

### Branden Poulsen Senior Process Engineer

### Seeq conneqt



### Monitoring Flows for Wastewater Management

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## **Chobani**.

#### **Fast Facts**

- Founded 2005
- 3000+ Employees
- Largest Facility in Twin Falls, ID

MEDIUM

COFFEE

217

COLD

BREW

BOLD & RICH

EE DRIMK 42 FL 0Z (1.3 0T) 1.251. KEEP KEN

**COFFEE CREAMER** 

Chobani Oatmilk

rista Edition

Chob

Chol

Ch

La

COLOMB

RAFTLO

STD 1

MOCHA

COLD BREW

LOMB

FFEE POASTER

COLD BREW

La

COLOMBE

TRIPLE

COLD BREW

8

PALTA

 Greek Yogurt, Oat Milk, Dairybased Coffee Creamers, RTD Coffee Beverages

Choban

#### **Chobani Waste Treatment**







### **Chobani Waste Treatment PFD**





### **Proactive Waste Management**

#### CHALLENGE

- Chobani sends 1.1-2.2 million USG/day to Chobani Waste Treatment.
- City of Twin Falls permit limit is 2 million USG/day.
- 1) Use Seeq to predict real-time usable volume in balance tanks and send a notification to moderate flows when tanks are close to capacity.

notifications if current run rates are set to exceed the permit limits.

Use Seeq to predict totalized discharge volume by end of the day. Create

- SOLUTION

2)

- RESULTS
- Proactive reduction of discharge rates reduced annual permit exceedances by 95%
- Conformed to Chobani ESG goals and prevented costly surcharges and fines.





# **SOLUTION 1**





- Seeq used to analyze tank levels, time before full, and send email notifications
  - Pull in tags
  - Estimate remaining level
  - Estimate remaining time
  - Set up email notifications to be sent if capsule is created



- Mass balance around tanks
  - Started with a simplified version for the conservation of mass

 Mass flowrates can be converted to volumetric flows assuming the density is constant







• Used Seeq formula to estimate the remaining level

- Capsule created if the time remaining level is less than 10
  - Define Low Level =  $L_r < 10$  ft









- Estimated remaining volume and converted to gallons
- Estimated remaining time



• Estimated remaining volume and converted to gallons

• Estimated remaining time for tanks to fill

- Defined tanks as overfilling when  $T_r < 12$  hrs
  - Created composite condition using intersection and set up email notifications
  - Define Discuss Flow Changes = Low Level AND Tanks overfilling Intersect









# **SOLUTION 2**



#### **Chobani Waste Treatment PFD**



- Waste treatment and sanitary sewer combine flows before sending to COTF
- The flow from the sanitary sewer cannot be easily controlled
- The flow from wastewater can be managed using the balance tanks and slowing down flows through treatment



#### **Predicting Total Discharge**

• Estimated volume to the City of Twin Falls by using a running totalizer starting at 09:00

Current Volume = (Flowrate from sewer + Wastewater discharge rate) .integral(days().move(15 hours))









#### **Predicting Total Discharge**

- Estimated time left and made sure to reset ever day at 09:00
  - Time Left = 1440-timeSince(days(),1 min).move(15 hours)
- Estimated volume at the end of the 24-hour period
  - Volume Estimate = Current Total Volume + (Flowrate from sewer + Wastewater Discharge rate) \* Time Left
- Averaged the volume estimate so operations understands total discharge volume and can make proactive adjustments







#### Summary

- Seeq was used to balance flows for efficient treatment and monitor total discharge to COTF
  - This information has proven extremely useful when performing maintenance activities
  - This provides operations with powerful information to increase or decrease flow rates through the wastewater treatment plant
- Achieved company ESG goals
- Reduced annual permit exceedances by 95%





#### **Operations Support**

• Worked side by side with operations teams to understand key issues

• Presented the Seeq solution to get buy-in

• Provided training to operators to explain how to read the results





#### **Next Steps**

- Reduce product waste to drain from the Chobani plant
  - Work with operators and engineers to optimize pipe cleaning and flushes

- New sensor on wastewater discharge to COTF
  - Create a model to **predict total solids** discharge by end of day

- Provide information to the operations team
  - Keep below permit limits for solids sent to COTF





# Thank you

