

“ DRB helps reduce downtime and maintenance costs by replacing legacy machine with bespoke system ”



Veolia is a national leader in waste, water and energy management services designed to build the circular economy and preserve scarce raw materials.

They operate a high temperature incinerator that processes approximately 100,000 tonnes of waste per year. Part of their waste management process requires adding lime to the incinerated materials, reducing its acidity.

The customer approached DRB to replace one of their machines: a lime slaker that mixes quicklime powder with water to produce a slurry mix. This slurry mix is added to leftover material after the incineration process.

The bath-like machine is made up of two shafts that run the length of the bath. Attached to each shaft are paddles and finger-like scrapers that mix the solution and move it from one end of the bath to the other.

The unwanted heavier grit sinks to the bottom of the vessel and is removed via a chain conveyor. The lighter solution flows over a weir, neutralising the acidic incinerated material when the two are mixed.



TECHNICAL INTELLIGENCE COUPLED WITH PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE.



CHALLENGE

Potential lengthy downtimes to a critical stage in the waste management process were a real business risk. Being a legacy machine, the lime slaker required on-going maintenance to keep it working. Procuring spare parts was a lengthy process because the OEM had left the UK market meaning spare parts were not readily available.



SOLUTION

DRB spent time with the customer to fully understand the machine's purpose. They then designed a new lime slaker to fully replace the ageing machine. During the redesign, the water flow control system was improved as well as its ability to use readily-available spare parts.

VALUE DELIVERED

DRB's technical intelligence and practical experience has helped the customer to achieve significant cost savings associated with reduced maintenance and downtime, as the new parts are UK-sourced, so any downtime can be more easily managed. A true partnership between the customer and DRB meant they received a perfectly fit for purpose system, with additional improvements built in too.

ABOUT DRB GROUP

For more than 40 years, we've been a trusted partner to production, processing, and heavy industrial customers in the North West.

Our 110-strong team support maintenance, project, and operational teams to develop bespoke solutions for new and existing systems to keep their critical plant running efficiently. We do this with technical intelligence and practical experience.

We design, manufacture, and build an extensive range of systems and components from machines that safely and swiftly uncouple train wheels from their axles, to refurbishing and adapting complex food packaging conveyor systems, all from our 6.5-acre factory in North Wales.

We're also a trusted sales and servicing partner for motors, valves, pumps, and gearboxes.

Book a factory tour to see our technical intelligence coupled with practical experience in action at www.drbgroup.co.uk/tour