

# VEOLIA WATER TECHNOLOGIES GOES WITH THE FLOW AT AAK FOODS

CASE STUDY | Food & Beverage

WATER TECHNOLOGIES



There are many ways to conduct business, but no better approach than a partnership model where two firms work together to find a mutually beneficial solution. This was the case recently, when specialist oils and fats supplier AAK Foods, worked us to improve effluent water treatment performance at its Runcorn site. Together, we have established a year-long contract, which will reduce running costs, minimise administrative needs and limit the risk of incurring fines from United Utilities.

## | The client's needs

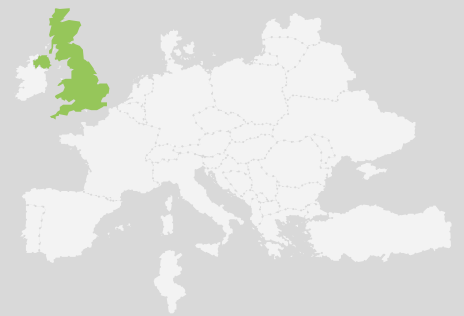
Since 1971, AAK Foods in Runcorn has been a leading producer and supplier of private label mustards, condiments, sauces and dressings to some of the nation's largest retailers. Previously, the company had been operating its effluent treatment service on a month-to-month basis. As a result, the costs associated with the service fluctuated with varying amounts of chemicals required to complete the task. Crucially, the system had not been assessed for inefficiencies and was subsequently failing to perform at an optimum level.

## | The solution

**After reviewing the chemical composition of the water, our team of experts supplied a number of our water management products. We supplied the client with Hydrex 6861 organic coagulant and our Hydrex 6903 water-based polymer.**

The Hydrex 6861 chemistry was particularly well-suited to the effluent profile at AAK Foods because of its low pH level and because of the small capacity of the treatment plant. Unlike before, chemical dose rates at the site are now far more controlled, so usage is more predictable.

As such, the site is able to achieve more uniform results, allowing plant engineers to reduce the time they spend checking that the water is within consent limits which is required to avoid MOGDEN charges. This means that a key challenge associated with managing the effluent treatment process has been eliminated.



*Runcorn, United Kingdom*

## | The client

**Runcorn** -- AAK Foods is a leading producer and supplier of private label mustards, condiments, sauces and dressings to some of the nation's largest retailers



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*The client had never received expert guidance over the chemical solution that needed to add to the water. As a result, the system was running inefficiently, and the client was adding more chemicals to the water than were needed. This was unnecessarily costly, especially as it meant AAK Foods had to pay United Utilities a further fee to remove excess chemicals from the water. We devised a tailored solution to overcome the issue and help the client save money on its operations.*

*Brian Jones, Business Development Manager at Veolia Water Technologies*

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## | The solution

A further advantage of our solutions is that neither added to the site's overall sludge volume. In turn, this helps the dissolved air flotation unit to operate at a higher flow rate. Similarly, the client was able to save more money as they no longer needed to purchase expensive polymer dilution equipment as the Hydrex 6903 water-based polymer is diluted through an inline dilution unit. Overall, the solution has allowed the effluent treatment plant to operate in a more steady and reliable manner.



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## | Results

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*Veolia Water Technologies presented us with an honest and upfront approach to problem-solving, which helped us to achieve amazing results but also reduced costs. To begin with, we wanted to trial the new system on a monthly basis. We were really impressed with the results and have now specified the new process for a further year. We're also in constant communication with the Veolia team and they continue to help us operate as efficiently as possible.*

*Neil Heselwood, Engineering Manager at AAK Food Supplies*

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Our team maintain regular contact with the AAK Engineering Team and will review the use of chemicals in the plant every 4 months. This helps to ensure that the right levels of chemicals are being used in the process. We will continue this process, carrying on the partnership model, which has helped make the installation such a success thus far.

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