

STEPSCREEN® Fine screen

Case Study:

Spanish Fork WWTP, Spanish Fork UT



STEPSCREEN® Offers Simple Efficiencies to Spanish Fork WWTP in Utah

“The STEPSCREEN® has been a phenomenal improvement to our plant. Our results are better all the way around – from end-product and flow cleanliness to reliability and up-time. There is really no comparison between the STEPSCREEN® and other bar screening processes. The STEPSCREEN® is simply a superior technology.” Dennis Sorensen, Plant Supervisor

In 2000, Spanish Fork Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) Superintendent Dennis Sorensen was looking for screening technology that would upgrade his present bar screen and rake system. Too many contaminants were making their way into the channel flow and causing repercussions to manpower consumption, end-product quality and EPA limits.

Sorensen knew the best choice would be technology that offers:

- **Simplicity**
- **Reliability**
- **Process efficiencies**
- **Dependable support**

Challenge:

The contaminants the bar screen allowed into Spanish Fork’s process wreaked havoc in several ways. They drive down the quality of end-products, drive up the cost of processing and jeopardize EPA approvals. While contaminant levels from chemicals are very important to passing EPA compliance standards, solid contaminants, such as plastics, also jeopardize EPA compliance and can culminate in additional costly processing and fines that can reach \$10,000 a day. Removing solids early in the process eliminates the risks that their presence can create down the line and ensures efficient processing and higher quality end-products.

Solution:

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Sorensen chose the STEPSCREEN® from Huber Technology because it looked simpler. It had fewer moving parts and a very straightforward concept for taking contaminants out of the flow at the headworks – before it starts its downstream process.



Spanish Fork utilizes the STEPSCREEN® in two identical headworks systems. The technology upgrade has made a vast difference in plant processing. Prior to the implementation of new technology, only one channel was processed. The efficiencies of the STEPSCREEN® technology allowed Spanish Fork to double flow processing and make the plant more productive. In addition, the flow is cleaner. Plastics don’t get to the digester because they are removed before they reach the channel. The removal of solids, such as plastics, rags and

“The STEPSCREEN® gives us cost savings in three areas: Maintenance, man hours and downtime. The technology just works. We check on it daily, but it generally requires nothing except the occasional clearing out of solids – such as rags, grease and hair - that collect into unmanageable balls.”

“Huber’s support and services team really cares. They understand what we need and do everything they can to make sure things go right. When technicians are on site, they are enthusiastic about educating our team on processes, tips and tricks that will help us get the most from our technology.”

hair, is critical in improving efficiency and quality because fewer solids take up less space in the digesters and create more room for biosolids. The sludge that collects in the bottom of the clarifiers is of higher quality, meets EPA standards and can be used as fertilizer.

Spanish Fork depends on the STEPSCREEN® to:

1. Improve wastewater screenings capture beyond what bar screening technology can provide.
2. Elevate their confidence in the end-products they produce.
3. Increase throughput in the plant without increasing manpower.

Before and after

Sorensen relates this story that gives a clear before and after comparison.

“My mother-in-law wanted fertilizer for the flower barrels she plants each Spring. I told her that I could give her something to use, but she might find some undesirable elements that she would need to separate out before doing her plantings. I gave her the fertilizer and she did end up separating quite a collection of what our guys call ‘party favors’ from the sludge. After we put the STEPSCREEN® technology in place, the mother-in-law inquired about what had happened to our fertilizer because it was completely clear of all undesirables. Her undesirable collection simply didn't exist.”

The fact that Spanish Fork collects that quality level of sludge from clarifiers without re-straining it is proof that the STEPSCREEN® does its job efficiently.

Reliability and support

Sorensen admits that initially his STEPSCREEN® needed some tweaking. There was an issue with a push rod that had the support team mystified. Instead of scratching their heads, the Huber team called in their key service expert on the technology. After examination, push rod replacement and a few tweaks, the STEPSCREEN® worked like a champ – and has ever since that occurred in 2000 – more than ten years.

The STEPSCREEN® rarely requires attention, according to Sorensen. And when it does, the circumstances are typical wear and tear items – such as bearings and gear boxes. Huber’s team is quick to respond – regardless of what the need is – to have processes up and running within a day or so – never the four to six weeks that has been experienced in the industry.

CITY OF SPANISH FORK



Spanish Fork Wastewater Treatment Plant

Location: Spanish Fork, Utah

Website:

<http://www.spanishfork.org/>

Facilities: 1

Product: STEPSCREEN®

The Spanish Fork Wastewater Treatment Plant serves the 31,000+ residents of Spanish Fork situated in central Utah lying in the south central portion of Utah County.

Sorensen and his Spanish Fork team believe they have come across something rare: a personal relationship with support and services people who understand the importance of their system's uptime. Response to parts replacement is fast: perhaps a day for delivery from stateside supply, only three days or so when delivering from Germany.

STEPSCREEN®'s design and manufacturing quality provides clients with reliable performance. Hard-working technology does require parts replacement and maintenance and when that is required, clients find the same reliability in Huber's support and services that they discover in using its technology.



The supporting cast

Huber's experience with municipalities and with wastewater processes is extensive as is its knowledge of the technologies it provides.

This industry-technology insight allows Huber to work with organizations to ensure that systems are geared to perfectly match up to immediate tactical challenges and long-term strategic goals.

Let us help you with your solution today.

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