



INCREASING WASTE ACTIVATED SLUDGE PROCESSING

Six Sigma Project Overview

PROBLEM

The City of Fort Wayne's Wastewater Plant needs to increase the gallons of waste activated sludge that is processed from 50% to 90% to better maintain the treatment of wastewater.

Savings

- + \$1.7 million cost avoidance
- + \$28,000 a year
- + Sludge processing time: increased by 38%

SOLUTION

An analysis determined several factors impacted the plant's ability to process sludge. Plant staff was able to improve the production of sludge by increasing the thickness of the sludge and running the centrifuge continuously.

Factoid

The use of Six Sigma demonstrates the City's commitment to innovation and continuous improvement. The goal is to enhance government performance.

SAVINGS

The City avoided having to pay \$1.7 million to improve equipment at the plant. The project also resulted in a savings of \$28,000 a year. Other benefits include increased capacity at the plant and a reduction in combined sewer overflows.

Six Sigma Team

Cheryl Cronin, *Project Leader/Black Belt*
Ted Rhinehart, *Champion*
Ned Byrer, *City Utilities*
Brian Panzer, *City Utilities*
Gwen Byrd, *City Utilities*
John Kohne, *City Utilities*
Mike Glymph, *City Utilities*
Jeff Vachon, *City Utilities*
Chris Gach, *City Utilities*