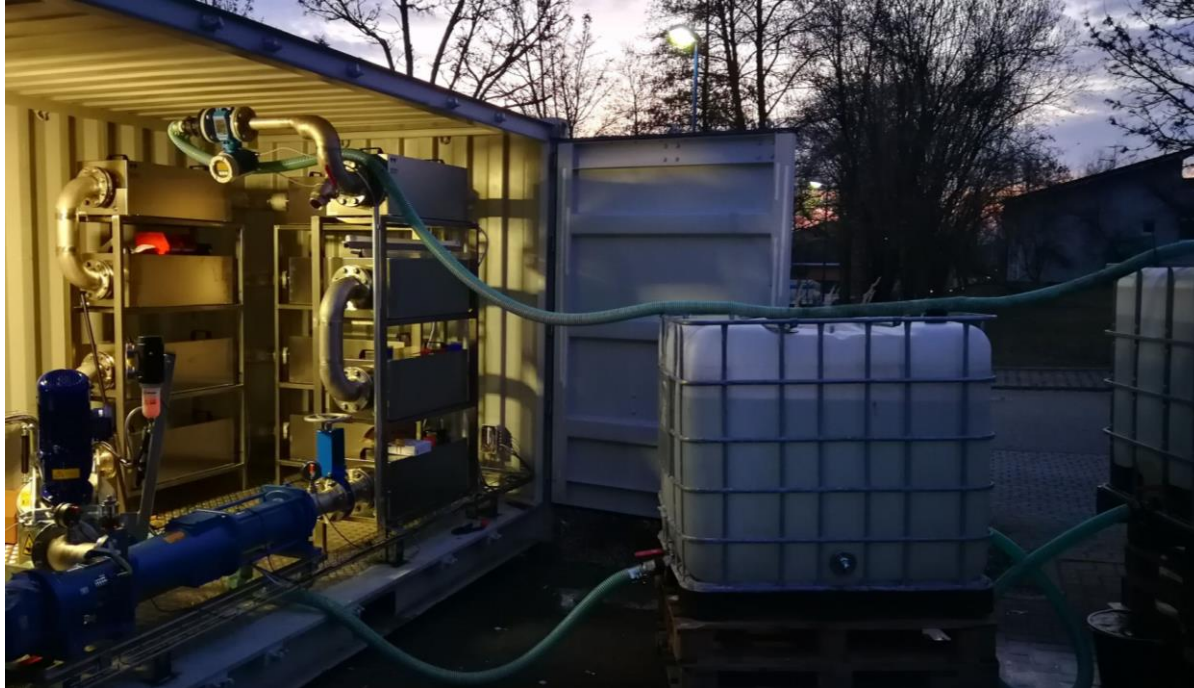
WEBER  
ENTEC



# WWTP TAIPO - HONGKONG



WEBER  
ENTEC



# WWTP KAUNAS, LITHUANIA

► **Target:** More biogas, decrease of disposal costs (less sludge), reduction of the fiber

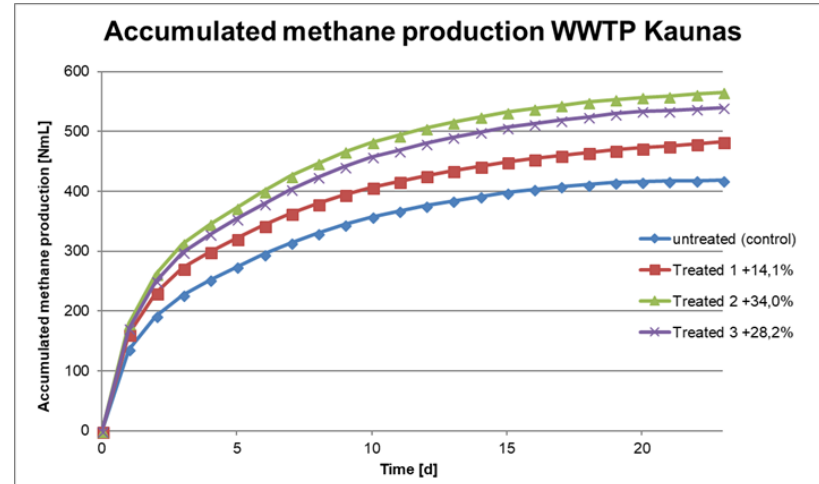
Location	LTU-Kaunas
Population equivalents	900.000
Ultrasound power	28 kW



Customer wanted to improve his plant. Decision for ultrasound disintegration. Weber Entec won the tender for delivery of the turn key machine.

# WWTP KAUNAS, LITHUANIA

► **Result:** A laboratory carried out tests. An increase up to 34 % of the gas yield of the ultrasound treated samples was confirmed. Filamentous bacteria were significant reduced.



# BIOGAS PLANT THAILAND



WEBER  
ENTEC

Location TH - Surat Thani

Ultrasound power 6 kW

Feed stock POME,  
Decanter cake



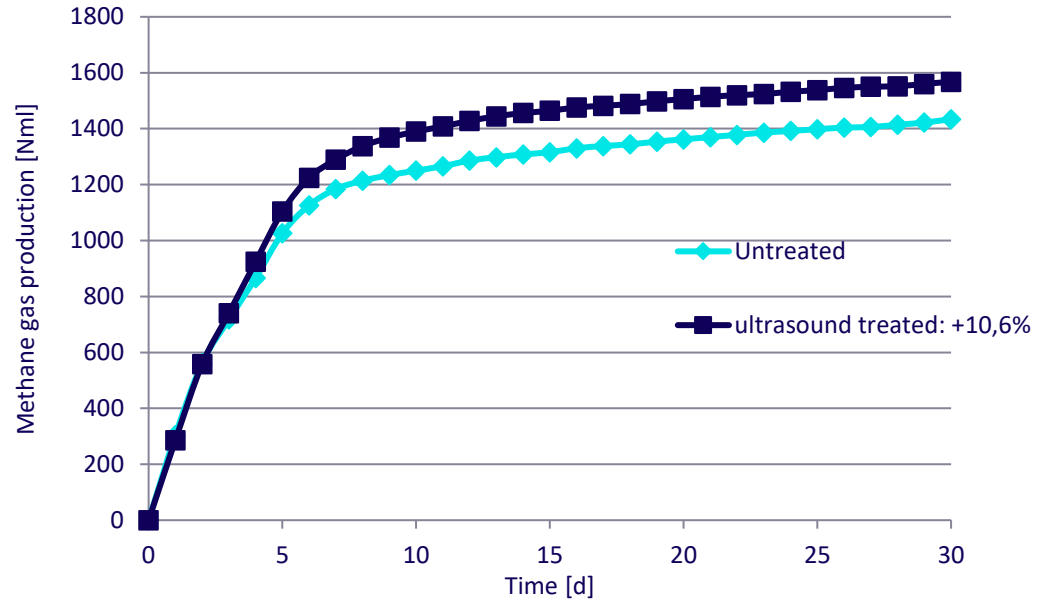
# PALM OIL – BIOGAS PLANT THAILAND



# BIOGAS PLANT THAILAND

## Result:

- ▶ 11% higher gas production





# YOUR DIRECT CONTACT PERSON



Management

**CHRISTIAN EICHHORST**

T +49 (0) 72 43/ 72 88 981

F +49 (0) 72 43/ 76 55 011

[c.eichhorst@weber-entec.com](mailto:c.eichhorst@weber-entec.com)



Technical Director / Head of R&D

**ANTING GRAMS**

T +49 (0) 72 43/ 72 88 982

F +49 (0) 72 43/ 76 55 011

[a.grams@weber-entec.com](mailto:a.grams@weber-entec.com)



Sales Director

**JAN TALKENBERGER**

T +49 (0) 160/ 299 68 16

F +49 (0) 72 43/ 76 55 011

[j.talkenberger@weber-entec.com](mailto:j.talkenberger@weber-entec.com)



Engineering & Sales / Head of Service

**PETER SÖRRIES**

T +49 (0) 162/ 299 68 13

F +49 (0) 72 43/ 76 55 011

[p.soerries@weber-entec.com](mailto:p.soerries@weber-entec.com)



# MANY THANKS!

Your Weber Entec Team

Weber Entec GmbH & Co KG

Siemenstraße 22  
D-76275 Ettlingen

T +49 (0) 72 43/ 72 88 980

F +49 (0) 72 43/ 76 55 011

[mail@weber-entec.com](mailto:mail@weber-entec.com)

[www.weber-entec.com](http://www.weber-entec.com)