



How advanced aeration control contributes to Net Zero

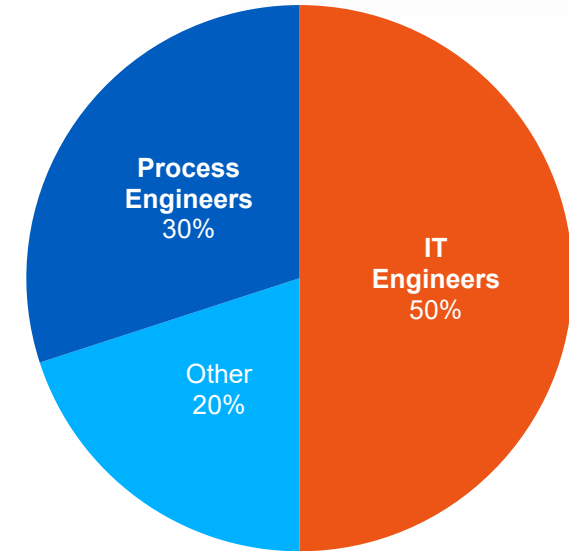
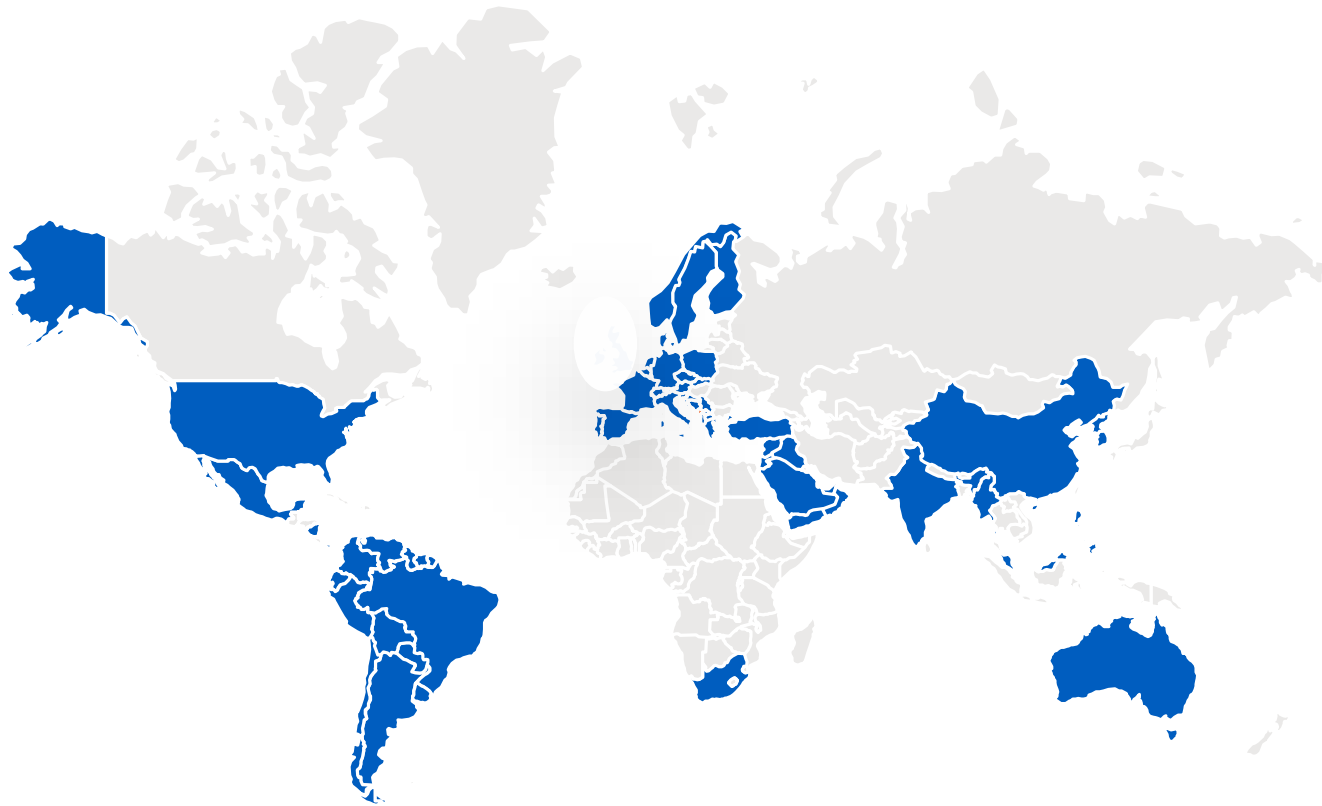
in many other ways than energy !

**Empowering your assets and your teams.
Everywhere. Every second.**

1. Who we are
2. Background: CREA® platforms
3. Lleida WWTP description
4. Control modules implemented
5. KPIs
6. IDM module

They trust us

Where & who are we?



Team experience

- More than 150 references worldwide
- Municipal & industrial sites
- Company representation in over 20 countries

Average savings
15-25%

Average payback
1-3 years



La Farfana
(Chile)
760.320 m³/d



**Barcelona
B. Llobregat**
(Spain)
420.000 m³/d



Samra
(Jordan)
364.800 m³/d



Jebel Ali
(Dubai)
293.000 m³/d



Lodz
(Poland)
215.000 m³/d



Rouen
(France)
150.000 m³/d



Brembate
(Italy)
53.600 m³/d



Guangdong
(China)
75.000 m³/d



Honghu
(China)
50.000 m³/d



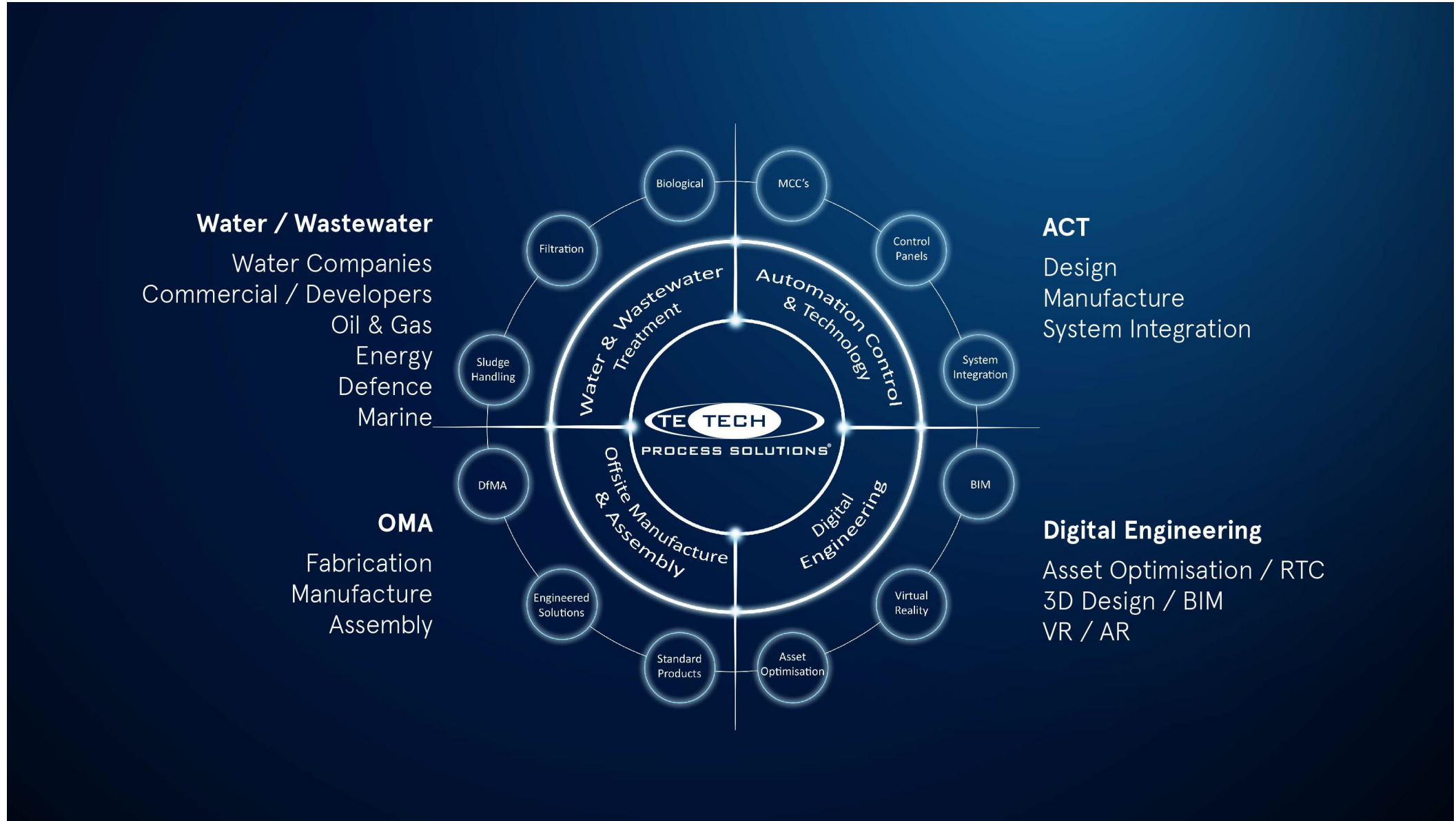
Agra I-II
(Portugal)
44.336 m³/d



Capivari II
(Brazil)
25.056 m³/d



Torres
(Spain, winery)
650 m³/d



Aqualia is :

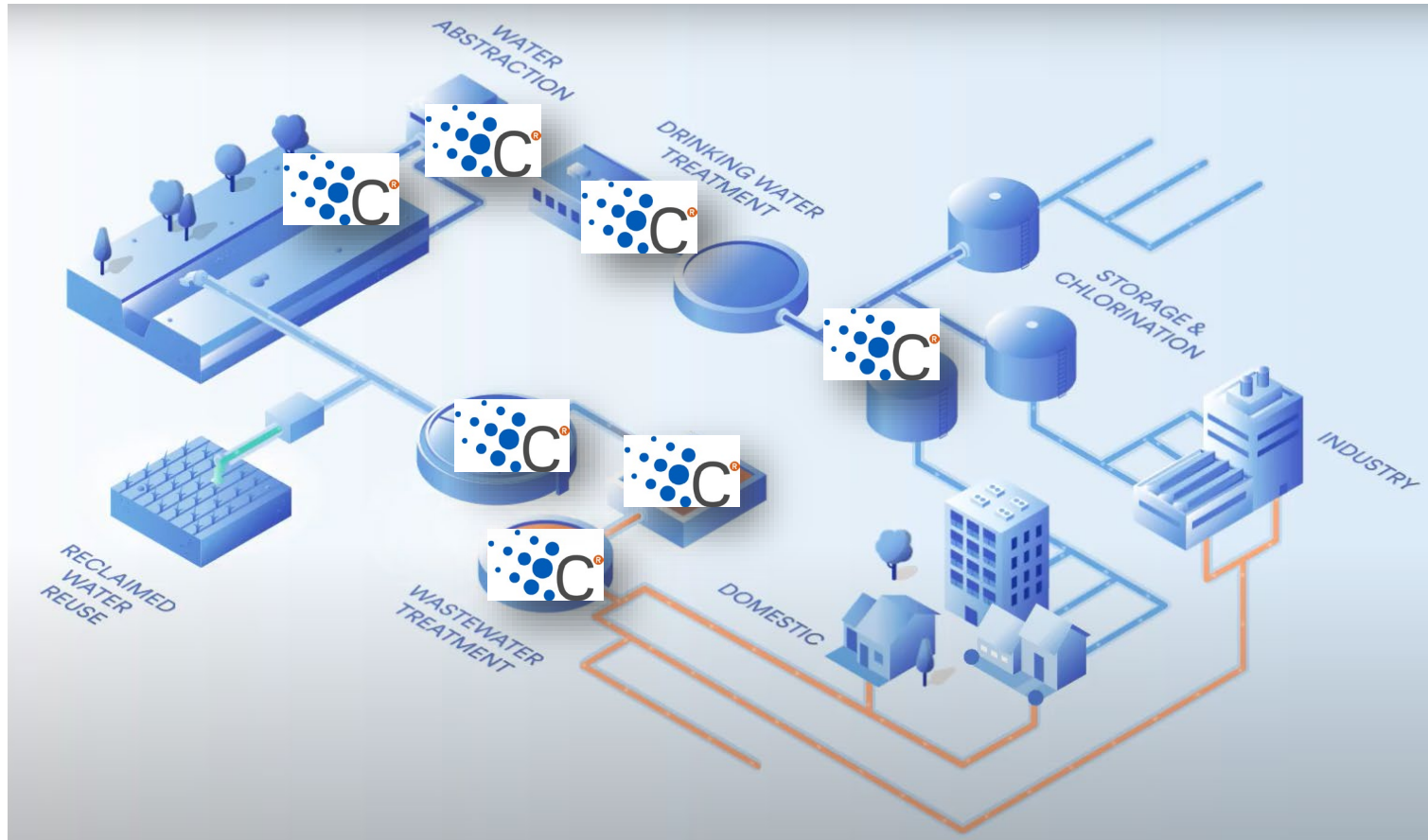
- the **4th largest water industry operator** player in Europe,
- the **9th worldwide** in terms of population served (GWI, March 2021)
- and covers the **whole urban water cycle**.

Aqualia serves circa 30 million people from 17 countries:

Algeria, Saudi Arabia, Columbia, Chile, Peru, Egypt, United Arab Emirates, Spain, France, Italy, Mexico, Oman, Portugal, Qatar, Czech Republic, Romania, Georgia.

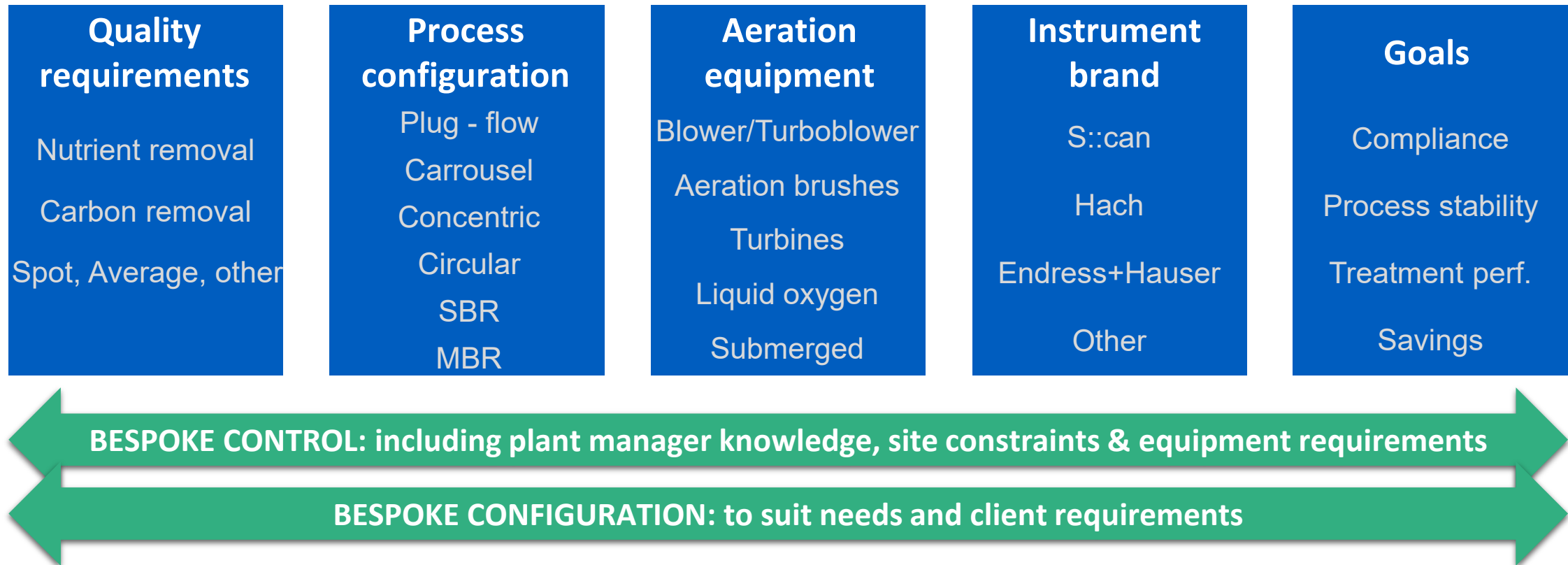
Aqualia operates the **Lleida wastewater treatment plant**.

Process intelligence & control



Process intelligence & control

For all – example for WW aeration



Process intelligence

With additional benefits



PROCESS INTELLIGENCE

DSS dashboards, auto reporting with data analytics and KPIs. Self-customized.



REAL-TIME DATA MONITORING

Online monitoring, equipment performance, energy KPI, weather, ...



BEST VALUE DESIGN PRINCIPLE

Customized solutions to reach your goal: savings, treatment, emissions...



SECURE

Locally-based control (on your site), with manual & auto fall-back.



INTELLIGENT CONTROL LOGIC

PID, fuzzy logic, models, AI, rules, pattern recognition and ML.



HOLISTIC MANAGEMENT

Key process control modules on a single platform enabling synergies.



EMPOWERED OPERATIONS

Self-customized alarms. Editable settings. No black box: your site, your strategy.



ROBUST AND FUTURE-PROOF

Self-adaptive setpoints, signal analysis, able to adjust to future changes.

Architecture



flexible



secure

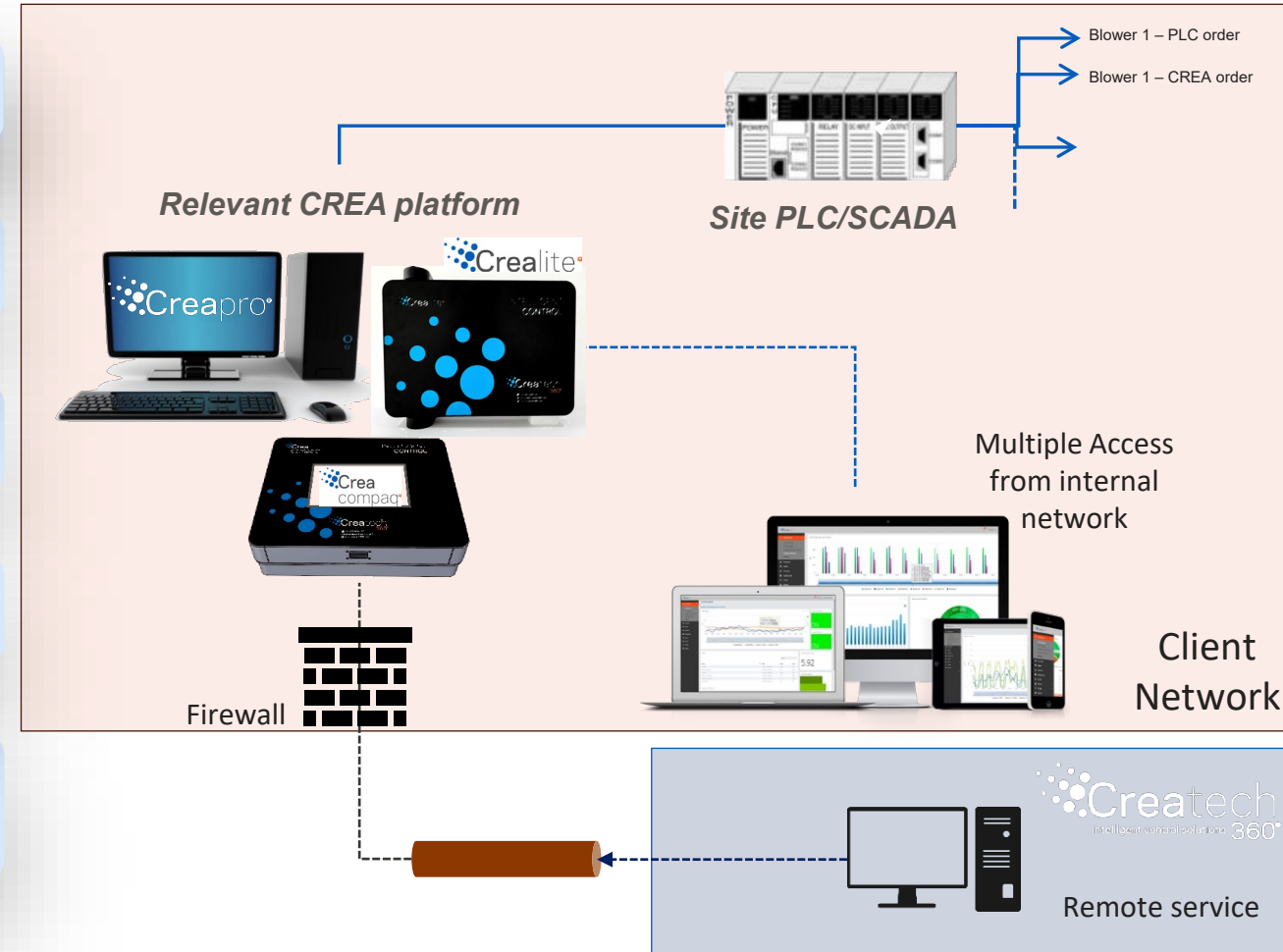
Local data and local control

Pre-existing control remains in place

Several fall-back procedures (auto/manual)

Customer defines authorized remote access

Flexible architecture: CREA product and communication protocol adapted to site



Build you own dashboard



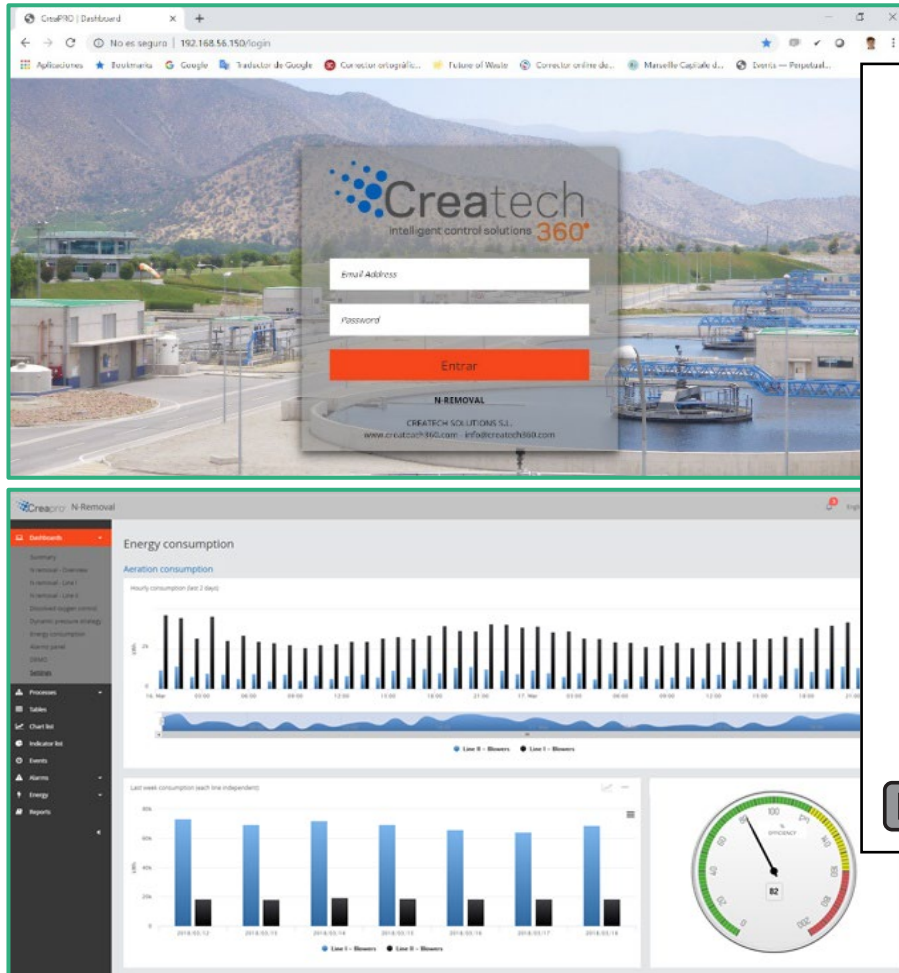
smart
monitoring



process
intelligence



empowered
operations



Fit-for-purpose tools

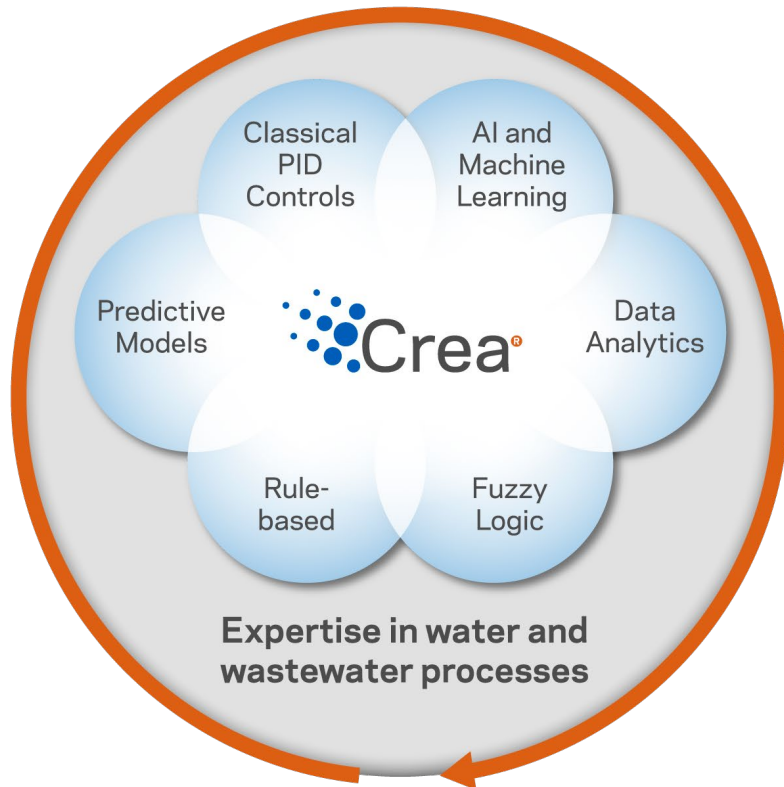
Serving straightforward goals



robust &
future-proof



intelligent
control logic

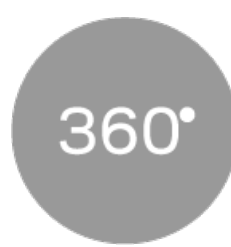


Intelligent logic tools selected case-by-case to optimize processes:

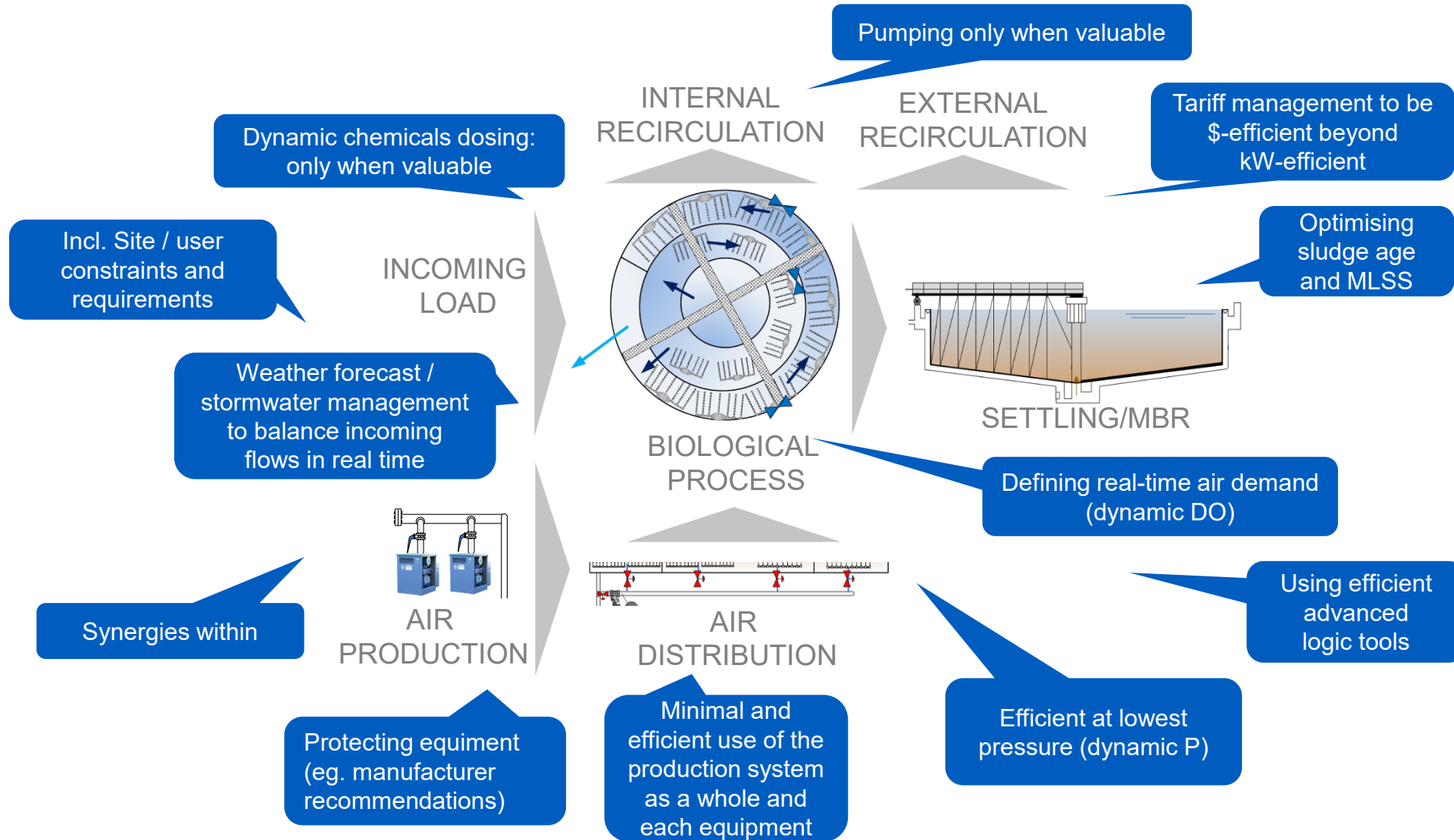
- ✓ Compliance with quality consents
- ✓ Minimum operational costs (energy, reagents, etc.)
- ✓ Evolutive and self-adaptive



**best-value
design**



holistic



Overview



Flow: 87.500 m³/day

Biological reactor: 2x 1st stage + 4x 2nd stage

Aeration system:

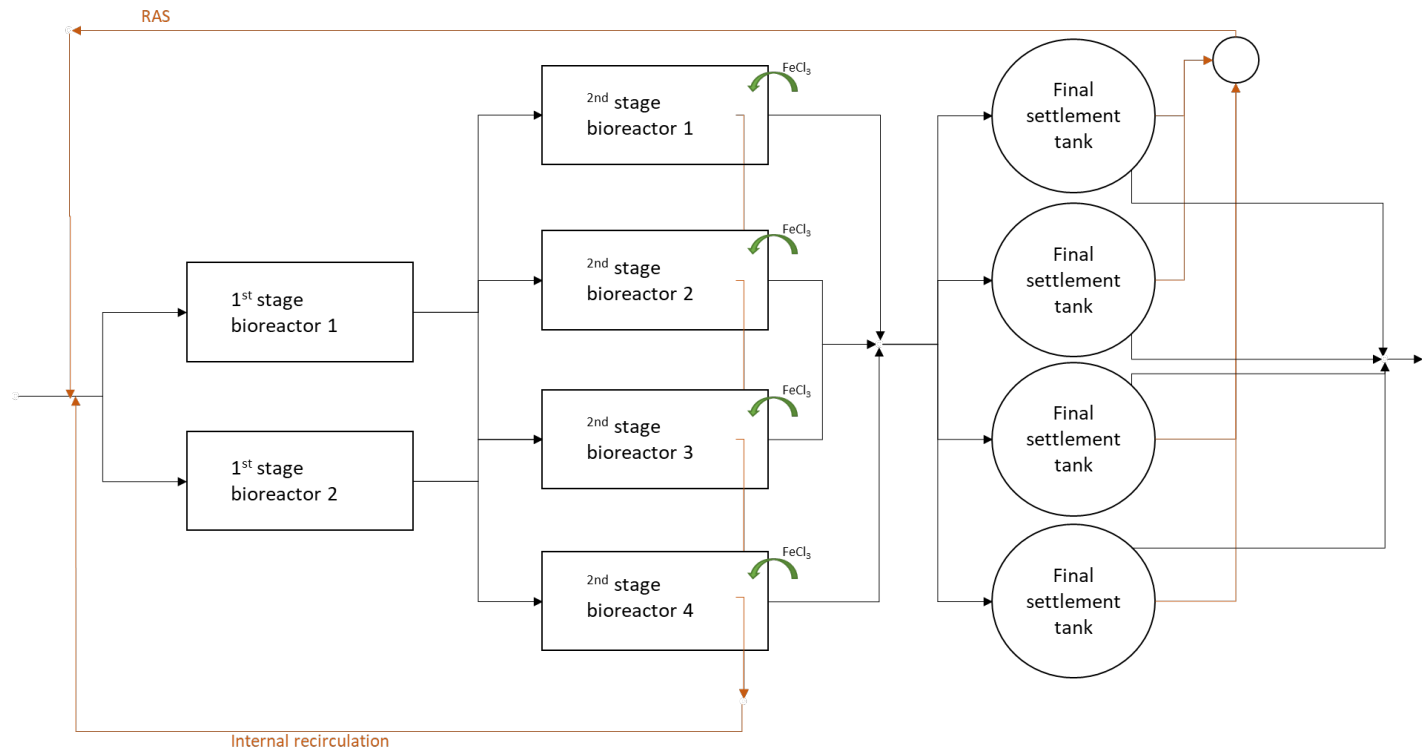
- 6x turbocompressors
- Regulation valves

Operating company: Aqualia – Aigües de Lleida

Challenges:

- To **reduce the energy consumption** (aeration, internal and external pumping, SRT) and chemicals (Ferric chloride) costs whilst ensuring the **effluent quality**
- To monitor, optimize and stabilize treatment performance, **incl. new stringent limits**

Process



BOD₅ < 25 mgO₂/L

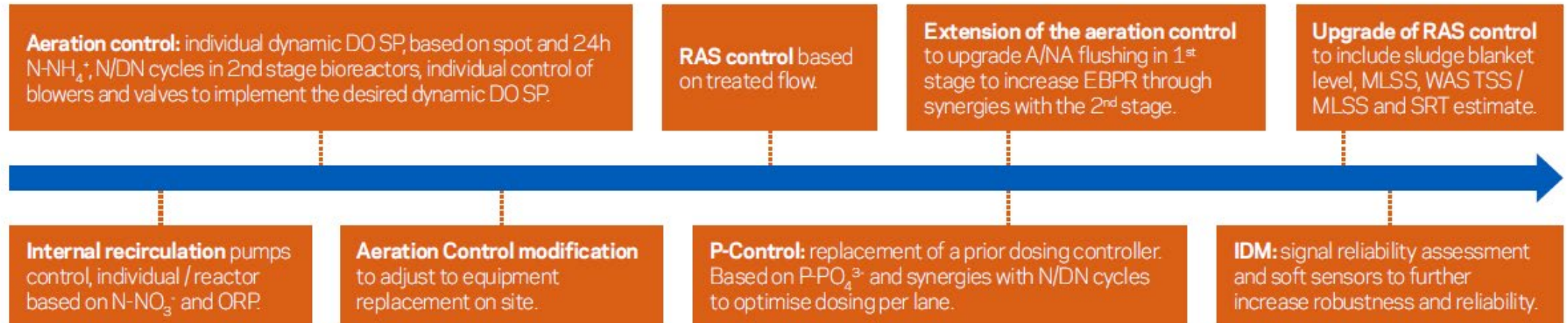
COD < 125 mgO₂/L

TSS < 35 mg/L

TN < ~~15 mgN/L~~ TN < 10 mgN/L

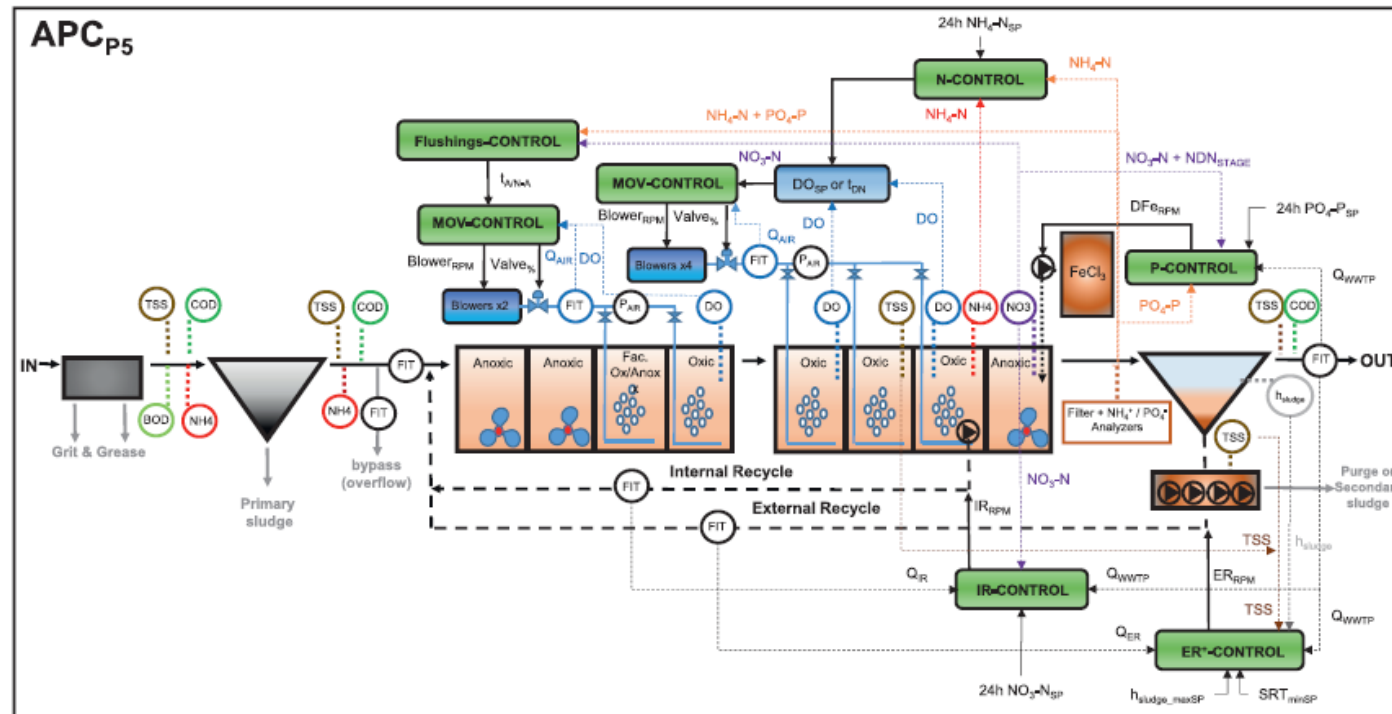
TP < 1 mgN/L

Timeline



- ✓ **Water bodies quality**
- ✓ **Operational carbon footprint reduction**
- ✓ **Embedded carbon footprint reduction**
- ✓ **Monetary savings**

Current state



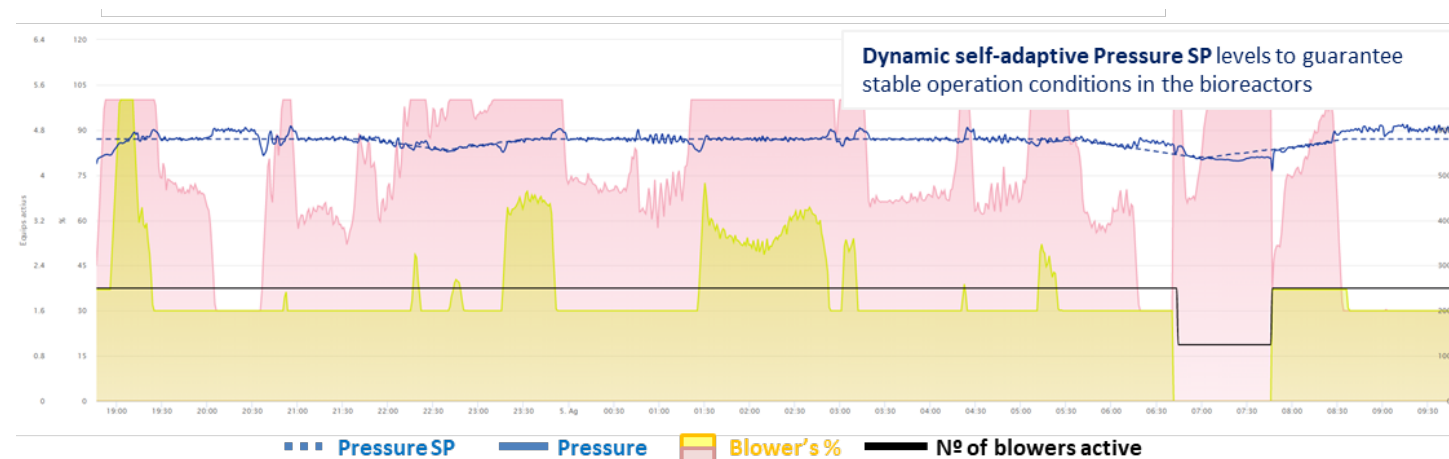
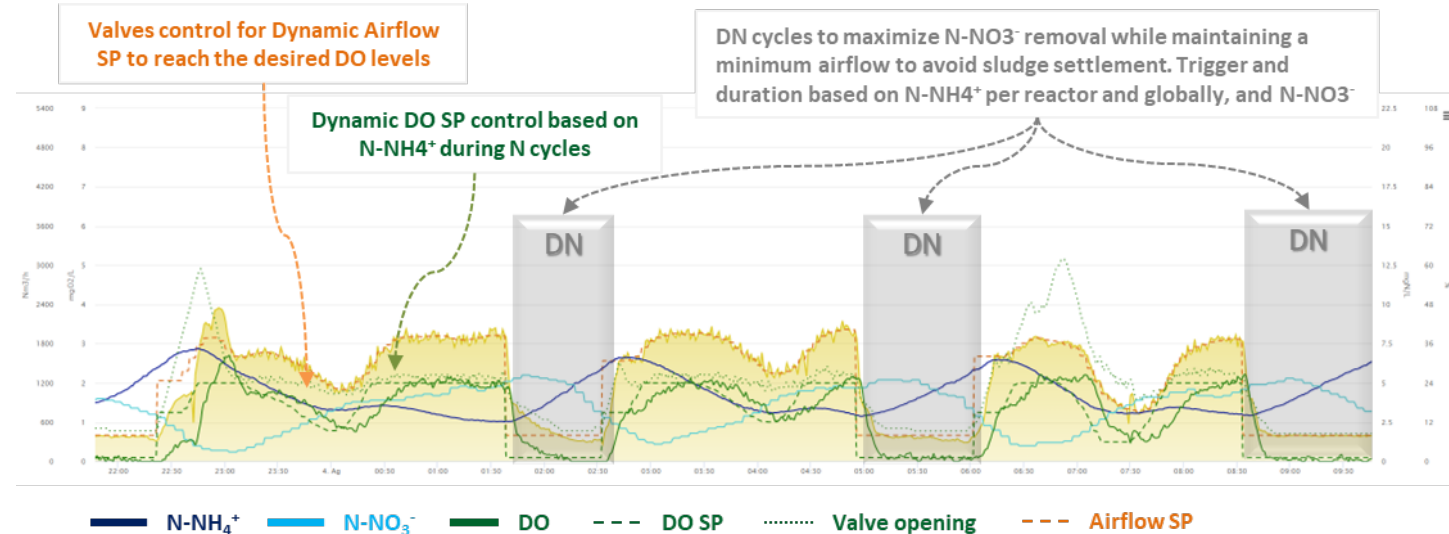
(Palatsi et al. 2021)

How does it work?

This module controls blowers and valves.

Process philosophy:

- ✓ A/NA cycles in 1st stage to boost EBPR
- ✓ N/DN cycles in 2nd stage for efficient TN removal
- ✓ Dynamic DO control
- ✓ Dynamic P control
- ✓ Power tariff strategy (24h consent limits)

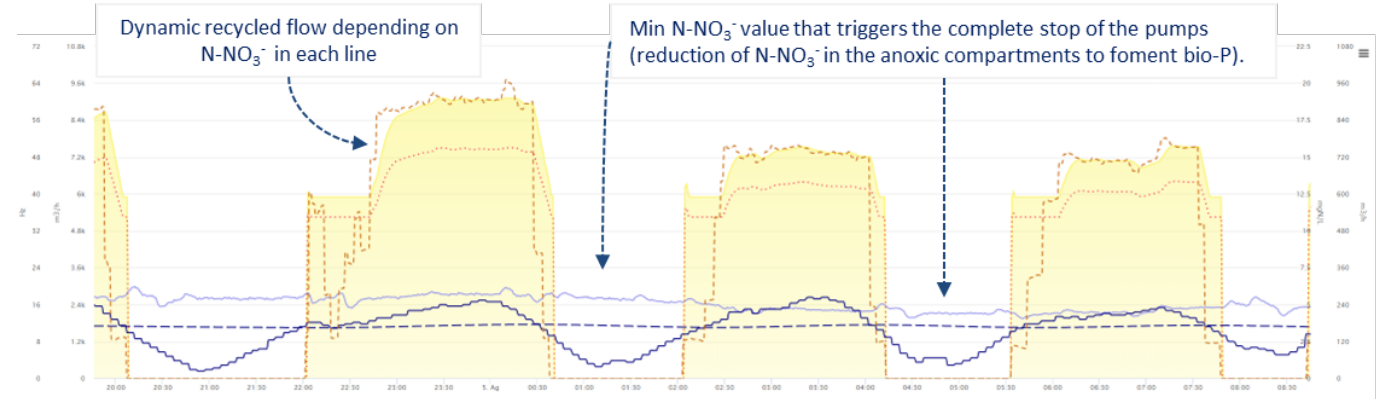


How does it work?

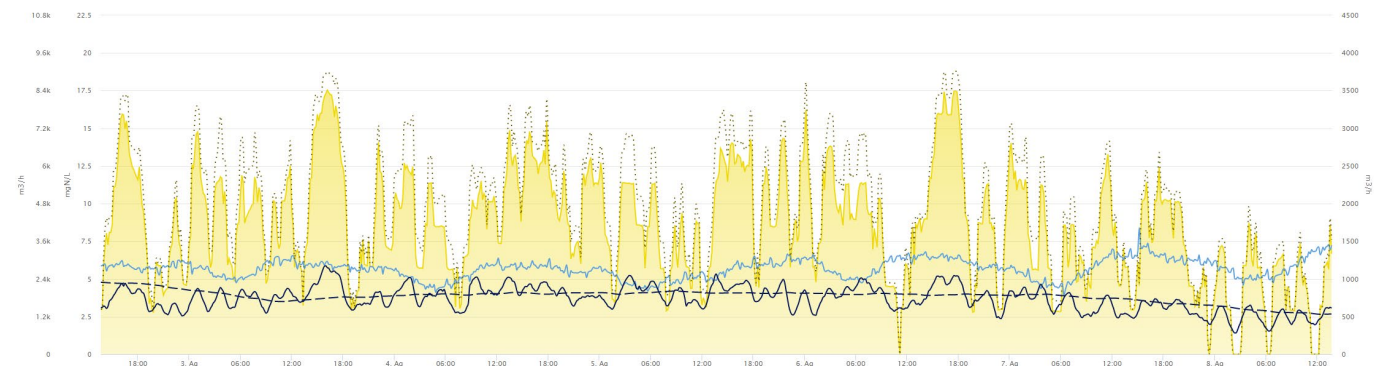
This module controls mixed liquor pumps.

Process philosophy:

- ✓ Dynamic pumping depending on denitrification requirements
- ✓ Individual per lane



— N-NO₃⁻ - - N-NO₃⁻ (24h) — Treated flow ■ RASi flow - - - RASi flow SP - - - - Pump Hz



How does it work?

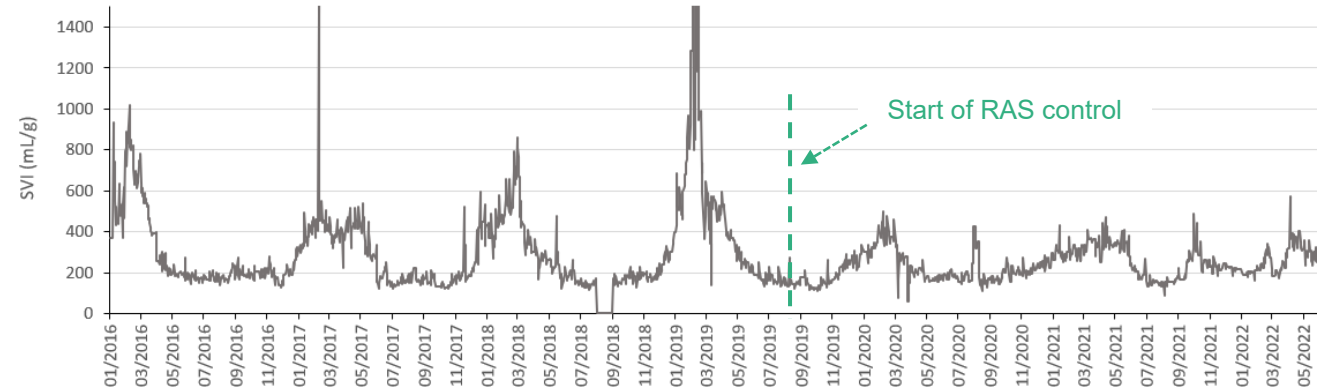
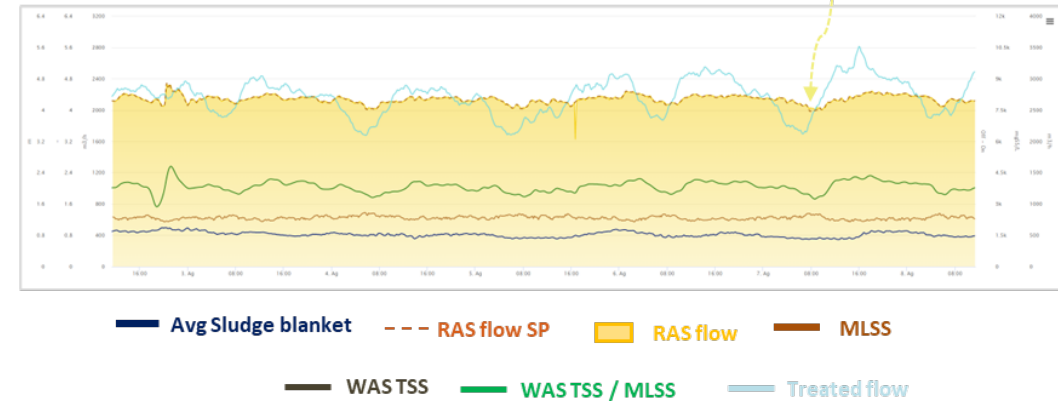
Biomass, RAS, WAS control

This module controls blowers and valves.

Process philosophy:

- ✓ Control of blanket in the final settlement
- ✓ Control of settling properties
- ✓ User defined SRT to control WAS

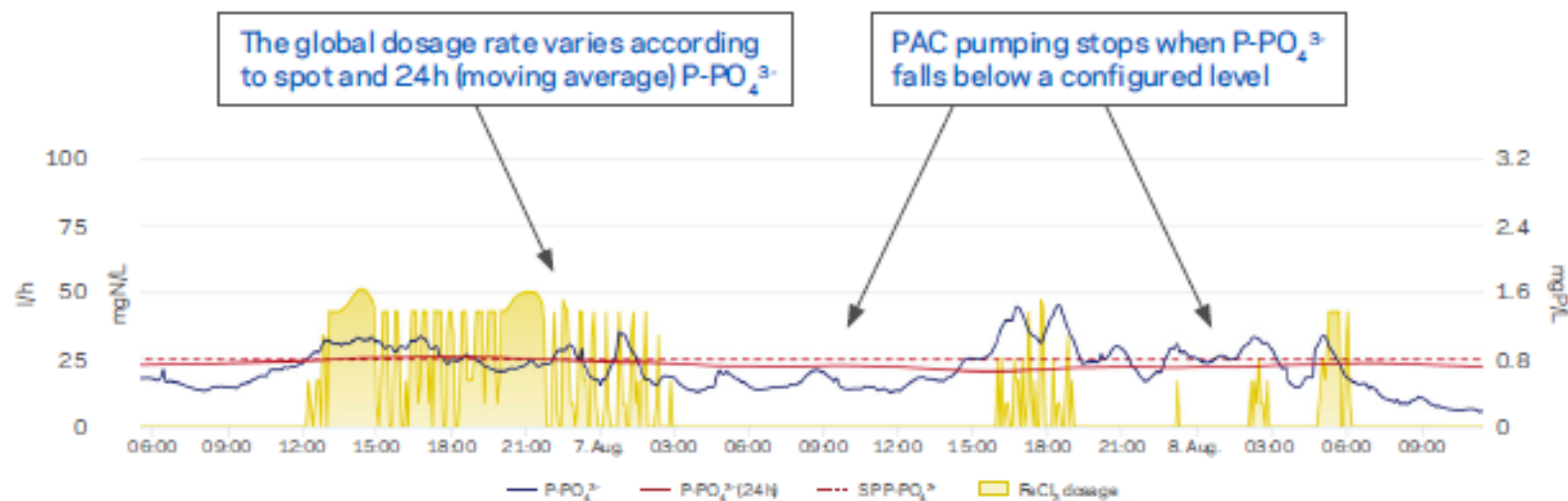
The RAS flow increases to adjust to treated flow increase, MLSS decrease and WAS TSS / MLSS ratio increase



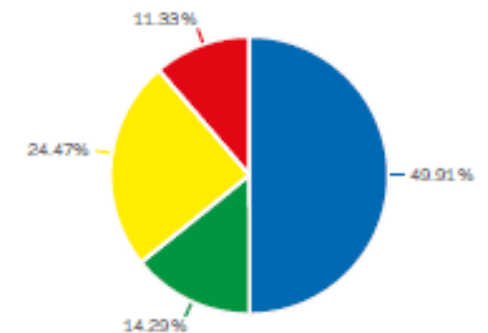
How does it work?

This module controls the FeCl_3 dosing pumps.

- ✓ dynamic dosage setpoints individually in each lane
- ✓ based on the bioreactor's effluent P-PO_4^{3-}
- ✓ synergies with aeration process / P-PO_4^{3-} release



Distribution of the dose across the 4 lanes at a given moment:



Process, energy, quality, sustainability

Process

100 %
Quality
compliance

25 %
Increased TN
removal rate

9.2 %
Increased TP
removal rate

Power

22 %
Reduction in
 $\text{kWh}_A / \text{kgN}_{\text{rem}}$

22 %
Reduction in
 $\text{kWh}_{\text{NuR}} / \text{kgN}_{\text{rem}}$

Blowers
IR pumps
RAS pumps

28 %
Reduction in
 $\text{m}^3_{(\text{IR})} / \text{m}^3$

Chemicals

44 %
Increase in
bio-P
removal

20 %
Reduction in
 $\text{kgFe} / \text{kgTP}_{\text{rem}}$

How does it work?

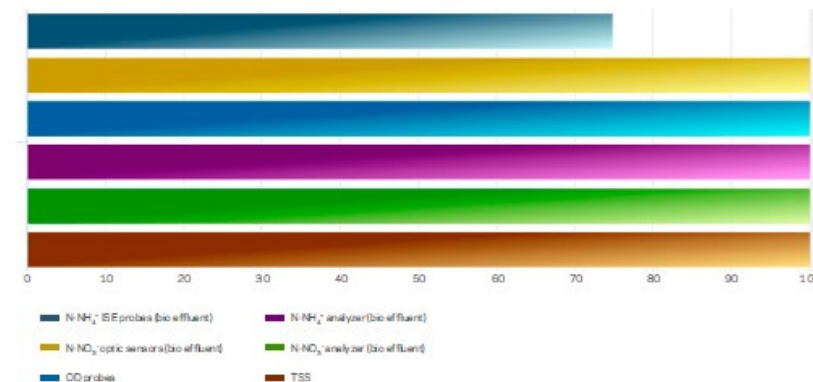
- ✓ **Assesses in real-time the reliability and rates it**
- ✓ Builds and calibrates **soft sensors** of strategic signals using **Artificial Intelligence and machine Learning** & rates their reliability
- ✓ **When the reliability of signal falls below a minimum level**, the system deems it unreliable and uses in its place a replacement, sa. the **soft sensor**

Overall signal reliability overview

Global signal reliability KPI

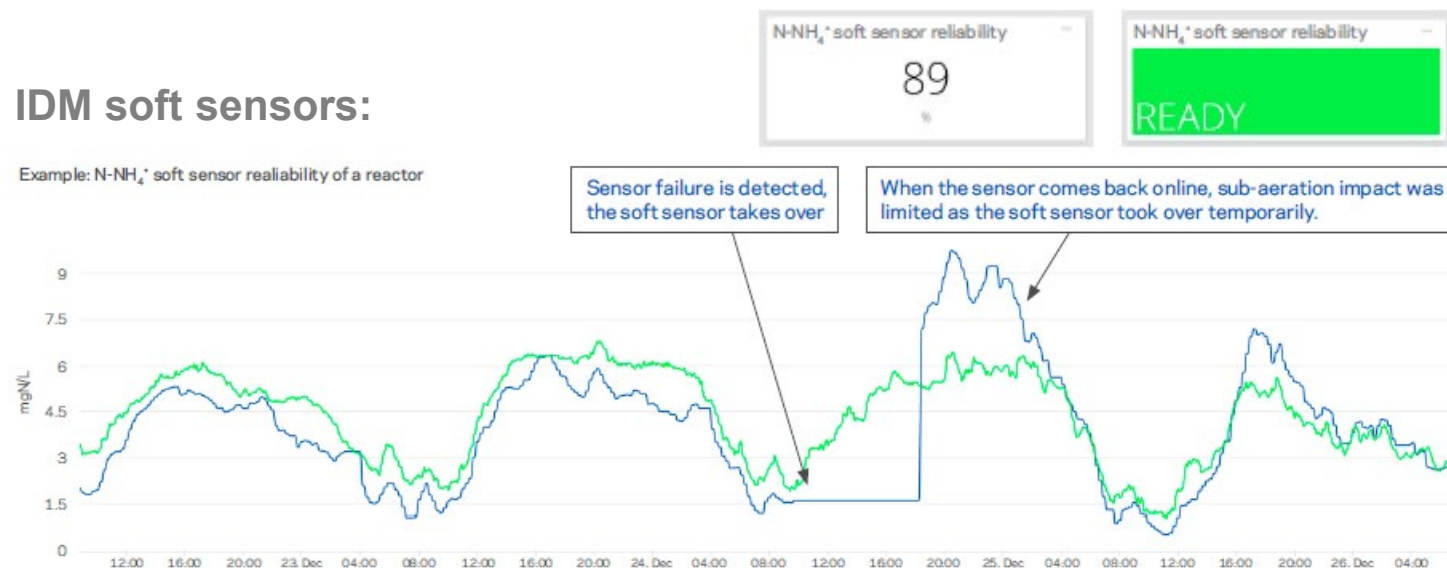


Signal reliability KPI per category



IDM soft sensors:

Example: N-NH₄⁺ soft sensor reliability of a reactor



Conclusions



Enable **compliance** with new consent limits (TN), without revamping the existent WWTP



Promote **EBPR**, despite the asset not being designed for this purpose



Provide **power and chemical savings**, with the associated **environmental impact** benefits



Provide **monetary savings**, over and beyond the commodities savings



Enhance the **robustness and reliability** of the system, using data analytics, AI and ML



Evolve and expand **step-by-step with customized solutions**, as per site requirements

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