



RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF GIMLI

PROJECT-AT-A-GLANCE

Out of the box thinking for municipal septage receiving station saves money and eliminates maintenance

SITE: *Gimli Wastewater Treatment Plant Septage Receiving Station*

EQUIPMENT: *One (1) Duperon[®] FlexRake[®] GTS*

INSTALLED: *June 2014*

CUSTOM SOLUTION ELIMINATES MAINTENANCE

Darey Hjelmeland, Plant Supervisor for the Rural Municipality of Gimli, manages the processing of incoming septage, creating a challenging blend of influent that can include a wide variety of debris: heavy rags, rocks, clothing, metal, soda cans and bottles, and more. The plant has likely processed “just about anything you’d never want to drop into a portable toilet,” Hjelmeland shared.

Initially, the plant employed a grinding technology, but soon found that the varied debris required intensive maintenance on the unit. “It just didn’t suit our needs,” said Hjelmeland. “It was continually failing due to what was being hauled in by the septic trucks.” The debris continuously “destroyed” the grinder unit, which meant costly repairs for Hjelmeland and his team.

“To repair the grinder unit, we actually had to modify the building,” said Hjelmeland. “We had been able to bring the grinder in through the door, but it was impossible to repair within the building. We had to make changes to the roof so that a portion could be removed to make the repairs.”

Despite the complicated repair process, the grinder continued to fail, creating issues when material passed easily through the grinding augers and into downstream processes, including pumps.

“The grinder just didn’t stand up,” Hjelmeland relayed. “We’d repair it, put it back in, and a month later it’s ripped open again and in need of more maintenance.”

“They showed us what the FlexRake could do, what it could pick up, and it was just a much simpler solution.”



Hjelmeland and his team saw the Duperon® FlexRake® at a tradeshow, and later at a personal plant demonstration. “They showed us what the FlexRake® could do, what it could pick up, and it was just a much simpler solution.”

To accommodate the site without alterations to the building or sump, Duperon engineers worked to create a custom unit for the Gimli Septage Receiving Station that would efficiently process the plant’s variable debris while also fitting into the grinder unit’s enclosure as a cost-saving measure.

Since the installation of the Duperon® FlexRake®, there have been no issues downstream. “It’s been so much better, even better than we expected,” said Hjelmeland. “There are no maintenance issues anymore.”



The Duperon® FlexRake® was installed using the hole in the roof that was originally created for maintenance of the previous equipment.

ABOUT DUPERON

Duperon Corporation is the leader in innovative preliminary liquid/solids separation systems. For more than 35 years, Duperon has provided simple yet innovative solutions for a variety of screening and solids handling applications in the water and wastewater industry. Duperon technologies are designed and manufactured in Saginaw, Michigan.