

Inside ACAT Magazine

#32/2024



**COST-EFFECTIVE AND
EFFICIENT PAPERMAKING**

**ACAT PROVIDES COMPLETE CONTROL
OVER ALL TYPES OF SEWAGE SLUDGE**

**TAILOR-MADE PIGMENT PASTES
FOR PROFESSIONALS**

30 years of ACAT

Focus on the future

In an interview, long-standing CEO Manfred Zabl reflects on 30 years of ACAT.



ACAT offers optimal solutions for wastewater treatment plants.



A strong partner for the paper industry

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30 years of ACAT: Focus on the future

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Per O. Björn
CEO Applied Chemicals International Group

Dear readers,

77 years ago, my grandfather Erland O. Björn founded our company in Basel, and we have continuously evolved ever since. As a family business with a long-standing tradition, we know how important it is to keep an eye on the future. We are aware of our roots, but it is our innovative spirit that drives us forward.

For three generations, our goal has been to provide the best solutions to our customers' needs. We work closely with them to develop innovative and sustainable solutions that enable them to meet tomorrow's challenges – from paper production to efficient wastewater treatment and odour control. The latest edition of the ACAT magazine offers an in-depth look into our products and projects.

Another focus of this magazine is the founding of ACAT Austria exactly 30 years ago, which marked the foundation of the Applied Chemicals International Group. In an interview, our long-standing CEO, Manfred Zabl, provides exciting insights into the early years and discusses the key factors behind our successful growth.

Honouring the legacy of our company's founders means upholding their values and vision. True strength lies in building on these traditions and carrying them forward into the future with consistency and purpose. With this in mind, we eagerly anticipate the years ahead and will continue to achieve success in partnership with our customers.

Best regards,

Yours Per O. Björn



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“There will always be a place on the market for good, honest and competent advice”

Interview: ACAT

ACAT Austria was established in 1994 with two initial divisions: papertech and watertech. This laid the foundation for the Applied Chemicals International Group. Since then, the company has grown steadily and sustainably.



In an interview with Inside ACAT, long-standing CEO Manfred Zabl reflects on the company’s exciting beginnings, the challenges of the past three decades and the success factors – ranging from consistent customer-centricity and a motivated team to innovative solutions that are now in demand worldwide.

What were the main reasons for founding ACAT in 1994?

MANFRED ZABL: To answer that, I have to go into a little more detail. Erland O. Björn founded the CELL AG back in 1947. The company was very successful in the pulp trade. In the following years, other products were added, such as raw mineral materials for papermaking, finished paper and recovered paper. The trading business flourished. In 1980, the next generation of the Björn family took over the management of the group, and the upswing continued. However, with wise foresight, a few smaller suppliers from other areas of the paper industry were engaged, including polymer chemistry for paper production. These technologies were new and innovative at the time, requiring a different sales approach.

So that was the spark for ACAT’s creation?

MANFRED ZABL: Exactly. The new business area was primarily all about intensive technical collaboration with customers to improve their efficiency. Only technological success and customer confidence generate sales. As a result, two completely different business models developed, and at some point, these were no longer compatible. In 1994, the decision was made to establish the Applied Chemicals Anwendung Technik, or ACAT in short. At that time, the chemicals used in paper production also proved effective in the emerging field of wastewater treatment. That’s why we started with two departments.

Can you tell us something about the company’s early days and the main challenges you faced?

MANFRED ZABL: The first days of the new company were, of course, turbulent. However, we started with seven employees and a turnover of around 500,000 euros,

which provided a solid foundation. From there, we had to develop a start-up further and expand our customer base. While handling tasks like organisation, administration, and building our image, our main focus remained on providing the best possible service to our customers. We faced daily challenges, working 60 to 80 hours a week, including weekends. This enormous level of dedication has not changed to this day. After all, complete commitment and motivation are essential and have proven to be the key to success.

Were there moments when you doubted whether you would succeed? If so, how did you deal with this?

MANFRED ZABL: No, I never doubted our success. When you’re part of a great team and have strong relationships with your customers, setbacks may happen but they are no reason to doubt the overall success of the company. I’ve always kept my finger on the pulse of our customers, which gives you a good feel for both the problems and for the solutions. And there is always a solution.

What unexpected challenges have arisen over the past 30 years?

MANFRED ZABL: New challenges arise constantly, often daily. These included administrative and legal changes, certifications and changes in suppliers. A lot changes and evolves in the course of 30 years. You have to accept that, act accordingly and address challenges step by step.

How have market changes and technological developments affected the business?

MANFRED ZABL: It’s important to keep a close eye on technological developments and to identify early on which ones will genuinely benefit the company.



“It wouldn’t have been possible to develop the company as we have without our motivated and committed employees.”

Manfred Zabl (ACAT, Senior Executive)

Looking back, we’ve always been good at recognising these opportunities, and they’ve been a major driving force behind our strong yet sustainable growth.

What were the most important milestones in ACAT’s 30-year history?

MANFRED ZABL: One key milestone was transitioning from being an extended sales arm of a main supplier to becoming an independent company. Now we have our own, often patented knowledge, our own branded products in environmental technology and industry and our own application technology – both mechanical and chemical. This has freed us from many dependencies. Another important step was introducing a new technology that enhances the strength of paper. This technology is sustainable, environmentally friendly and promotes continuous growth.

Are there any special achievements or projects that you are particularly proud of?

MANFRED ZABL: As I mentioned, I’m particularly proud of our increased independence, which allows us to focus entirely on our customers’ needs. Today, we stand for reliable expertise and can provide our customers with dependable support. I’m also proud of our patented developments in high-quality technologies for paper-

making and environmental technology. There is no end in sight to their global distribution.

How has ACAT changed and developed over the past 30 years?

MANFRED ZABL: We have grown steadily and sustainably from seven to around 100 employees, and our turnover has increased from half a million to around 70 million euros – all without major acquisitions, purely through our own efforts. From the start, we’ve focused our goals and projects on our customers’ needs, putting our own concerns aside. While our basic philosophy remains unchanged, we’ve developed significantly in terms of profile and reputation.

In your opinion, what innovations or strategic decisions have been crucial to ACAT’s success?

MANFRED ZABL: One of the most important strategic decisions was pursuing organic, sustainable growth, which we’ve implemented step by step. It was particularly important to involve all employees. Our modern, cooperative management style has driven innovation, development, and motivation across the entire team.

What role have the employees played in the company’s success?

MANFRED ZABL: An indescribably major one. Of course, there are certain hierarchies, but the atmosphere is cooperative, and the tone is respectful. Everyone is meant to be fully involved, which can sometimes lead to disagreements and arguments, but this is the foundation for new ideas, innovations, improvements and positive growth. Sometimes we have major disagreements, but when push comes to shove, we all pull together to get things moving again. We really are like a family: one for all and all for one. It wouldn’t have been possible to develop the company as we have without our motivated and committed employees.

Looking back over the past 30 years, what have been the most important lessons you’ve learned?

MANFRED ZABL: I’ve learned something new every day for 30 years, and there’s still plenty of room for improvement. One of the most important lessons I’ve learned is to listen and get a feel for the situation, whether it’s with customers, suppliers or employees. This is time-consuming, but extremely important. Another point is to be personally present on the market. This has allowed me to gather a lot of unfiltered information and experience, which has always been a solid foundation for further business development.



What do you see as the main challenges for ACAT in the future?

MANFRED ZABL: Of course, no one can predict exactly what challenges the future will bring. But I’m convinced that we’re on the right track with our current approach. It is important to continually review this approach and adapt it to the current situation. Our focus on expertise in advice, service and customer care will remain unchanged, but we must drive innovation and technical development in every respect. We need to stay at the forefront of technology, recognis-

→ “It’s important to keep a close eye on technological developments and to identify early on which ones will genuinely benefit the company.”

30
ACAT
1994–2024

ing and interpreting the signs of the times early.

What do you wish for ACAT over the next 30 years?

MANFRED ZABL: I’ve been involved in the development of ACAT for most of my professional life and worked with an excellent team. I wish ACAT all the best for the future and healthy, organic growth for the next 30 years. Despite further growth, the company should never lose its much-vaunted strong customer orientation. I’m confident that ACAT will always stay one step ahead of the competition, unlike ever-expanding corporations. There will always be a place on the market for good, honest and competent advice.

Thank you for your time! ●

ACAT provides complete control over all types of sewage sludge

Author: Reinhold Kreilmair

Complex sludges constitute a significant challenge for the operators of many fully biological wastewater treatment plants. With its proven polymers, ACAT offers optimal solutions to keep plants running as efficiently as possible. This brings benefits to municipalities and their citizens.



The central wastewater treatment plant of the Laßnitz-Wildbach-Gamsbach wastewater association in Styria treats the wastewater from the municipalities of Deutschlandsberg and Frauental. It operates on the principle of fully biological wastewater treatment. Microorganisms remove pollutants from the wastewater. This process is supported by extensive mechanical procedures to achieve a degree of purification of at least 95% for carbon compounds, at least 85% for phosphorus and at least 70% for nitrogen compounds. The wastewater treatment plant was built in 1973 for 16,000 PE (population equivalent). In 1995, the wastewater treatment plant was expanded to 22,000 PE. The maximum flow rate is 220 litres per second.

Special requirements

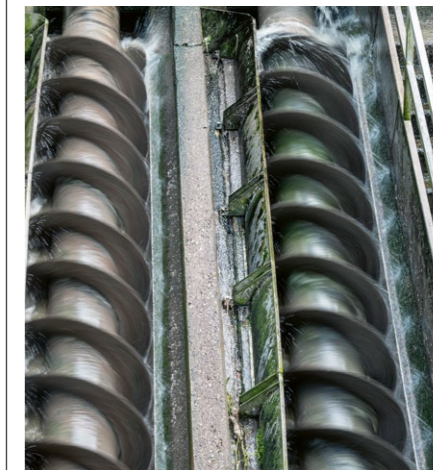
Excess sludge in the wastewater treatment plant is treated using a mechanical excess sludge dewatering system. This process pre-thickens excess sludge produced during wastewater treatment prior to further treatment. This sludge contains water and solid substances. Pre-thickening reduces the water content of the sludge, which facilitates subsequent dewatering. The sludge is then

further dewatered in a centrifuge. The centrifugal force separates the water from the solids, making the sludge even drier.

Complex sludges

“The wastewater treatment plant in Frauental has very special requirements and cannot be compared with any other plant in Austria. The variable sludge conditions, which have led to a need for improvement in the solids content values, i.e. the proportion of solids in the sludge after the water has been removed, are a particular challenge,” says Reinhold Kreilmair, Sales & Technology ACAT watertech.

To improve performance (product range, solids content, polymer consumption), the wastewater association turned to ACAT. “First, we tested the ACAT polymer sampling on the mechanical excess sludge dewatering system. The favoured ACAT product worked immediately and achieved optimal results in terms of solids content and consumption. The sludge throughput was consistently high,” concludes Kreilmair. Plant manager Martin Wolfsberger also emphasises this: “Our experi-



Smooth operation thanks to ACAT: Wastewater treatment plant operator Erik Wagemann (left) and Reinhold Kreilmair (ACAT watertech) conduct an on-site inspection of the fully biological wastewater treatment plant in Frauental, Styria.





Wastewater treatment plant operator Erik Wagemann (left) and Reinhold Kreilmair (ACAT watertech)



“Our experienced wastewater treatment team quickly observed visible improvements in the sludge even before the laboratory analyses were evaluated. The measured values from the laboratory then impressively confirmed this assessment.”

Martin Wolfsberger
(Plant manager wastewater treatment plant Deutschlandsberg)

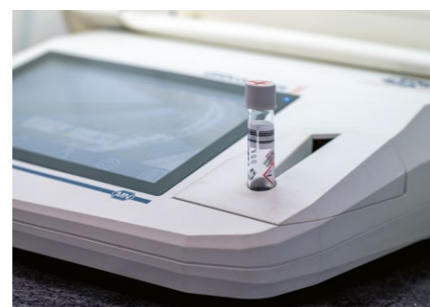
enced wastewater treatment team quickly observed visible improvements in the sludge even before the laboratory analyses were evaluated. The measured values from the laboratory then impressively confirmed this assessment.” The voluminous flocculation and perfect dewatering were crucial for an almost clear, transparent centrate water. Thanks to ACAT, the previously problematic and difficult-to-control foaming has also been reduced.

Optimal results

Remarkable progress has also been made in the second stage of sludge thickening, i.e. dewatering on the centrifuge. A contract dewatering company that used a product from ACAT achieved excellent results right from the start. These even exceeded those achieved with the in-house centrifuge. The product’s effective performance led the customer to test it in the second stage of sludge thickening. Finally, tests on the newly overhauled in-house centrifuge confirmed the positive results of the dewatering contractor. The precisely calibrated system resulted in reduced consumption of defoamers and sedimentation accelerators.

Maximum performance

“With the right products and machine settings, ACAT has succeeded in covering the enormously wide range of sludge conditions, thus ensuring consistently high plant performance,”



explains plant manager Martin Wolfsberger. Reinhold Kreilmair adds: “Efficient sludge dewatering is one of the biggest challenges for almost all wastewater treatment plant operators. Thanks to our many years of experience and our consistent focus on quality and innovation, we have the optimum solutions in our portfolio.” ●



→ “Efficient sludge dewatering is one of the biggest challenges for almost all wastewater treatment plant operators. Thanks to our many years of experience and our consistent focus on quality and innovation, we have the optimum solutions in our portfolio.”

Reinhold Kreilmair (ACAT watertech)



ACAT adds a splash of colour

Author: Andreas Lorenz

From the automotive to the packaging industry, the high-quality ColourStar® pigment pastes from ACAT are used in a wide range of applications. ACAT places particular emphasis on the highest quality standards and individual solutions for customers around the world.





Sophisticated manufacturing process

The production of pigment pastes requires precision. The raw materials are mixed according to fixed recipes, and the pigments and additives are precisely dosed. This ensures the desired colour properties. “When developing products, we often work very closely with our customers to create customised solutions. “Next, the mixture is ground to prevent pigment clumping. This creates a coarse dispersion and facilitates the next processing steps. The coarse pre-mixed paste is fed into special ball or bead mills. There, the pigments are ground further to evenly distribute in the paste. “State-of-the-art milling technology is the key to ensuring that the pigments reach the optimum size. This improves colour brilliance and stability,” says Lorenz. After grinding, the paste is processed further. This includes adjusting the viscosity, regulating the pH value and adding additional substances to improve durability and processing. Each batch is then subjected to strict quality control. During this process, colour shade, viscosity, particle size and stability are carefully tested, ensuring that the pigment pastes meet ACAT’s high quality standards and are suitable for their respective applications.

High-quality packaging

The finished pigment pastes are packaged in suitable containers, from small units for the laboratory or production trials to large containers for industrial customers. When it comes to packaging, ACAT employees take great care to ensure that no contamination occurs, and that the quality of the products is maintained during transportation and storage. “We consistently strive to ensure that our customers always get the best product, from raw materials to packaging,” concludes Lorenz. ●

ACAT’s ColourStar® pigment pastes deliver optimum performance and colour depth.



“When developing products, we often work very closely with our customers to create customised solutions.”

Andreas Lorenz (ACAT chemtech)



More than just colour: ACAT ColourStar® dyes, pigments and pigment pastes are in demand worldwide and are used in many different industries thanks to their benefits. In the automotive industry, they are used for tinting paints and coatings. In the construction industry, they are used to colour concrete, mortar and plaster. They are also used worldwide in the packaging industry, for example, for printing and coating plastic films and paper. The rubber and glass industries benefit from the versatility of ColourStar® pigment pastes,

“The highest quality standards guarantee that our customers always receive the best product.”

Andreas Lorenz (ACAT chemtech)

whether for colouring rubber goods or coating or decorating glass. “We also produce customised pigment pastes tailored to individual customer requirements. This allows us to adapt the colourant’s colour, properties and consistency precisely to the customer’s needs,” explains Andreas Lorenz (Sales & Technology ACAT chemtech).

Carefully selected raw materials

The raw materials used are vital to ACAT. High-quality materials, such as organic or inorganic pigments and dyes, are used for the pigment pastes. Other ingredients include additives such as dispersing agents, water and solvents, latex and rubber. “Together with our suppliers, we carefully select the raw materials and test them for purity and quality. This guarantees end products that meet the highest standards and offer optimum performance and colour depth,” says Lorenz, speaking from practical experience.

Always one step ahead:

A strong partner to the paper industry

Author: Nuri Kerman

The international paper industry is constantly evolving and facing numerous challenges. Innovative technology is one of the key drivers of sustainable and profitable growth. ACAT recognised the signs of the times many years ago and developed the BondStar® dry strength agents – a highly effective product range for cost-effective and efficient papermaking.

The beginnings of ACAT’s BondStar® dry strength agents date back to 2010. “That was when e-commerce was really taking off, and the demand for packaging material was growing rapidly. The global COVID pandemic led to a surge in demand,” says Nuri Kerman, who heads the papertech division and has been instrumental in driving the development of the BondStar® products at ACAT.

To produce packaging cost-effectively and sustainably, waste paper is the primary raw material used. “It was foreseeable that the increased demand for waste paper would require a further increase in collection rates. However, extensive recycling had a significant impact on the quality of



the fibres. The challenge was to compensate for the loss of strength, ensuring that the packaged goods could still be transported safely. This is where our polymer-based BondStar® dry strength agents came into play,” says Kerman. In 2017, a separate, globally valid patent was registered.

14 years of expertise

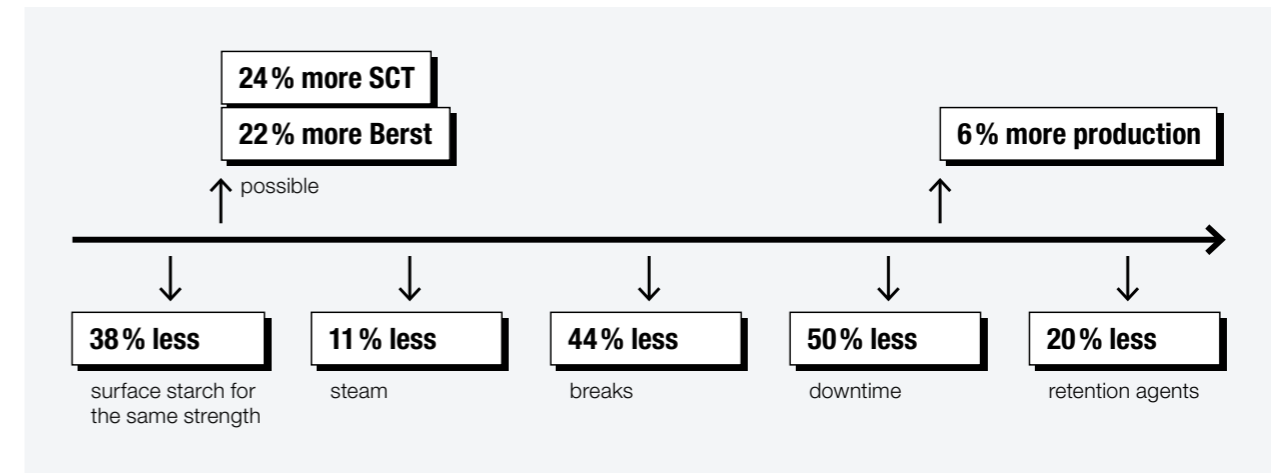
Years of experience with BondStar® dry strength agents have shown impressive results in daily practice, Kerman explains: “They lead to a significant increase in all strength values and greatly improve ply bond. They also boost the initial wet strength, making the paper more



resistant to moisture.” In addition, BondStar® dry strength agents increase z-strength, which means less picking and dusting. Another positive effect is a more stable paper web, ensuring smoother feeding and higher production speeds. In addition, BondStar® dry strength agents offer the potential to replace primary fibres with recycled paper and reduce – or completely eliminate – the use of wet-end or surface starches. This leads to smoother operations and notable energy savings, including lower steam costs.

Advantages in black and white

All these benefits are also reflected in specific figures, as a look at a paper mill that relies on ACAT’s innova-



are in demand all over the world and can be used across a wide range of applications, including packaging papers, graphic papers and tissue. BondStar® is available in different concentrations as a commercial product. “We also specialise in

In black and white

Practical experience speaks for ACAT.

on-site technology, where production takes place cost-effectively at the paper mill itself.” For this purpose, ACAT builds tailor-made systems directly at the customer’s location. ●



“We are committed to being very customer-oriented and providing the best solution for our customers. With BondStar®, we have been very successful in this, as the practical experience we have gained demonstrates.”

Nuri Kerman (ACAT, Head of papertech)

tions shows. For example, 38 per cent less surface starch was required in the production process for the same strength. Steam consumption fell by 11 per cent, and the number of breaks dropped by 44 per cent. The downtime was reduced by half, and the need for retention agents by a fifth. Most importantly, production has increased by six per cent. Nuri Kerman (ACAT, Head of papertech): “We are committed to being very customer-oriented and providing the best solution for our customers. With BondStar®, we have been very successful in this, as the practical experience we have gained demonstrates.”

Production on site

ACAT BondStar® dry strength agents



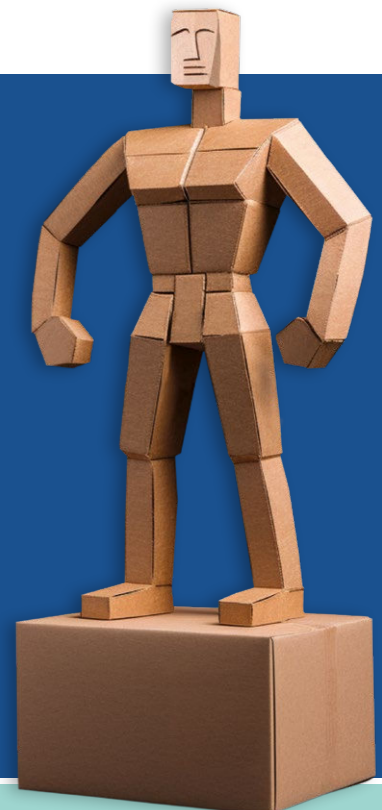
Applied Chemicals International Group
Technical Service is our Success

BondStar®
Enhancing strength and performance.

Benefit from our unique technology to meet the ever-growing demands of the papermaking industry. Our products guarantee:

- Increased dry strength
- Reduced costs
- Less breaks
- Energy savings
- Higher speeds

acat.com



So that the neighbours will no longer complain about the stench

Author: Luca Faggionato

Waste management facilities and landfills are frequently confronted with unpleasant odours in their vicinity. This disturbs residents and employees alike.

With the safe and natural Ecosorb® products, ACAT has a tried-and-tested solution in its product range that combats odours sustainably. The ACAT magazine presents a best-practice example.

→ **“Our customer is very satisfied with our solution, from the user-friendliness to the effectiveness of Ecosorb®.”**

Luca Faggionato (ACAT airtech)

The setting is a large waste management facility on the outskirts of a major city in Western Europe. The plant had a significant odour problem. Complaints from local residents were increasing, and employees were also complaining more and more about the stench. The plant manager saw the need for action and explored the various options available on the market. After a comprehensive analysis of the alternatives, he contacted ACAT, the official European distributor of OMI Industries’ Ecosorb® product line. “We then worked quickly to find the best and most cost-effective solution for our customer,” says Luca Faggionato of ACAT airtech in Milan.

As a first step, ACAT installed a high-pressure system at the site’s entrance gate, through which the bulldozer enters the facility. “Using a sensor, we programmed the machine to spray Ecosorb® as soon as the gate opens. This effectively neutralises the escaping odours.” To treat the outdoor waste piles, ACAT has also installed a high-pressure system with a fan on each bulldozer. This can be switched on during waste treatment to neutralise the odours.



Wherever waste is disposed of, odours are created. ACAT has effective solutions.

Extensive measuring

To measure odour emissions, air samples were taken at various distances from the odour source. A local laboratory then analysed the samples. “Based on this, we selected the most suitable Ecosorb® product,” says Faggionato. ACAT then installed three control systems: one at the entrance gate and two on the bulldozers. The aim was to reduce odour emissions by 50 per cent. Measuring began in the summer, when higher temperatures also intensified the odours. The dosage of Ecosorb® was 0.5 l/h.

An investment in reputation

The results are extremely positive, reports Luca Faggionato: “Our customer is very satisfied with our solution, from the user-friendliness

↓
Where the air stays clean

Observation and test spot	Temperature	Relative humidity	Odour concentration	Odour system
5 meters away from the odor source	25 °C	27 %	3.000 ou _E /m ³	Out of order
10 meters away from the odor source	26 °C	26 %	2.300 ou _E /m ³	
20 meters away from the odor source	25 °C	26 %	800 ou _E /m ³	
50 meters away from the odor source	25 °C	26 %	700 ou _E /m ³	
100 meters away from the odor source	27 °C	23 %	800 ou _E /m ³	
5 meters away from the odor source	30 °C	23 %	5 ou _E /m ³	Odour system in order
10 meters away from the odor source	28 °C	23 %	5 ou _E /m ³	
20 meters away from the odor source	27 °C	24 %	5 ou _E /m ³	
50 meters away from the odor source	25 °C	24 %	4 ou _E /m ³	
100 meters away from the odor source	27 °C	23 %	4 ou _E /m ³	

Air measurements at a waste management facility confirm the effectiveness of Ecosorb®.



Good to know:

Odour nuisance and the 500 ou_E/m³ rule

- **Odour nuisance is a serious problem in many areas, especially in waste management. Foul-smelling emissions can not only pollute the environment but also significantly impair the quality of life in affected areas. That is why clear legal regulations exist to control and minimise odour emissions.**
- **A key indicator in this context is the so-called 'odour unit'. It is measured in ou_E/m³. ou_E stands for 'European odour unit'. One ou_E/m³ is defined as the odour nuisance level at which 50 per cent of the people in the surrounding area can perceive a specific odour.**
- **The 500 ou_E/m³ rule states that a level of 500 odour units per cubic metre of air must not be exceeded in the vicinity of odour-emitting installations. This limit is intended to ensure that there is no unreasonable odour nuisance to neighbouring residential or commercial areas. If this limit is exceeded, odour reduction measures must be taken, such as using special filter systems or chemical odour eliminators.**
- **Effective odour elimination is therefore not only a question of environmental compatibility, but also a contribution to legal compliance and the protection of local residents. With Ecosorb®, ACAT is making a significant contribution to helping companies reduce their emissions to well below the threshold values.**



to the effectiveness of Ecosorb®. The number of complaints about unpleasant odours has decreased significantly, as have the odours themselves – and all this without the use of aggressive chemicals. So, it wasn't just an investment in the quality of life for local residents, but also in the company's reputation.”

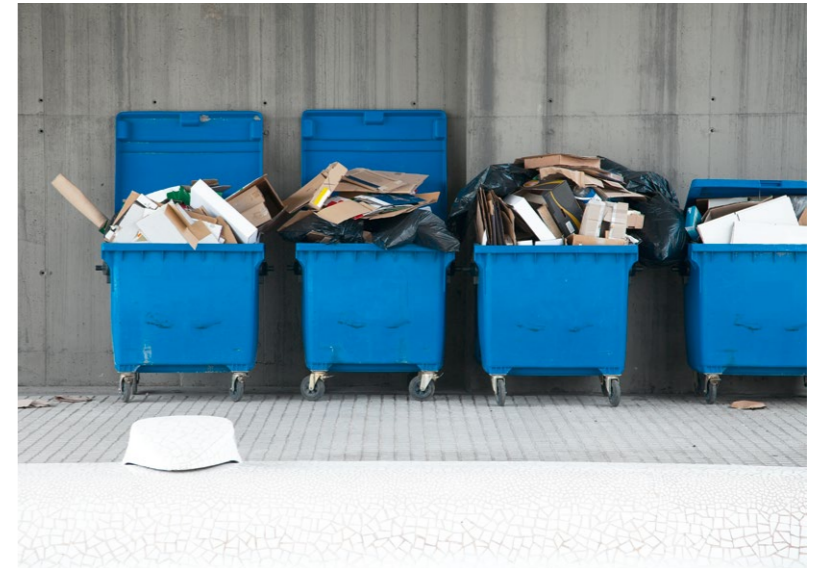
Experts with many years of experience

ACAT's experts have been working intensively to combat unpleasant odours for many years. “The odour problem in Europe is getting worse every year. Now there are also corresponding laws that restrict emissions. Odours are a problem that affects all sectors, especially those close to residential areas. At ACAT, we can draw on years of experience working with customers in the asphalt, plastics and water treatment industries, and the waste management industry also benefits greatly from this,” explains Faggionato (ACAT airtech).

What specific products does ACAT offer?

The most suitable product depends on the specific odour problem. “With Ecosorb®, we have a tailored solution for every situation.” Ecosorb® has been extensively tested over many years for its safety for the environment and humans. It has been clearly established that the product is non-toxic, biodegradable and organic. It does not mask odours but actively neutralises them and is also safe for the environment.

ACAT also offers fogging systems specially developed for use with ACAT products. The spectrum ranges from pipes with high-pressure nozzles to atomising fans and large vapour



“It wasn't just an investment in the local residents' quality of life, but also in the company's reputation.”

Luca Faggionato (ACAT airtech)

phase systems. Furthermore, ACAT's experts analyse the odours before and after treatment using special measuring instruments. ●

Using chemistry to benefit the environment

Author: Per O. Björn

ACAT's products play an important role in optimising processes, benefiting customers across various industries while also supporting the environment and addressing climate challenges.

Sustainability plays an increasingly important role in today's business world, and this holds true for ACAT as well. "Our approach to sustainability goes beyond just environmental protection and encompasses ecological, economic and social dimensions. Only by taking a holistic view can we ensure that our actions are truly sustainable – from climate protection to fostering equal opportunities," explains CEO Per O. Björn.

A new currency

For a chemical supplier like ACAT, the ecological perspective is critical. "The carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e) is a new non-financial currency that captures the climate impact of various greenhouse gases in a single number. Stakeholder expectations and legal requirements are driving companies to measure their CO₂e balance more accurately," says Björn.

The Greenhouse Gas Protocol (GHG Protocol) – a globally recognised framework – is widely used to calculate the CO₂e balance. It helps to document all of a company's CO₂e-producing activities, not only directly in its own production but also throughout the supply chain, including suppliers and customers. "This allows us to better pinpoint where CO₂e is produced and how we can avoid or reduce it, which is an important step towards climate protection."

As a chemical supplier, ACAT not only wants to improve its own carbon footprint but also to work with customers to promote the avoidance of CO₂e. Björn notes: "Chemicals often play a crucial role in optimising processes, which in turn benefits the environment." Avoided emissions (Scope 4) are expected to be included in the upcoming version of the GHG Protocol. This would enable companies to more clearly demonstrate how their products or services help others to avoid CO₂e. For example, it will be possible to show more precisely how much CO₂e is saved by using chemicals.

Improving the quality of life for the future

"In the future, we plan to work even more closely with our customers to show how our chemicals not only improve profitability but also have a positive impact on the environment. This is because optimising processes saves valuable resources and automatically reduces emissions. Together we can make a positive contribution to environmental protection and the quality of life for future generations," Per O. Björn concludes. ●

A celebration with the perfect chemistry

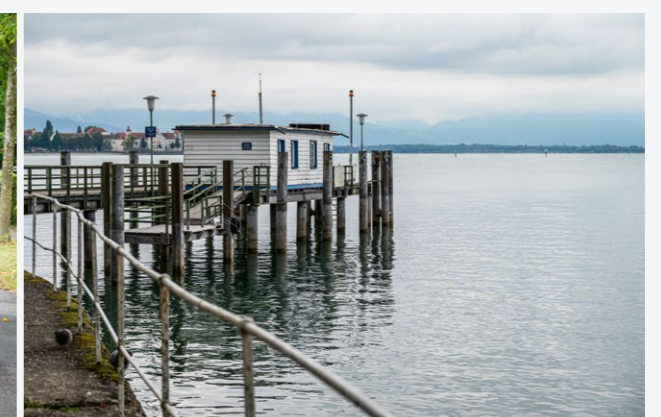
Author: Susanne Durst

77 years of family business, 30 years of ACAT and two milestone birthdays. At the beginning of September, the entire ACAT family met at Lake Constance to celebrate joint successes and further strengthen the team spirit within the company.



Training and champagne reception
Following exciting sales meetings between the divisions and the administration, everyone raised a glass at the champagne reception. Success comes from hard work – and celebration is the well-deserved reward.

Excursion and boat trip From Bregenz Harbour to the Pfänder Mountain, the lake stage in Bregenz and the Mehrerau Monastery, the ACAT team sails towards success every day, but this time they enjoyed a relaxing cruise aboard the MS Bayern on Lake Constance.





The ACAT family in a celebratory mood. The highlight of the celebration was the festive gala dinner in the 'Belle Époque' ballroom. Staffan Björn reflected on 77 years of company history, and then the ACAT family took to the dancefloor.





Our anniversaries

THANK YOU for your commitment and achievements – you've played a leading role in writing the ACAT success story!



Barbara Scaramelli
35 years ACAT Milan

Barbara has been with ACAT for 35 years and is responsible for order processing and administration of the airtech division. She supports the sales of our Ecosorb® products in Italy and Europe and keeps all deliveries perfectly under control. Her passion for painting is reflected in her creative approach to challenges. From 23 May 1989, when Barbara joined the Cell Group, to ACAT in 2001 and continuing to the present day, anyone fortunate enough to work with you has witnessed your tenacity and commitment day in and day out. Thank you for choosing to grow alongside us for over three decades!



Susanne Durst
25 years ACAT Vienna

When ACAT began operations in Austria in 1994, the team was highly motivated, but many areas lacked structure. We quickly realised that to run a successful business, we needed more organisation – from office organisation to marketing and communications. A skilled professional was needed to organise the chaos. Susanne Durst was the perfect choice. With her experience, drive and expertise, she quickly and successfully structured our administrative and marketing functions. Over the years, she has continued to develop these areas, always staying ahead of industry trends. Thank you for your dedication and outstanding work that has placed us in such a strong position today!



Günter Rauch
15 years ACAT Vienna

For the past fifteen years, our Günter has been rushing from one wastewater treatment plant to another in northern Upper and Lower Austria. Despite his young age, he is one of the most experienced members of the ACAT family. At his farm in the Waldviertel region, Günter, a dedicated family man, also demonstrates his skills as a craftsman – something his customers highly value as well. With his expertise, combined with passion and common sense, he is always there to assist his customers. Dear Günter, thank you for your enormous commitment and tireless efforts on behalf of ACAT's customers!

“We would like to wish all of our colleagues all the best for the future”.



ACAT at the WEFTEC 2024

The WEFTEC in New Orleans focused entirely on water quality. We attended the trade fair to explore the latest trends and expand our network, ensuring we stay at the forefront for our customers!



Preview issue 33

The following topics will be covered in the next Inside ACAT Magazine:

- 1 Certifications at ACAT
- 2 Energy management in the company
- 3 Flood disaster: ACAT supports flood victims



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