

VEOLIA SUPPORTS MAJOR PHARMACEUTICAL MANUFACTURER WITH AN UPGRADE AT ONE OF ITS FRENCH FACILITIES

CASE STUDY | Pharma, Northern France



| The client's needs

As part of a long-term partnership, Veolia has supplied its leading Orion™ water treatment technology to a multinational pharmaceutical manufacturer in France to improve water and energy efficiency as well as reduce the costs of ongoing maintenance. The major manufacturing facility produces millions of units of vital pharmaceutical products every year to be used in France and exported worldwide.

| The solution

Veolia has a long-term relationship with this site, and the water treatment specialist has worked with its team to meet its requirements for high-quality pharmaceutical-grade purified water since 2015. Most recently, the manufacturer looked to replace a water treatment unit that no longer met its requirements in terms of water and energy efficiency and had become expensive to service and maintain. What was required was a unit that could replace the 500 litres per hour of water production while contributing to reducing the environmental impact of the site's operation.

The upgrade was put out to a competitive tender with Veolia and one other specialist shortlisted. Veolia proposed replacing the existing system with one of its Orion™ units, three of which have been installed at the site over the last decade.

Veolia's proposal was selected as, during the competitive bid process, Veolia was able to demonstrate the benefits of the Orion™ and how it met the specific requirements of this project. Specifically, how the Orion™ can achieve 90% water recovery instead of the 70% achieved by the existing unit, as well as a 10% energy saving. Importantly, the Orion™ is fully heat-sanitisable at over 80°C – avoiding the use of chemicals for sanitisation was a central consideration. A modified version of the standard Orion™ was utilised that allowed the pre-treatment 10µm filter and boost pump on the feed water to be included in the heat sanitisation process. Orion™ also features automatic sanitisation functionality, meaning technicians do not need to be physically present, helping to maximise resource availability.



Northern France

A major global pharmaceutical and healthcare company, known for its dedication to sustainability and operational excellence, runs numerous manufacturing plants across Europe. The company is committed to maintaining rigorous quality standards and efficiently managing the complex water treatment needs inherent in its production processes.

One specific facility in France sought a solution to enhance water and energy efficiency, and simultaneously lower the expenditures tied to continuous maintenance.

Key Figures

Over 10 years of collaboration

90%
Water recovery

10%
Energy saving

At over 80°C
Orion™ is fully heat-sanitisable



| Results

The multi-technology Orion™ has been designed specifically to meet the needs of pharmaceutical, healthcare and biotechnology clients. The skid-mounted unit includes core technologies of softening, reverse osmosis (RO) and continuous electrodeionisation (CEDI) with a range of additional pre- and post-treatment steps available, such as UV and ultrafiltration.

Orion™ also meets the quality standards outlined in the European Pharmacopoeia (Ph Eur), US Pharmacopoeia (USP) and Japanese Pharmacopoeia (JP), and is fully compliant with FDA, cGMP and GAMP requirements. To ensure compliance, the Orion™ includes full monitoring of water quality parameters.

The Veolia team provided full technical support throughout the project. To ensure there was no disruption to the site's operations, the new unit was installed and commissioned before the old unit was disconnected and removed. Veolia carried out the installation and ensured the unit was fully operational before handing it over to the on-site team.

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