



# Sludge Screw Press Operation

Steve Macomber

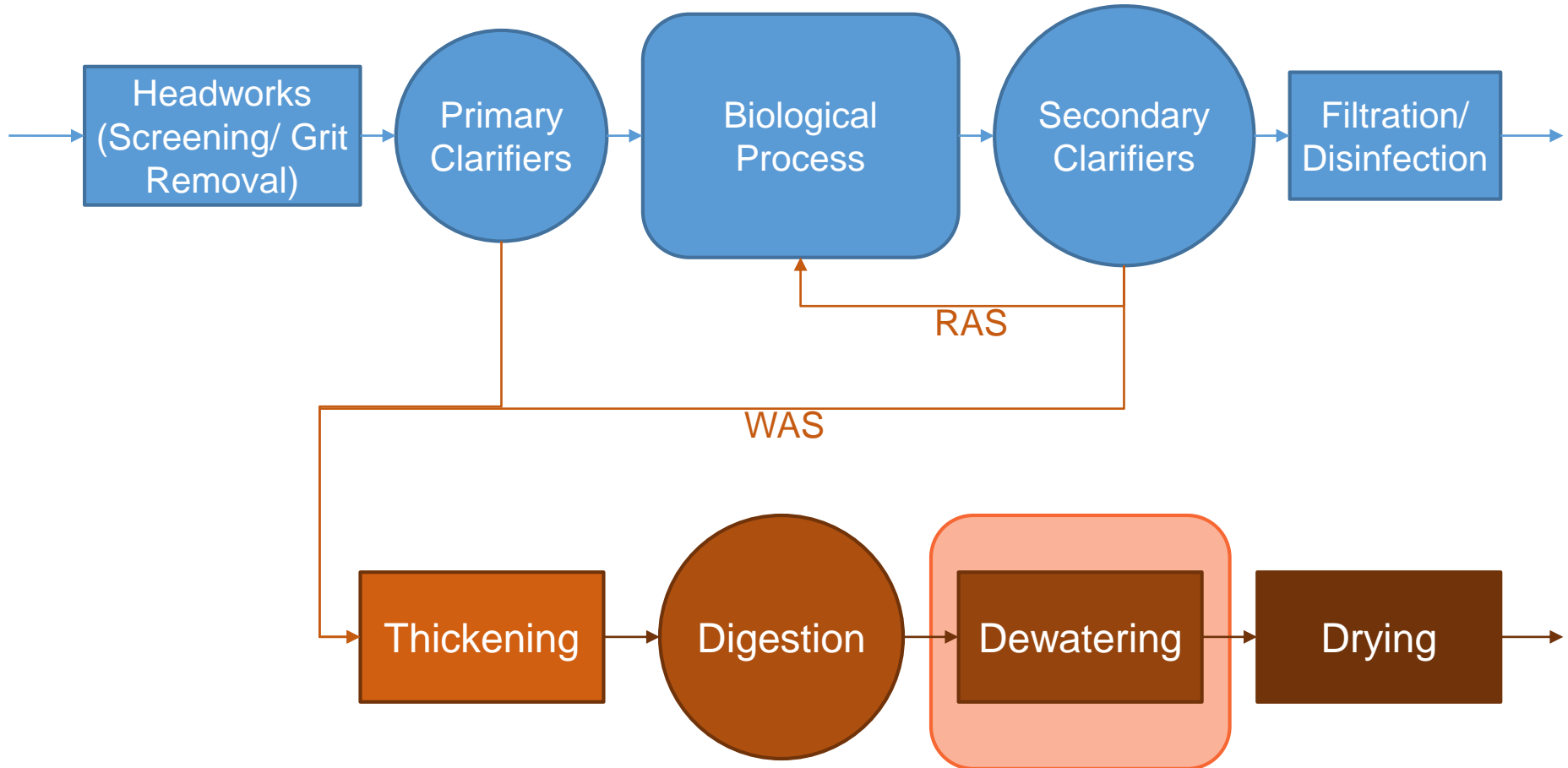
Ed Fritz, P.E.

Huber Technology

- Dewatering Unit Process
- Dewatering Equipment
- Screw Press Equipment
  - Screw Press Mechanical Operation
  - Screw Press Process Operation
- Case Studies



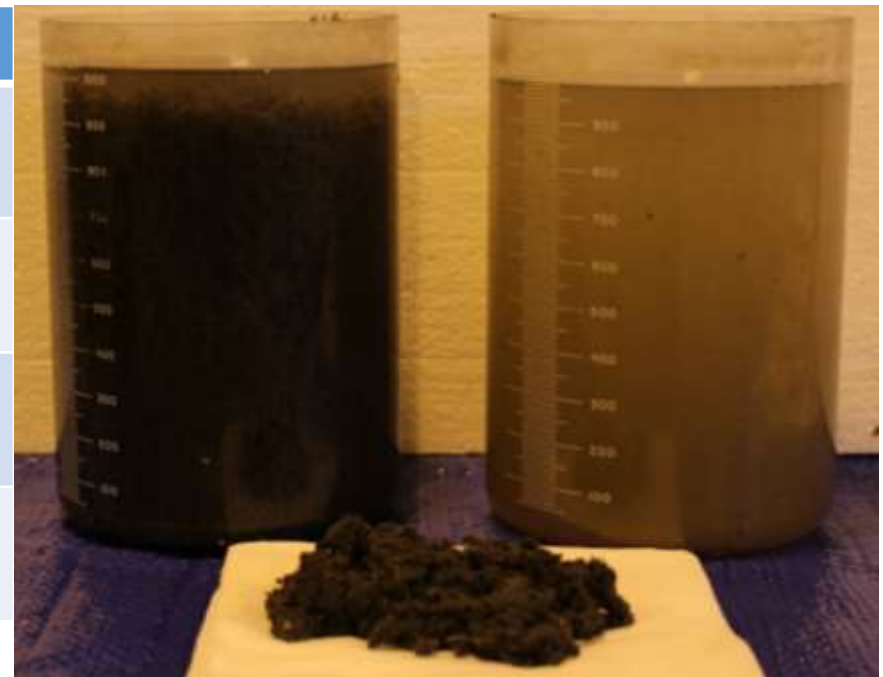
# Where is Dewatering?



# What is Dewatering?

“Dewatering is the removal of water from wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) solids to achieve a **volume reduction** and to **produce a material for further processing or disposal.**” – WEF/WERF/EPA Solids Process Design and Management text

Property	Dewatering
Product	Sludge cake (nonfluid, semisolid material)
Inlet Concentration	0.5-6% solids
Outlet Concentration	15-40% solids
Primary Forces Used	Mechanical (Exc: drying beds)



## Volume Reduction

No dewatering (0.5%)



With Dewatering (20%)



Precursor to downstream processes:

- Easier to incinerate (higher heat value)
- More efficient drying



- Fertilizer for agricultural land (typically Class A or Class B)
- Soil Amendment
- Composting
- Incinerator
- Dryer



# Dewatering Process

Upstream Process

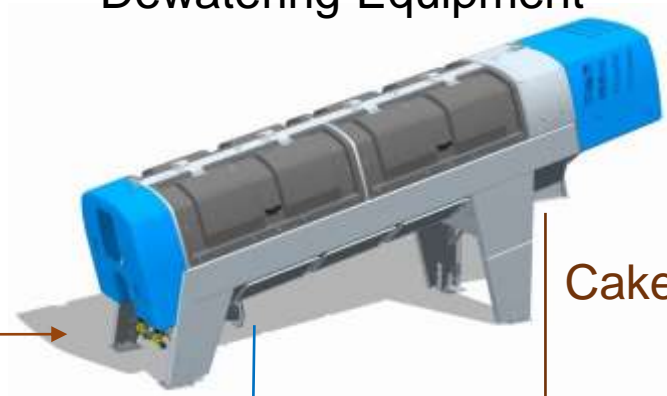


Sludge  
Conditioning



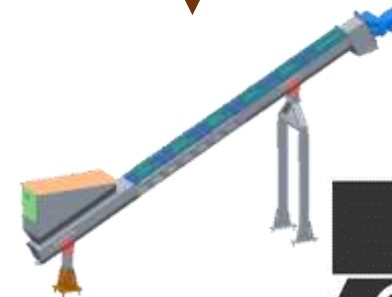
Feed Sludge

Dewatering Equipment



Cake

Pressate



Use/Disposal



General characteristics which affect dewatering performance:

- Solids concentration
- Loading rates

Biological characteristics which affect dewatering performance:

- Type of sludge (primary, waste activated, blend)
- Sludge processing (digestion, thermal, chemical)
- Fibrous material or filamentous bacteria
- Volatile Suspended Solids

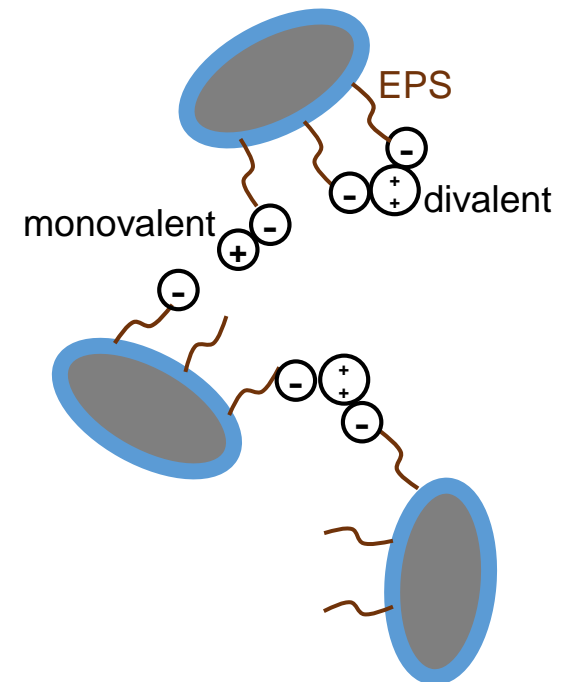
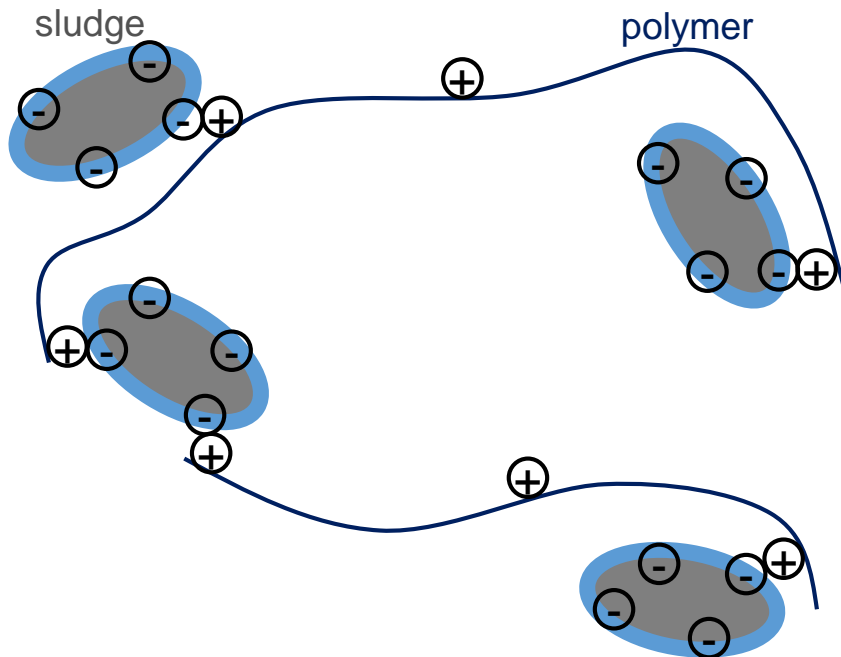
Chemical characteristics which affect dewatering performance

- Nature of water in sludge (free, interstitial, bound)
- Ortho-phosphorus ( $\text{PO}_4\text{-P}$ )
- Monovalent/divalent ions ratio
- pH
- Temperature



## Promotes Flocculation:

- Polymer
- Metal salts



# Dewatering Equipment

- Sludge Drying Beds
- Belt filter press
- Centrifuge
- Screw press



Andritz Belt Filter Press

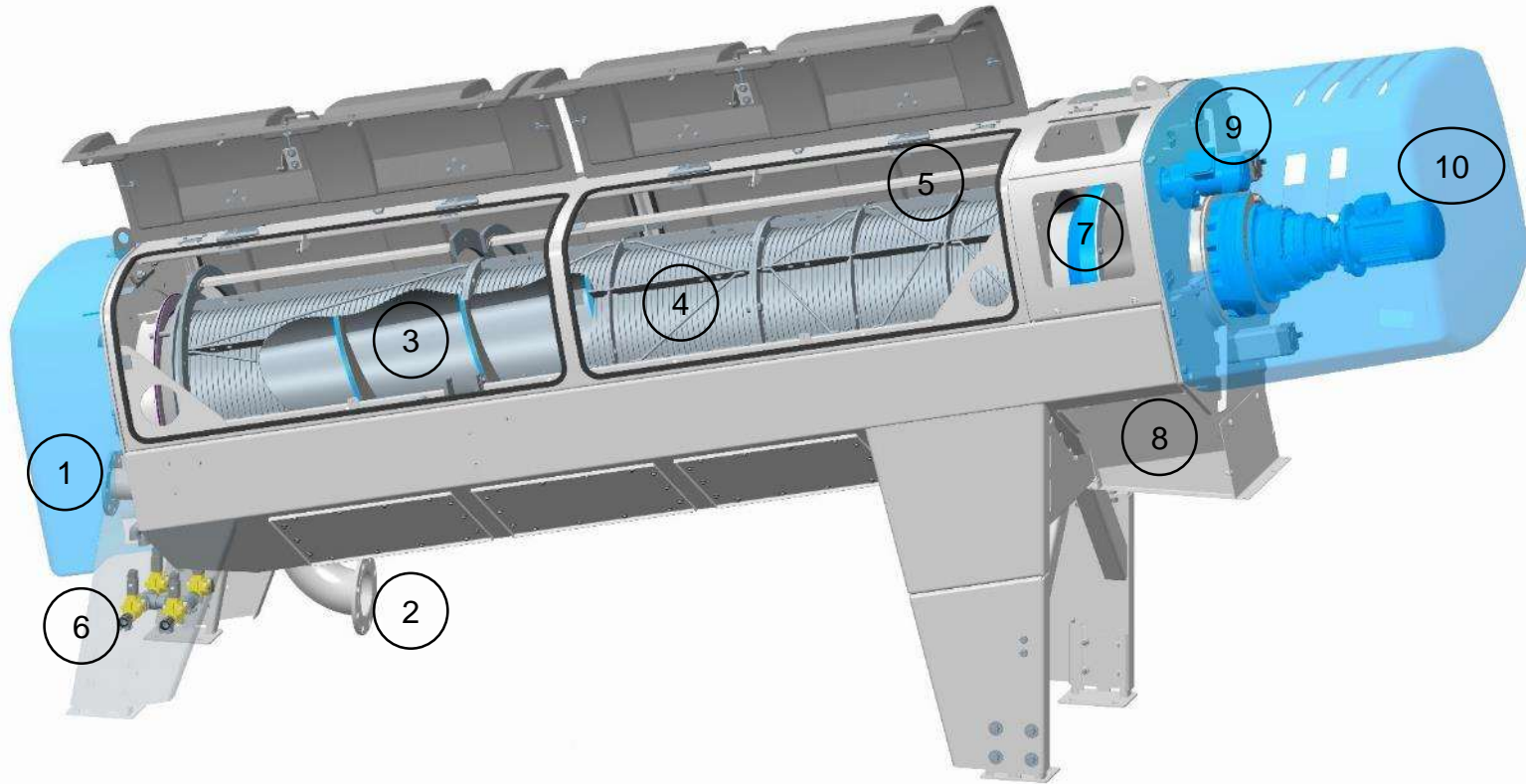


Centrisys Centrifuge



Huber Screw Press

# Screw Press – Mechanical Operation



1 sludge feed

2 filtrate discharge

3 auger

4 filter basket

5 spray basket for independent washing of feed and press zone

6 wash water connection

7 pneumatic pressure cone

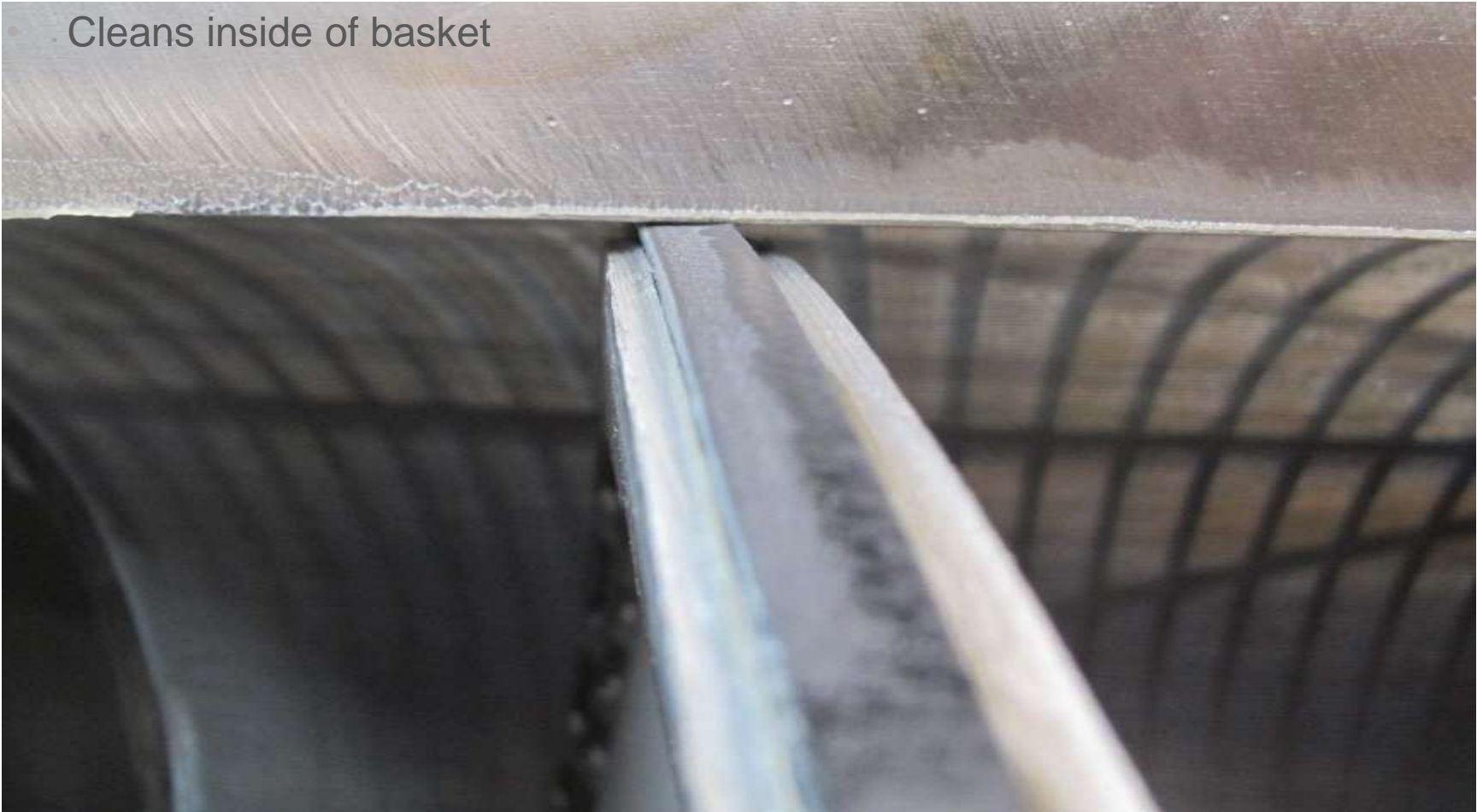
8 sludge cake discharge

9 spray drive

10 auger drive

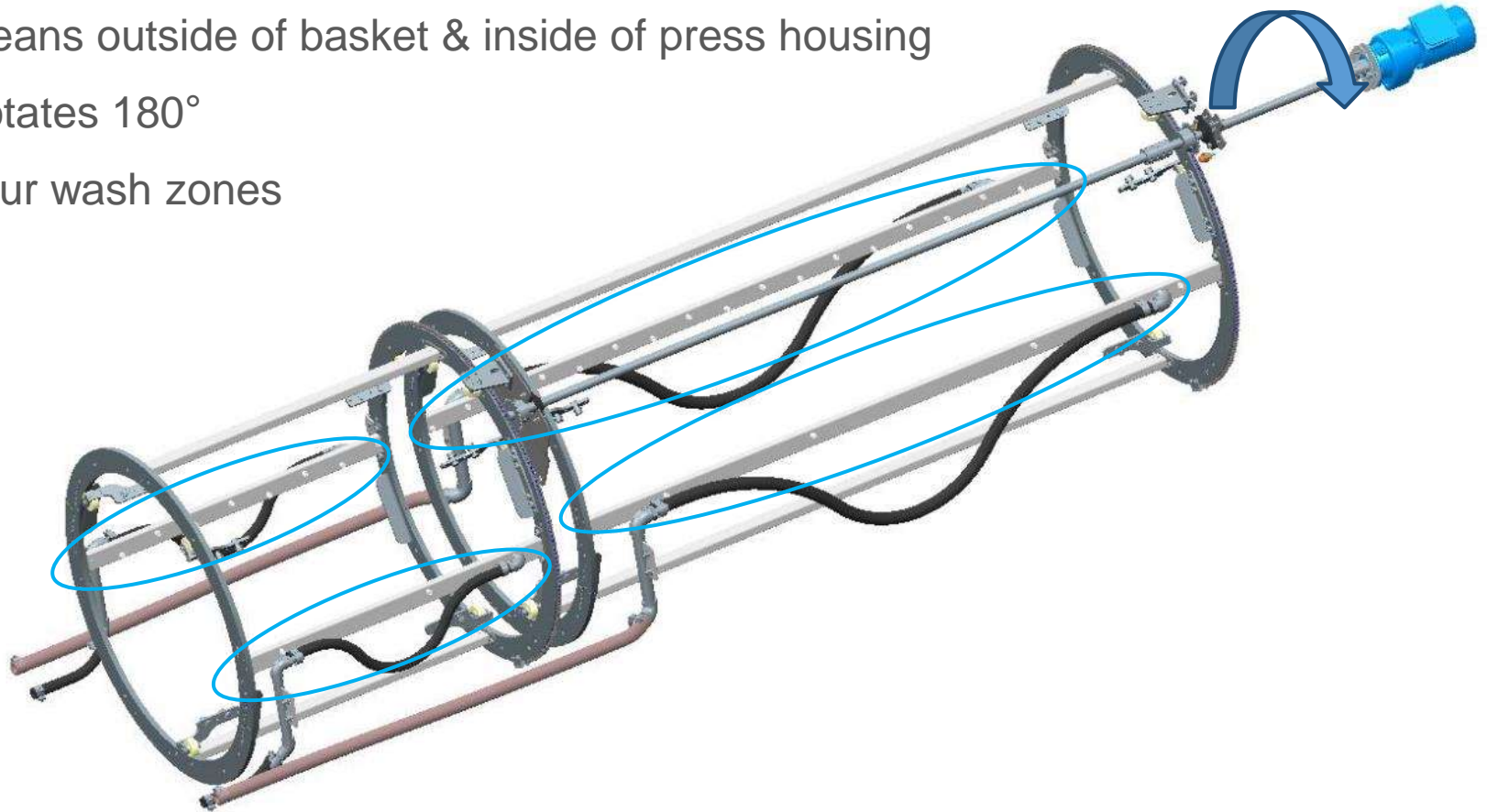
## Wiper:

- Seals to convey sludge
- Cleans inside of basket

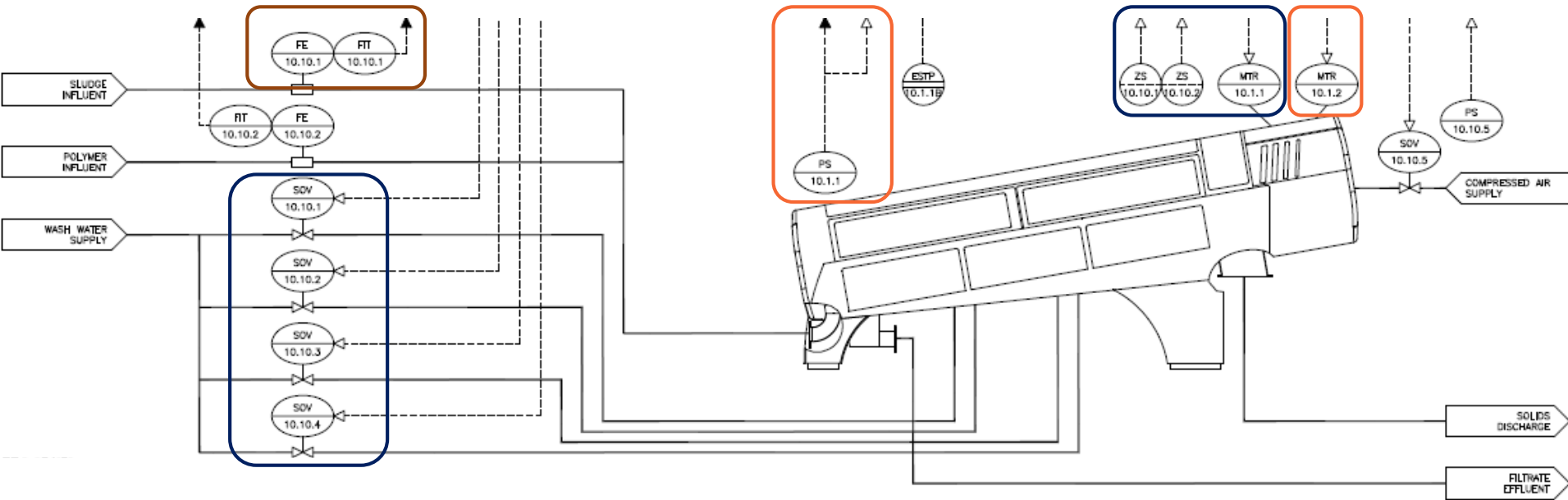


## Wash System:

- Cleans outside of basket & inside of press housing
- Rotates 180°
- Four wash zones



# Screw Press – Process Operation



## Automation:

- Sludge Feed
- Inlet Pressure
- Motor Speed
- Wash Cycle

# Screw Press – Maintenance

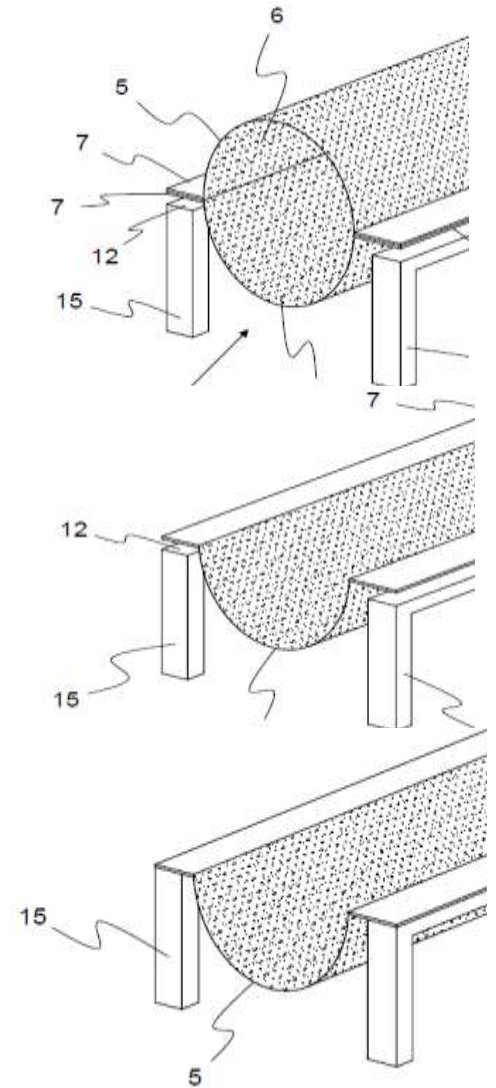
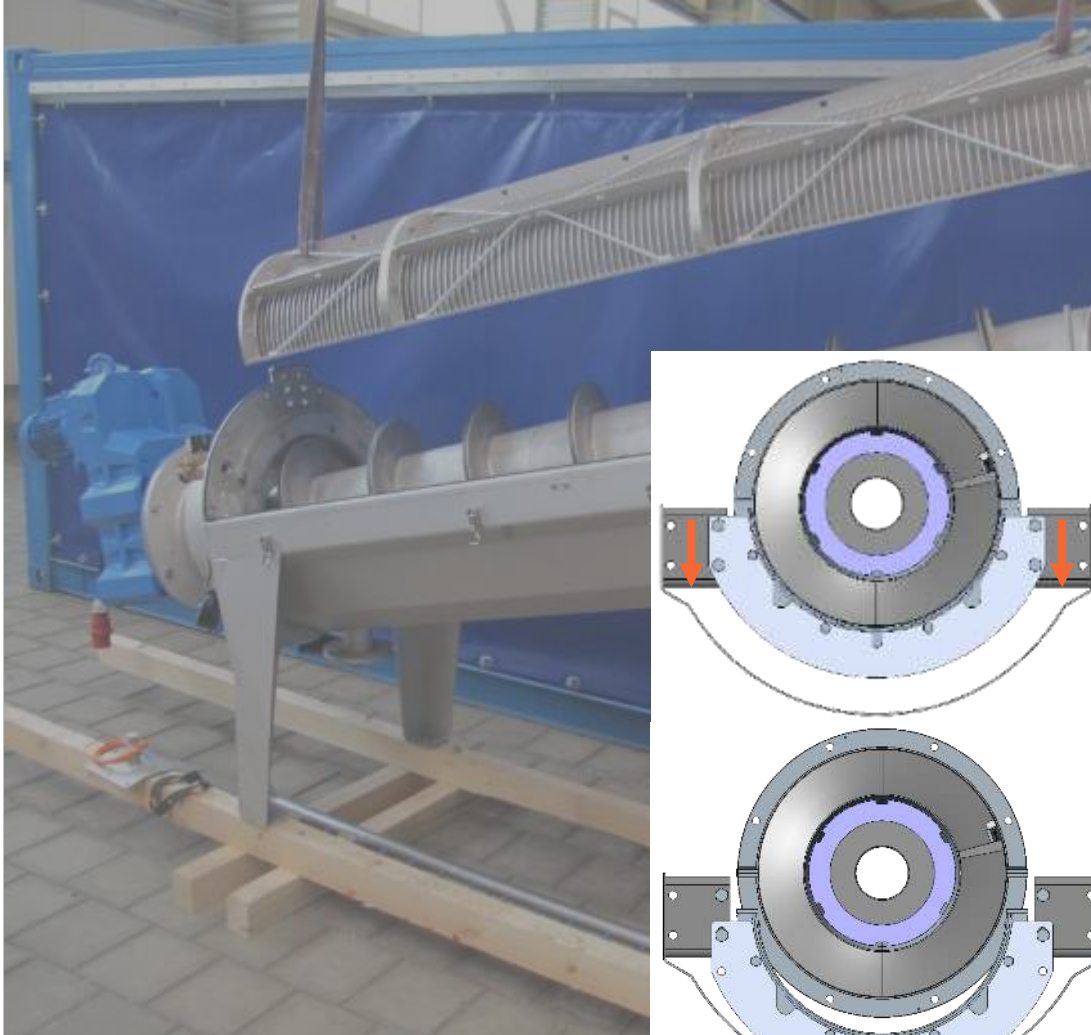


# Screw Press – Maintenance





# Screw Press – Maintenance



## Simplicity:

- Small footprint
- Low operator attention
- Low maintenance



## Simplicity:

- Clean
- Startup

## Operation:

- Highest Cake Solids
- Unattended Operation
- Lowest Electrical Consumption
- Ease of Maintenance
- Expanded to have both unit types



## Excellence

- Replaced BFP with Centrifuge, then Centrifuge malfunctioned
- Maintenance Reductions
- Energy Savings
- Superior Cake Solids
- Lower Labor Costs
- Fit into Footprint





# Questions?

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