



Flowing with Innovation

Or-Tec Blue Whale 2mm Microbar Screen

Dressing Manufacturer - Food Processing Application



Screening at Dressing Manufacturer

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.

A premier dressing manufacturer located in southeast Wisconsin purchased a **2mm Or-Tec Blue Whale Microbar Screen** to address clogging issues in its wastewater pit and associated pumps.

Eric Fessler, President and Owner of FB Water Treatment, a consultant on the project, says this is a common problem. "It's very common with food plants that solids make their way down

the sewer to the lift station, especially during sanitation where you can get chips of wood, plastic bags, gloves, and other large debris that can clog pumps."

The facility previously used a mechanical screen that was compromised because it was difficult to maintain and couldn't keep up with evening sanitation flows. Solids were getting past the screening and into the pumps. Fessler says that

he recommended the Or-Tec Blue Whale Microbar Screen because of its reliability and performance

"I have to say that (the Or-Tec Blue Whale Microbar Screen) has been working fantastically."

-Eric Fessler, FB Water Treatment



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in removing solids without creating a secondary liquid waste stream (because it uses no wash water) and because it fit in the relatively compact pit and pretreatment room.

The pit is approximately by 6 feet wide by 7 feet long and 12 feet deep. The lift pumps are in one-half of the pit. “It’s a challenging application in a tight space with screening flows in excess of 500 gpm during sanitation,” Fessler explains. “The compact design of the screen was able to fit in the remaining space, capture and screen the wastewater and remove the solids from the pit.”

Application Conditions

- ✓ 2mm screen
- ✓ up to 10,000 TSS
- ✓ up to 750 gpm instantaneous flows
- ✓ ≤ 50,000 gpd average flow rate
- ✓ Water with wash from salad dressing, BBQ sauce processing, contains plastics and wood chips
- ✓ Screen sits inside the receiving tank at a 75° incline and rakes solids up four feet out of the pit into a waste receptacle.

Fessler says that the screen is working well. “We wanted to remove the solid debris in a relatively dry state in order to avoid the need to manage a secondary liquid waste stream. It’s doing a very good job of removing the solids while carrying out limited amounts of liquid,” he states. Noting that Total Suspended Solids (TSS) can be as high as 10,000 at the beginning of sanitation, Fessler says the Or-Tec Blue Whale Microbar Screen can handle it.



Or-Tec Blue Whale in dressing facility

“One of the major concerns I had in selecting *any* screen was that it would have clogging issues, especially with thicker solids, for example barbeque sauce,” he adds. “I have to say that [the Or-Tec Blue Whale Microbar Screen) has been working fantastically.”