

# ultra sound bite

THE NEWSLETTER FOR SONICO'S GLOBAL FAMILY

AUTUMN 2005

"SONICO has been through an exciting 12 months; the commissioning of two major plants has kept our engineering department extremely busy. The good news is that we are not only reporting on past successes, but on an exciting portfolio of future projects.



Piers Clark



Mike Crane

I am pleased to announce that Mike Crane has been appointed as my successor as Managing Director. Mike is an ideal candidate to lead SONICO in this new operational phase and to continue to deliver our marketing strategy and support to our licensees and sales representatives.

I feel honoured to have led SONICO for the last 3 years and I look forward to working with Mike and the team to ensure that the success story continues into the future."

Piers Clark

## sonix™ goes from strength to strength: more than 30% increase in biogas production

**In September 2004 a full-scale sonix™ installation was commissioned at Ulu Pandan Water Reclamation Plant in Singapore. A five month study showed an average increase in biogas production of 35%.**

The sonix™ system was installed on the feed line of one of two egg shaped digesters, both have a capacity of 5000m<sup>3</sup>. The digesters were operated under identical conditions; each was fed with the same volume up to 200m<sup>3</sup> per day of blended sludge (two thirds thickened waste activated sludge (TWAS) and one third primary sludge).

Ulu Pandan Water Reclamation Plant is owned and operated by the Public Utilities Board (PUB). In a statement in their 2004 Annual Report, PUB report positively on the use of sonix™:

*"The trial at Ulu Pandan Water Reclamation Plant has shown improved efficiency in sludge digestion with more than 30% increase in the production of biogas. Biogas is useful fuel for generating electricity. This technology scores well on at least two counts, more biogas and less residual sludge for disposal."*



sonix™ installation at Ulu Pandan

Dr Rongjing Xie of the Centre for Advanced Water Technology (CAWT) presented the results at the 1st IWA-ASPIRE Conference & Exhibition which took place earlier this summer in Singapore.

For information about sonix™ in Singapore contact: Rongjing Xie on [rjxie@cawt.sui.com.sg](mailto:rjxie@cawt.sui.com.sg)

## Hungry for sonix™ in Hungary?

**Sonico is pleased to announce VizTEC as its exclusive sales agent for Hungary.**

VizTEC is engaged in offering solutions for technical and process optimisation challenges that water and sewage treatment companies face in Hungary and neighbouring countries.

VizTEC was established in 1995, with the mission 'to provide solutions for the players of the water industry, which optimise their water treatment processes on a cost effective and environment friendly way.'

Ádám Serke is confident that sonix™ has much to offer the Hungarian market:

*'As sludge disposal and new sources of energy becoming top issues industry-wide, digester performance and biogas production attract the attention of water company managers. This is the basis for a promising co-operation between SONICO and VizTEC, in a market which has EU support and is open-minded to new, but proven technologies.'*

For information about sonix™ in Hungary contact: Ádám Serke on [viztec@viztec.hu](mailto:viztec@viztec.hu)

## Water & Wastewater Europe

SONICO exhibited at Water & Wastewater Europe in June. The three day conference and exhibition took place in Milan, northern Italy, and involved water industry professionals from across Europe.

The exhibition provided a useful precursor to WEFTEC 05 which will be held in Washington DC later this year.

## SONICO secures two exciting installations in Spain

In May this year, SONICO signed a license agreement with **Depuración de Aguas del Mediterráneo (DAM)**. Based in Valencia, Spain, DAM operate and manage over 90 sewage treatment works across the country, treating over 270 million m<sup>3</sup> of sludge per annum and serving a population of over 3.37 million.

Santiago Amores, Managing Director of DAM has high hopes for sonix™: 'The introduction of the Sludge Directive in 2007 and the high cost of sludge disposal make this an ideal time to introduce sonix™ into the Spanish and Portuguese markets.'

Since signing the license, DAM has purchased a sonix™ V3 which will be installed on Sagunto Sewage Treatment Works in Valencia and has secured the hire of a demonstration plant with EMASESA in Seville.

Sagunto has a flow of 15,000 m<sup>3</sup> per day and serves a population of

approximately 100,000. The plant will be installed in late summer 2005 and results will be published in 2006. Mike Crane, Managing Director of SONICO, has been working closely with DAM, he says: 'We are very excited that DAM is representing SONICO in southern Europe, we feel that it will be an important market for sonix™ and the interest so far has substantiated this.'

For information about sonix™ in Spain and Portugal contact: Santiago Amores on [santiago.amores@dam-aguas.es](mailto:santiago.amores@dam-aguas.es)



Santiago Amores (DAM) and Piers Clark (SONICO)

## sonix™ for sustainability

SONICO recently completed a five month trial at the City of Riverside Quality Control Plant, funded by the California Energy Commission (CEC) and managed independently by engineering consultants CH2M Hill.

The results will be published by CEC in due course. In the meantime, SONICO would like to thank Renee Groskreutz and Ruth Roxburgh at CH2M Hill and Gerry Bossard at the City of Riverside for their hard work on the trial.

For information about sonix™ in North America contact: Rupert Kruger on [rkruger@sonico.net](mailto:rkruger@sonico.net)

### WEFTEC 2005

October 29 - November 2  
Washington, DC, USA

If you're going to this year's exhibition call in and see us at booth number 2906 in Hall B.

## China: an emerging market for sonix™

The rapid growth of the Chinese economy and resulting investment in infrastructure has led SONICO to form an alliance with H. W. Wang Enterprise, a firm of specialist consultants, to evaluate the market for sonix™.

A vast infrastructure of over 500 wastewater treatment works treat more than 9 million tonnes of sludge each year, and the sludge production is increasing by a further 10% annually, resulting in continued expansion and construction of treatment works.

Many existing treatment works face operational difficulties, including low levels of solids destruction and gas

production, despite long retention times; this, combined with the high cost of sludge disposal makes sonix™ an ideal process solution.

Piers Clark of SONICO and Jane Wang of H. W. Wang Enterprise have met with a number of key contacts both at treatment works and design institutes. sonix™ has been well received and a strong portfolio of leads is emerging. A number of formal proposals have now been submitted and both SONICO and H. W. Wang Enterprise are confident that sonix™ will soon have a permanent presence in China.

'Following discussions at one key wastewater treatment plant it became apparent that sonix™ would have a

payback of just one year – a very attractive proposition.' - Jane Wang, General Manager, H. W. Wang Enterprise

China's wastewater and sludge industry is not subject to regulation at the present time, and thus digestion is not deemed necessary for many wastewater treatment plants. However, there is an increasing likelihood the industry will be regulated within the next few years which will provide another boost to the market for sonix™.

For information about sonix™ in China contact: Jane Wang on [janewang@hw-w.com](mailto:janewang@hw-w.com)