

Montgomery Township Has Confidence the MBR System is Protected from Debris with HUBER



“HUBER’s fine screen has yet to see the volumes that will be flowing through this facility in the future but we’re very pleased with its performance today. We’ve been able to learn quite a bit about its operational efficiency and have – in fact – revamped the way our teams’ hours and work responsibilities are assigned because of how little attention we have to devote to managing the screen.”

-Keith Defrancesco, Supervisor

Skillman Village Wastewater Treatment Facility is the unit within Montgomery Township’s network of plants designated to handle increased flow requirements as the area’s residential treatment needs increase. Montgomery Township, the halfway point between New York City and Philadelphia, is wise to prepare because its population of just under 25,000 continues to grow.

To accommodate future need, the Skillman Village facility was set up to handle 500,000 gallons of daily flow. Today's daily intake – which almost exclusively comes from Montgomery's school system – reaches only about 50,000 gallons. Storm water run-off occasionally pushes the flow higher, but the flow from storms is much thinner than what would generally be taken into the plant so the facility has never truly been pushed to capacity. As the residential population continues to grow, Skillman Village, where the flow of "new" wastewater will be directed, will continue to see its flow intake increase.

"Debris in the MBR chamber wreaks havoc that we can ill-afford to have. HUBER's fine screen is foolproof defense against debris. We have every confidence that our bioreactor membranes will not be damaged – even if our intake grows exponentially and is cluttered with rags and hair."

-Keith Defrancesco, Supervisor

Skillman Village needs to be able to:

- Handle increased flow with minimal impact to staff and systems
- Maintain its high standards for run-off quality- regardless of population growth
- Instill confidence in handling increased flow well into the future

Challenge:

Skillman Village uses a membrane bioreactor (MBR) system for treating its wastewater and must protect those membranes meticulously with reliable, high performance equipment.

Solution:

The fine screen plays a key role in this system because it is the final barrier between debris and the chamber where delicate membranes do their work. If debris gets past the screens, it can cause damage to



the membranes that is costly in replacement/repair and detangling downtime.

Not the Same Old Fine Screen

The Township has experience with other brands of fine screens within its network of facilities and considered that – even though there may be a few little differences – the operation and performance of the HUBER fine screen at the Skillman Village plant would be similar to the others. After all, how different could fine screens be?

As it turns out – there are differences. The expectation was that the HUBER screen would require cleaning cycles of manual brush scrubbing and pressure washing as they came online with the new plant. The team was glad that the new HUBER screen didn't meet this expectation. Instead they find no manual cleanings necessary because the HUBER screen's water pressure and automated brush system keep debris and build-up cleaned off of the screen. Downtime for cleaning isn't a factor.

This is a tremendous design advantage that HUBER obviously made with efficiency of operation and quality of performance in mind.

The implementation of HUBER's fine screen in the MBR plant also saves the team time and hassles down the line. As we noted, there is no cleaning. But the fine screen also requires little maintenance and only cursory management checks. Nothing gets through the screen that isn't meant to be in the MBR

“I just lift up the cover to make sure that nothing unusual has taken place as I take my typical walk around the plant. We’re very pleased with the way the screen performs. Even at full capacity, I can’t any way that the HUBER fine screen would require more attention.”

-Keith Defrancesco, Supervisor

chamber, so the process runs smoothly. With this level of operational efficiency, the Skillman team sees no impact to their work effort regarding the screen as the plant’s flow increases.

Quality is Priority One

The Skillman team’s experience in operating the HUBER fine screen attests to its quality in performance and design. But what about quality of material, construction and installation?

HUBER stainless steel components leave little potential for elements, corrosion or wear and tear to be factors in operation or durability. Even after years of use, the unit looks and operates like new. This is critical to operations and maintenance but it also means that the HUBER component can help in keeping facilities looking neat and clean – and even new – years into their life cycles.

In the perfect world, a fine screen installation would be uneventful and simple. That is just what the installation of the HUBER fine screen was for the

team at Skillman Village. Knowledgeable experts made quick work of configuring the screen within the MBR system and testing it to make sure that every aspect met with HUBER’s attention to detail and standards of quality and the plant’s needs.

Support Goes Beyond Expectations

Even the potential for being offline is stressful enough without worrying about how quick and effective the response will be. HUBER understands this. Business critical processes and components require service and support that goes beyond expectations to meet the customer at their point of need with the best resolution for them. This is part of what enables HUBER to earn customers and to keep them ecstatic for years.

“The HUBER screen looks like it did the day it was installed – in August of 2011 – absolutely spotless. It is durable and maintenance free.”

-Keith Defrancesco, Supervisor

And it doesn’t hurt that HUBER’s experience with municipalities and with wastewater processes is extensive - as is its knowledge of the technologies it provides. This industry-technology insight allows HUBER to work with organizations to ensure that systems are geared to perfectly match up to immediate tactical challenges and long-term strategic goals.



HUBER serves the municipal and industrial wastewater treatment market with high quality liquid-solid separation technology. HUBER Technology offers the complete chain of screening, grit and sludge handling processes. The company is an original source manufacturer specializing in stainless steel fabrication of technologies for water and wastewater with proven experience and expertise with over 40,000 installations worldwide.