

A photograph of a traditional Chinese garden pond. The pond is filled with large green lily pads and several blooming pink lotus flowers. A small, arched wooden bridge spans a narrow part of the pond. To the left, there is a wooden pavilion with a tiled roof and open sides, situated on a raised platform. The background is filled with dense green foliage and trees.

Natural Decentralised Waste Water Treatment Systems

Treatment of domestic and non-toxic industrial waste water

Integration of anaerobic and aerobic processes

No mechanical parts within the system

Full odour control, low energy requirement

No input of chemicals

No complex maintenance procedures

Auroville Centre for Scientific Research
csr@auroville.org.in

Settler

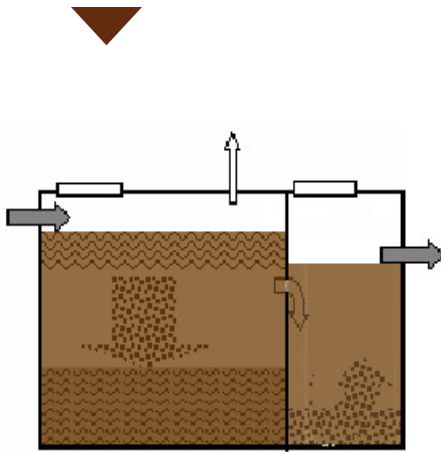
Pre-treatment
Settler

First-treatment
Baffled Tank

Second-treatment
Anaerobic Filter

Third-treatment
Planted Gravel
Filter

Post-treatment
Polishing Ponds



- Separates the liquid from the solid
- Retention time is only 1.5 to 2 hours.
- Pollution reduction is around 30%

Baffled Tank

Pre-treatment
Settler



First-treatment
Baffled Tank



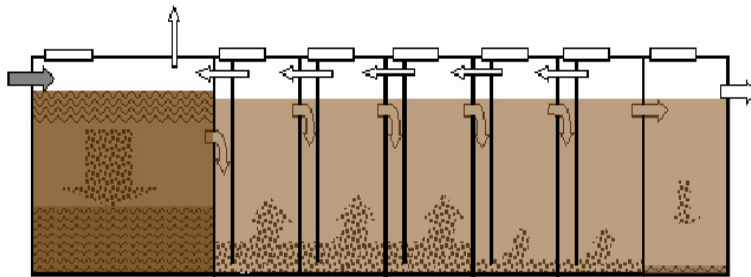
Second-treatment
Anaerobic Filter



Third-treatment
Planted Filter



Post-treatment
Polishing Ponds



- Effluent moves from top to bottom through identical sized chambers
- Retention time is ~ **24 hours**.
- Pollution reduction is around 80%

Anaerobic Filter

Pre-treatment
Settler



First-treatment
Baffled Tank



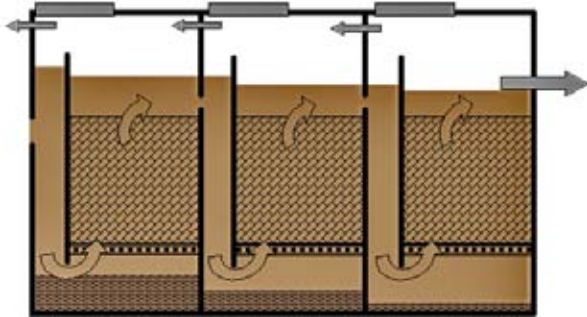
Second-treatment
Anaerobic Filter



Third-treatment
Planted Gravel
Filter



Post-treatment
Polishing Ponds



- Effluent moves through filter material (cinder) from top to bottom
- Retention time is around **20 hours**.
- Total pollution reduction is around 90%
- CPCB standards are met, but the effluent still has an odour

Vortex-Dewats System

Pre-treatment
Settler

First-treatment
Baffled Tank

Second-treatment
Anaerobic Filter

Third-treatment
Vortex System

Optional
Post-treatment
Polishing Ponds



- A vertically positioned tube with a funnel shaped bottom element
- Inside the tube a natural occurring self-purification effect from the effluent takes place during the continuous swirling movement.
- Pollution reduction is 95%





Aravind Eye Hospital – 500 m³/d





Vortex-Dewats



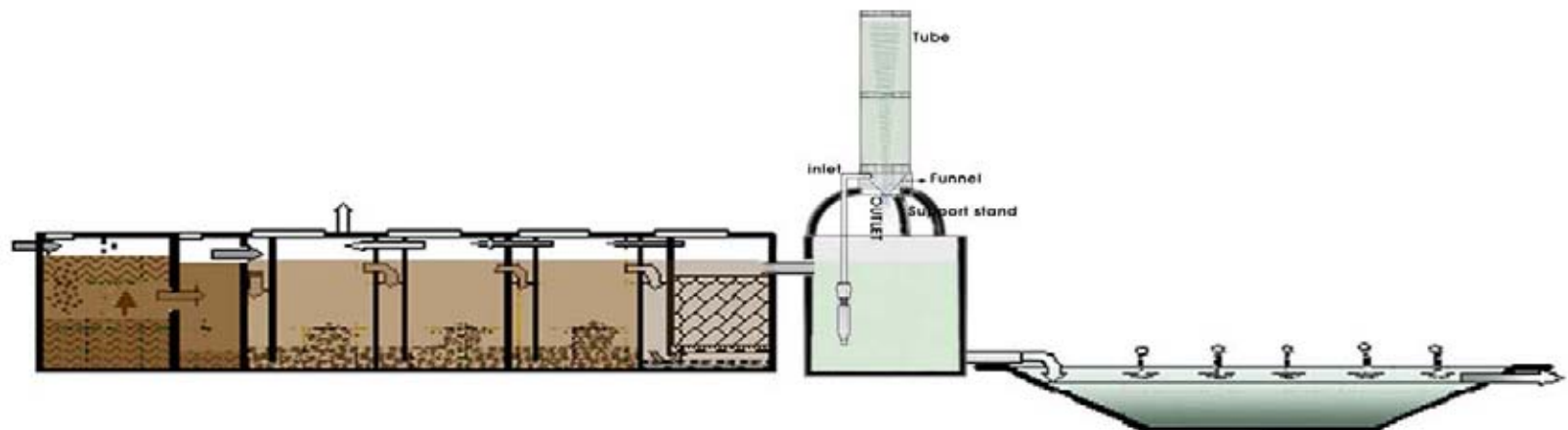
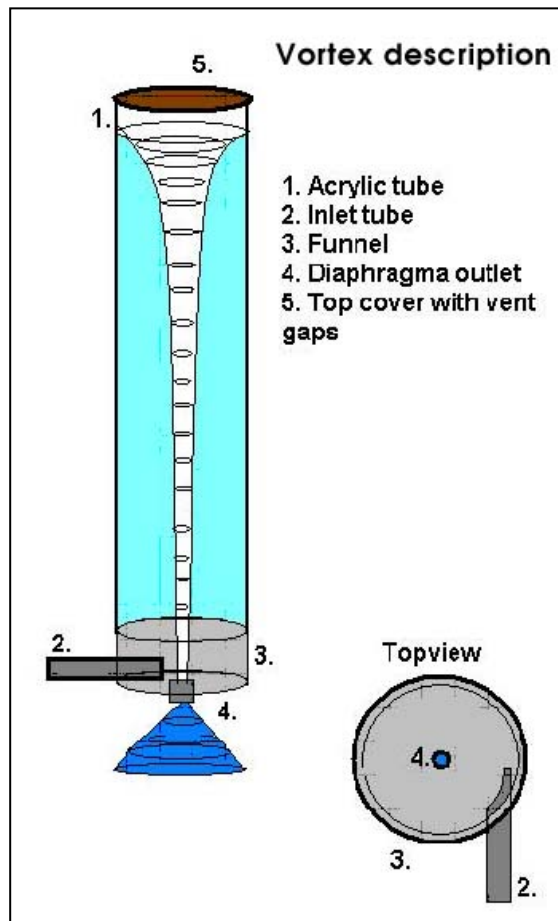
A vortex system mimics a natural occurring phenomena in nature

Thereby **effectively eliminating odour.**

meeting statutory discharge requirements with a pollution reduction upto almost 95%
a naturally occurring self-purification with oxygenation of the effluent takes place due to the continuously swirling motion of the vortex.

The system can be **scaled - up or down**, according to varying waste water volumes
is **exceptionally energy efficient at a fraction of the energy cost** compared to conventional operated treatment plants

Vortex description





Citadyne vortex, 10 m³
Domestic effluent



**Acrylic tube - 8mm
60 cm dia / 1.8 m height
1.5 HP submersed pump
Counterclockwise inlet
Diaphragm outlet
Flow rate approx. 10 m³/hour**



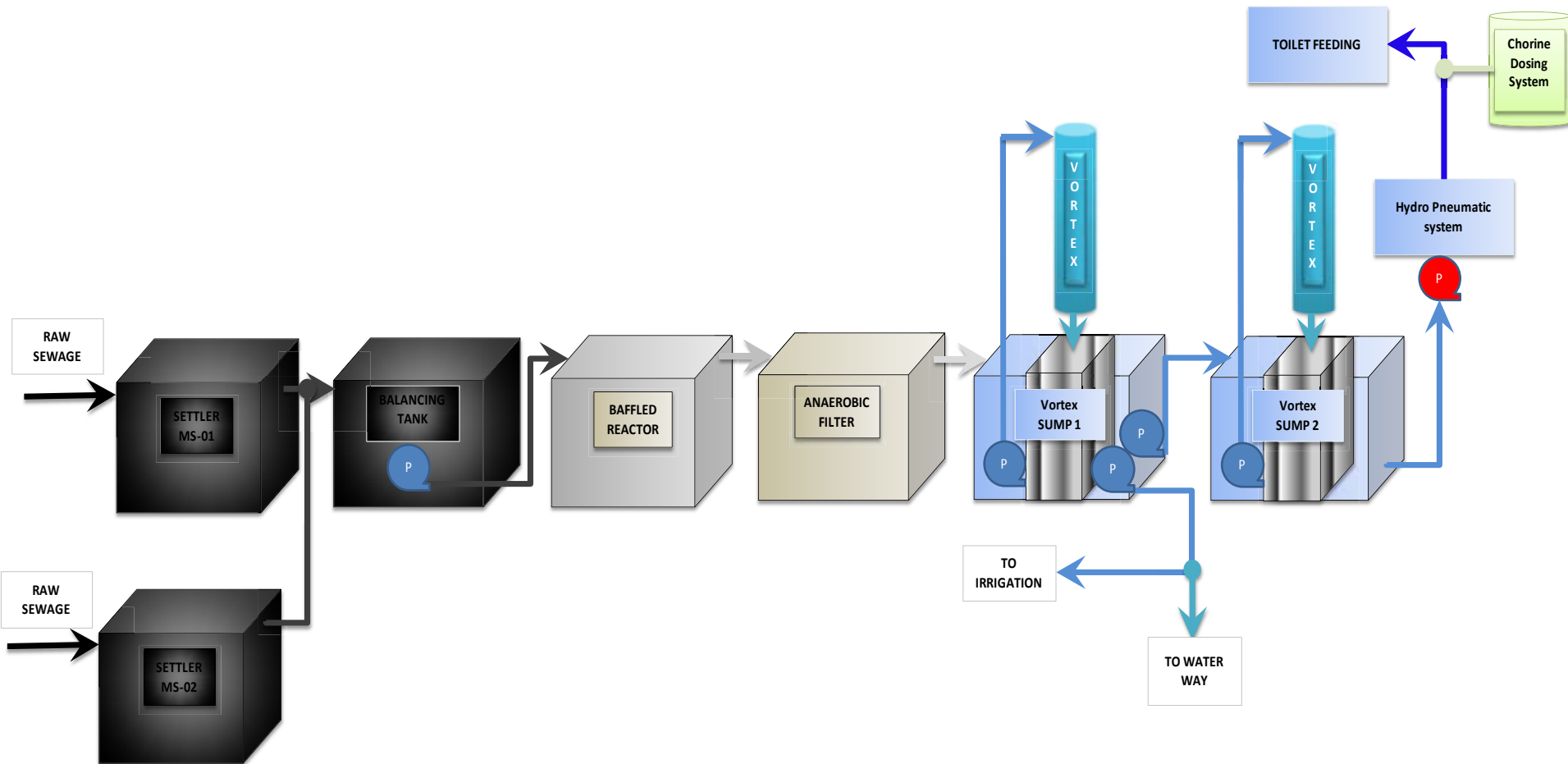
A vortex system mimics a natural occurring phenomena in nature

The spiral movement of water has a direct impact on the dissolved oxygen content and supports the release of gases which cause bad odors in anaerobic treated waste water.

As a consequence of increased oxygen content the Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD) and Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD₃) drop drastically.

Reduction of Kjeldhal Nitrogen, coliforms and colloid formation are also observed.

Flow Diagram for STP – 980 m³/d





Vortex systems : $120 \text{ m}^2 / \text{hour}$
Prefabricated ferrocement
1 meter dia / 2 meter height

VBHC Bangalore 740 m³/d





'And justify the light on Nature's face'