

Sewerage Agency of Southern Marin (SASM)
2011-12 Capital Improvement Program: Belt Filter Press Replacement
Mill Valley, Marin County, California

The existing belt filter press at the SASM wastewater treatment plant had been in operation for over 30 years and had effectively reached the end of its usable life. Plant maintenance staff had kept the machine in operation with temporary repairs, but had concerns of a complete failure which would incur high costs to either haul sludge to another facility or rent expensive sludge processing equipment. Replacement of the unit also had to be completed in a short period of time because of lack of storage capacity for the sludge at the plant.

The project work included the removal of the old structure and installation of the new belt filter press including all structural, electrical, plumbing and mechanical work in the digester control building, polymer feed room, solids room, and the Sewerage Agency of Southern Marin wastewater treatment plant site.

Through careful planning and a partnership between Nute Engineering for engineering design and construction management services, SASM staff, and the Contractor, the start-up of the new belt filter press successfully occurred ahead of schedule at a cost below the engineer's estimate including extra work added to the project during construction.



Complete Removal of the Existing Belt Filter Press



Installation of the New Gravity Table and Press Section



Installation of the Sludge Hopper



Demolition of the Existing Belt Filter Press



New Electrical Conduit and Washwater Piping



The New Belt Filter Press in Operation