

PRODUCE WASH WATER STUDY

Peroxyacetic Acid (PAA) on Post-Harvest Fruits & Vegetables

Current State: Customer was using an EPA registered PAA that limited use to 80PPM max (in accordance with the federal label). PAA treatment was added to the finished water flume only.

Outcome: Concerned pathogens would make its way into the process reducing plant output and increasing costs. Unexpected production line down-time was extended because PAA dose was restricted to 80PPM.

Challenge

Change the methodology of dosing in the finished water flume and add dosing to raw water flume to reduce the likelihood of the detection of pathogens.

Solution

Hydrite implemented a revised peracetic acid (PAA) program using HydriShield PA 15% HP, introducing dosing at the raw water flume while maintaining treatment at the finished water stage. Routine quality control checks supported consistent residual PAA levels across both points in the process.

Goals

- Give the operation flexibility to shock dose when lines have mechanical issues and during line change overs
- To help eliminate the detection of pathogens
- Dose in the raw water side and the finished water side
- Remove the EPA registered PAA with an FDA regulated PAA

Results

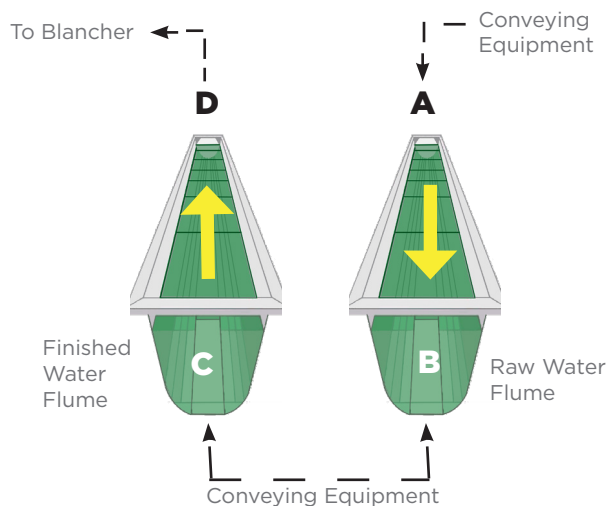
The updated approach maintained 40-60 PPM residual PAA in the raw water flume and 0-40 PPM in the finished water flume, improving control and operational flexibility during production changes. The facility reduced downtime and rework, achieved a record production year, and maintained effective control of *E. coli* and *Listeria spp.* while lowering overall use costs.

Valued Created

- Less downtime
- Lower cost
- More operation flexibility (80PPM versus 230PPM)
- No detected *E. coli* and *Listeria spp.*

Conclusion

- No pathogens detected in this case study
- Lowered operational cost
- Greater flexibility to run operation while in regulatory compliance



Benefits of Using PAA



Effective against
broad spectrum of
microorganisms



No toxic
byproducts



Controls odors



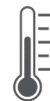
Sustainable and
safe
decomposition



Non-foaming



Easy to Use



Operates over a
wide temperature
and pH range

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- **Chemical Experts:** Our team is experienced and dedicated to providing technical support and services that help maximize efficiency and profitability all while maintaining or enhancing the quality of your end-product. Partner with Hydrite to see how our people make the difference.
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