

Seafood Processing Trade Waste Guideline No. 34

INTRODUCTION

Trade waste discharges from companies processing seafood have the potential to adversely affect the sewerage system. Waste waters may contain high concentrations of total dissolved solids and suspended solids. Appropriate management practices at each site are therefore necessary. This Guideline outlines the areas of concern and available technologies for the control of trade wastes.

KEY TRADE WASTE QUALITY REQUIREMENTS

PARAMETER	GENERALLY ACCEPTED LEVEL
Biochemical Oxygen Demand	<1,000 mg/L
Suspended Solids	<500 mg/L average
Total Dissolved Solids	<1500 mg/L
pH	Between 6-10 units
Temperature	<38°C
Flow rate to sewer	Dependant on capacity of receiving sewers

Note: Acceptance limits at Country/Regional Waste water Treatment Plants may vary from the figures given in this table.

BEST PRACTICE MANAGEMENT ASPECTS

- Processing areas and floors are dry cleaned/swept before wash down to remove solids.
- Intestines, heads, frame etc. are disposed to solid waste bin or alternative processing.
- Use of shade cloth lined baskets at the end of each processing table to remove fine solids.
- Coordinating discharge of seafood cooking and chiller tanks to avoid excessive temperature and flow fluctuations.
- It is the responsibility of site management to ensure the effective operation of all pre-treatment equipment (e.g. ongoing servicing/cleaning of silt traps and arresters).

TYPICAL PRETREATMENT REQUIREMENTS

- Screening of all waste water from processing areas using silt traps/ baskets and/or screens to exclude suspended solids (i.e.: scales, fins, and heads).
- Suitably sized settling pit/ arrester (clarifier or dissolved air flotation system for larger operations).
- Cooling of any cooking/ retort water prior to disposal.

Reviewed January 2011

Further information
(08) 7424 1336
www.sawater.com.au
tradewastebranch@sawater.com.au

ADDITIONAL PRETREATMENT

- Segregation of brine or seawater for removal offsite by a licensed liquid waste contractor.
- Automatic pH correction.
- Buffer tanks for flow and temperature equalisation.
- Coagulant/flocculant addition to aid solids and blood separation.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Mains Water Protection (AS/NZS3500-2003 Part 1), [Trade Waste General Policy](#), [Trade Waste Blind Tank Guideline No.3](#), [Trade Waste Bunding Guideline No.4](#), [Standards of Acceptance of Liquid Waste to Sewer](#).

Reviewed January 2011

Further information
(08) 7424 1336

www.sawater.com.au
tradewastebranch@sawater.com.au

