



eBULLETIN



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ANAEROBIC DIGESTION 2004

CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION 29 AUGUST - 2 SEPTEMBRE 2004 MONTREAL

Anaerobic Bioconversion for Sustainability

The Tenth World Congress on Anaerobic Digestion 2004 (AD10) is comprised of 3 plenary lectures, 9 invited presentations, 180 oral papers spread over 4 parallel sessions, 387 poster papers, 3 workshops. Topics cover municipal and industrial wastewaters and sludges, agricultural wastes, municipal solid wastes, xenobiotics; and subjects range from molecular biology to technology, from instrumentation to real-time control, from fundamentals to large scale engineering, from pre- to post-treatment cases, from energy prospect to sustainability and cost-effectiveness assessment (complete final program on-line: http://www.ad2004montreal.org/13-finalprog_e.html). We are grateful to all the students, scientists, engineers, industrialists and managers who contribute to the AD10 agenda. This Congress will be a unique opportunity to review and share the latest ideas and effective practices in anaerobic digestion within a friendly and constructive environment. **DON'T MISS IT !**

ANAEROBIC DIGESTION OF EXCESS SLUDGES (WAS, BIOSOLIDS) —

Several key-topics approached at AD10, spread over four sessions (from Tuesday 31 Aug. 4 pm to Wednesday 1 Sept. 6 pm) and 31 posters (Wednesday 1 Sept.) :

- THERMOPHILIC AD, a key practice for obtaining *pathogens-free class A biosolids*, such as experienced at large-scale (190,000 m³) by the *Sanitation Department of Los Angeles City* (presentations by Iranpour & coll.) ...
- AD of biosolids ENHANCED by co-treatments such as *ultrasounds, ozonation, disintegration, thermal oxidation, enzymes, co-digestion* with OSW ...
- FATE of *pharmaceuticals, pesticides* ... during sludge digestion.

Closing Lecture (Thursday 2 September 2004, 16:45):

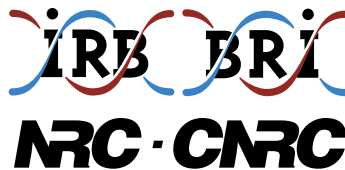
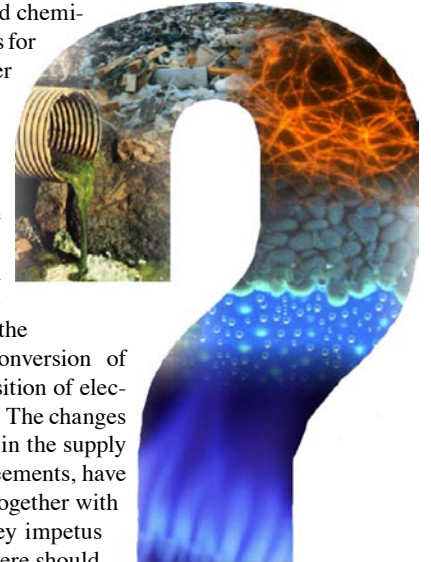
ANAEROBIC DIGESTION AS A CORE TECHNOLOGY IN SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF ORGANIC MATTER



Willy Verstraete, Professor at the University of Ghent, Belgium

“... Anaerobic digestion (AD) has steadily gained importance. However, the technology is not regarded as a top priority in science policy and in industrial development at present. In order for AD to further develop, it is crucial that AD profits from the current fuel issues emerging in the international arena. ... A major part of the world population urgently needs low-cost sanitation. The current technologies for sewage and bio-waste treatment are too expensive for many of the developing countries. In this framework, we should strongly advocate for integral approaches involving AD. ... The bio-refinery concept has ignited a rapid move towards “white”

biotechnology to provide society with energy, fuel and chemicals based on agro-products and offers major potentials for AD. However, AD should also rapidly link up with other technologies, such as alkaline wet oxidation, incineration, and plasma treatment, due to the production of residual organics (digestate) that have a minor or even negative market value. ... Additionally, AD has a number of high value niches that should be vigorously explored. These include anaerobic processes for nitrogen removal by ammonium nitrification-denitrification, for reductive dechlorination, for the removal of sulphur and calcium, and for the conversion of organics into electricity by means of anaerobic deposition of electrons onto an anodic surface in microbial fuel cells. ... The changes on the global scene in the world market, particularly in the supply of fossil fuel and policies in relation to the Kyoto agreements, have resulted in the search for “green” energy. The latter together with the rising need for “clean” N and P constitute the key impetus for further development of AD in the next decade. There should be little doubt that by placing the focus of AD on the production of green energy and clean nutrients, the future of AD will be assured. ... “



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