



After Six Years, Headworks® Equipment is Still Running Strong for WSSC

Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC) is the 8th largest water and wastewater utility in the nation. In their ninety-years of service, they have been proud to provide fresh water for a population that has grown to almost 1.8 million residents in Prince George and Montgomery County. WSSC is an innovative facility, recently incorporating renewable energy to power their facilities. Wind power now generates one-third of the power needed to power pumps, mixers and ultraviolet disinfection systems in its plants.

WSSC and the people at its Piscataway Advanced Wastewater Treatment Plant are committed to improving Chesapeake Bay's water quality through its step-fed biological nutrient removal process. The Piscataway Plant is a 30 MGD (113,500 m³/day) advanced treatment facility located in a rural section of southwestern Prince George's County, Maryland. Responsibility for treating such high volumes of wastewater requires reliable, quality equipment at all levels of the treatment process. To ensure that quality standard was kept, Piscataway underwent a large screen replacement project for their primary treatment process to replace their outdated Barminutors in 2002.

Location: Piscataway, Maryland, USA

KEY FACTS

- Channel Depth: 6'
- Bar Screen Width: 4'
- One of several MS Bar Screens purchased by WSSC



The primary treatment process consists of the removal of sand, grit and large solids and is an important first step as it can remove 45-50% of the pollutants. If the equipment for this part of the system is not effective, then the rest of the plant will not function well. Understanding the importance of superior quality and reliability in the primary treatment processes, the WSSC contacted Headworks® to discuss Piscataway's screening equipment needs.

After testing different types of screens, WSSC decided to purchase Headworks' MS™ Bar Screen for all of their plants. The reliability and ease of operation was the primary deciding factor. The MS™ Bar Screen is a front cleaned multiple rake bar screen. The front raking design eliminates the potential for solids carry over to downstream processes. The unique combination of heavy duty stainless steel bars and the availability of fine openings, down to 4 mm (3/16') is a unique and unrivaled combination of robust coarse screening with fine screening included.

To date, Headworks Inc. has supplied Piscataway with five MS™ Bar screens and three Screwpackers™. With the installation of the Headworks screens and Screwpackers™, maintenance time has been reduced and operations have improved. Dale Belshner, a well known expert in the wastewater industry and Piscataway Group Leader/Plant Superintendent, says of the Headworks equipment: "The screens have functioned very well. They are well constructed. They've done a nice job for us. The construction is excellent. No problems, no maintenance, except for normal wear."

