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## Third HUBER belt drying plant in Lithuania commissioned



*Small but powerful! Smallest model of the HUBER Belt Dryer range (BT 4) put into operation at Silute, Lithuania*

In Silute, Lithuania, the smallest size of a HUBER Belt Dryer was put into operation and convinces all along the line. The BT 4 model is perfectly in the customer's plant and so that it operates at full capacity to the full satisfaction of the customer.

Our belt dryer references range now from the biggest belt drying plant in the world for sewage sludge in Shenzhen (138,000 t/a) to the smallest HUBER Belt Dryer model in Lithuania (3,490 t/a).

The BT 4 dryer in Silute has an effective drying zone of only 4 m with a belt width of 2.5 m. Due to its modular design the complex system could be installed by the local staff with the support from a supervisor. The dryer was commissioned in December 2012. It achieves a throughput of 478 kg dewatered sewage sludge per hour, which is equivalent to a water evaporation of 372 kg/h. The air in the dryer is heated by a heat exchanger by means of 140 °C hot pressure water. A boiler which is operated with sewage gas serves as heat source.

The entire plant, including all peripheral equipment, needs only 30 kW to dry sludge with an initial dry residue of 20% to a dry residue of 90%. This is a specific electrical energy demand of 0.08 kWh per kg of evaporated water – a respectable value for a plant of such a size.

Even more energy is saved with the use of heat extraction. A heat exchanger extracts the residual energy contained in the exhaust air. This energy is used to heat a building. The heating energy of 83 kW covers the energy demand of the whole building during the whole year. The small amount of outlet air (4,000 m<sup>3</sup>/h) is cleaned with a two-stage chemical washer and a downstream biofilter.

The BT 4 dryer, like all other HUBER belt dryers, is fully automated. The self-regulating drying process adjusts itself to the available



Front view with pelletiser





*Heat recovery of the dryer and exhaust air treatment*

heat. The dryer is controlled via clearly structured visualisation. Plant control is logical and self-explaining. Owing to the preprogrammed settings a mouse click is enough to react to varying operating conditions. It is therefore uncomplicated and easy for the local staff to operate the plant.

This is another HUBER project which demonstrates that a belt drying plant should be a complete solution which is adjusted to meet the customer's requirements to his satisfaction. The problem-free combination of innovative technology and user-friendly functionality represents an important factor of sustainable success.

**Facts and figures:**

- Size: BT 4
- Dryer length: 7.24 m
- Water evaporation 372 kg/h
- Maximum throughput: 478 kg/h
- Drying: from 20% DR to 90% DR
- Current demand: 30 kWh/h
- Heat source: boiler operated with sewage gas



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