



# A Wastewater Case Study:

Sulfate Precipitation

**KUSTAN®**

RECYCLE  
100

# Plastic Engineering for Corrosive Media.

## Key

A Focus on the Core Competency  
of Processing & Handling Corrosive  
Liquids & Gasses

## Focused

- Battery production & recycle
- Metal surface treatment,
- Wastewater & gas treatment
- Industrial chemical handling.

## Mission

Quality Engineered Solutions.  
Process Innovation.  
Customer Satisfaction.

## 70 Years

Accumulated knowledge  
in plastic technologies

## 2

Manufacturing sites  
in Germany

## 80

Employees

## 20 Mio. €

Annual turnover in group

## No. 1

Worldwide leading specialist  
for battery formation



# Your Partner for Customized Solutions.

Turnkey projects  
Compliance with environmental & safety  
regulations  
Contract engineering  
Custom machine design & development  
Process and equipment optimization  
Design-for-manufacture assistance  
System manufacturing  
Installation, commissioning  
Continuous Improvement  
Lifetime Service Support  
Global spare parts network



Recycling/EHS

**It's About Chemistry!**  
**It's About Flow!**



## Recycling/EHS: Ideas

### Lead-Acid

- Equipment Air Scrubbers
- Wastewater treatment—stop shipping totes!
- Acid cleansing and reuse (closed loop)
- Elimination of dump & fill for final gravity
- Automate gel prep & Fill operations

### Lithium

- Management of shredding by-product (water, gas)
- Neutralization of waste electrolyte on-site
- Investigation of CAM direct recycle
- Black Mass Value-Add at Recycle Center

### Other Ideas

- 2<sup>nd</sup> life for flow battery electrolytes
- In-Process or External Batch Black Mass “Grading”
- Reactivation through electrolyte refreshment
- Field deactivation of stationary applications



## Case Study: Sulfate Precipitation

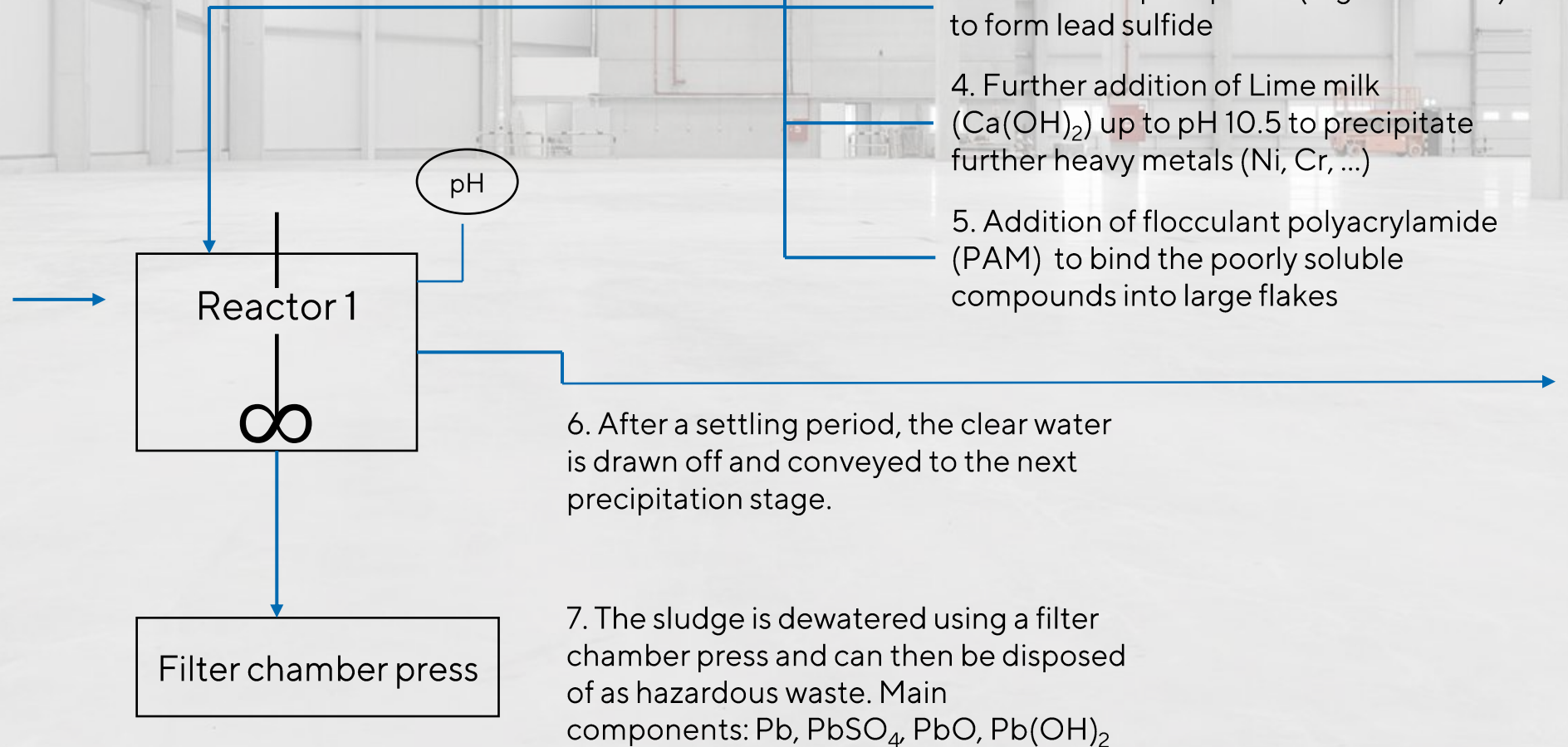
- EU Lead-Acid Factory
  - Not Meeting Local Wastewater Requirements
    - High Sulfates
    - High Non-Lead Metal Content
  - A Previous Attempt Failed
- To protect concrete, Discharged Wastewater into Sewer System:
  - <400 mg/l or <600 mg/l sulfate content in EU
  - Removal of heavy metals such as antimony, tin, Ni, Cr
- A specially developed precipitation process was developed in-house to meet legal limits
  - ADF 400 2-Stage Process
  - 50 m<sup>3</sup> of wastewater per day
  - Reduces the sulfate content to <400 mg/l, lead content to <0.5 mg/l, other metals well below requirement
- The dewatered sludge is sold as a by-product (gypsum) due to its low heavy metal content.



# Sulfate Precipitation: Stage 1

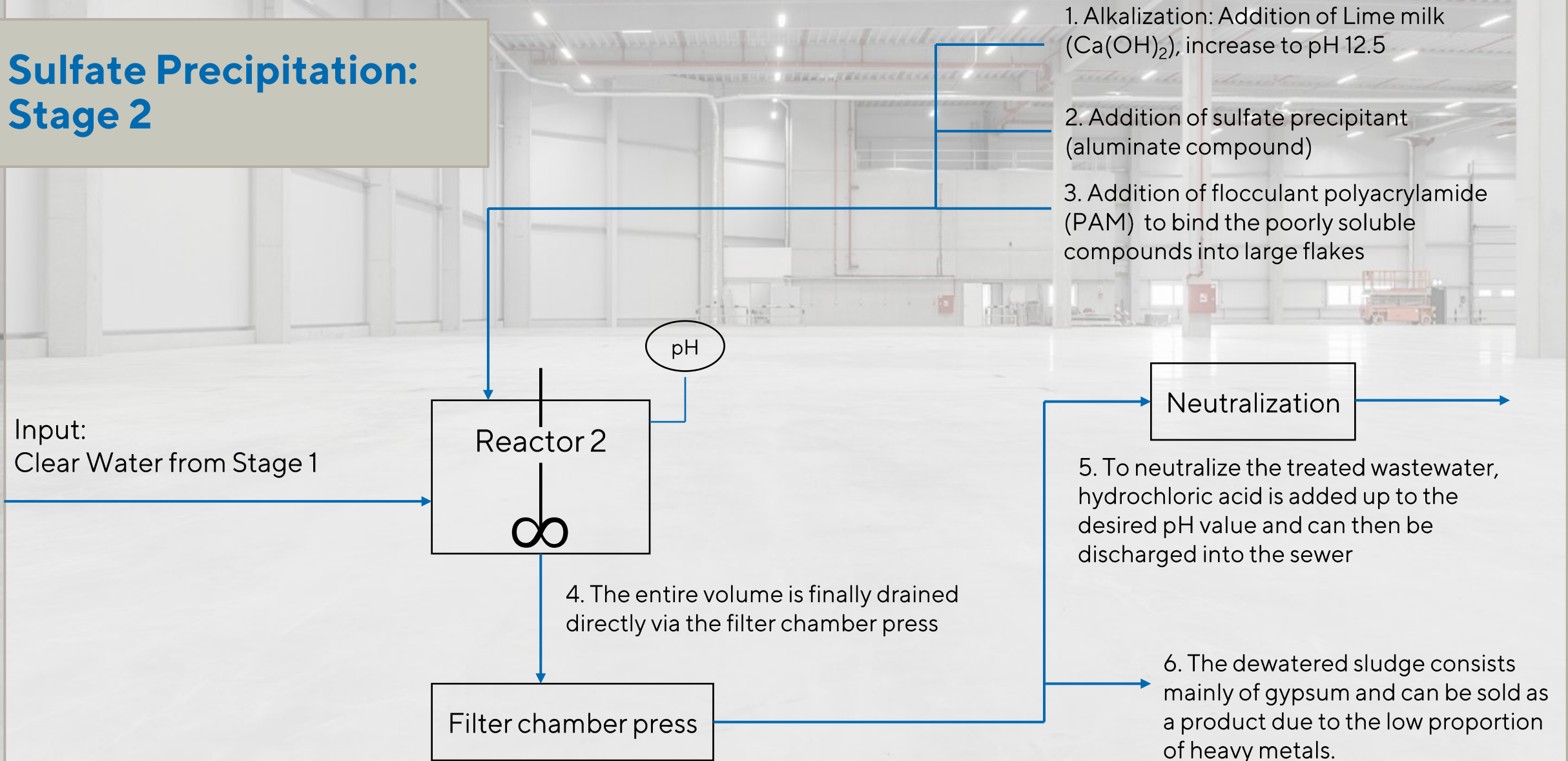
## Wastewater Sources:

- Paste Production
- General Dust
- Floor Cleaning
- Acid management





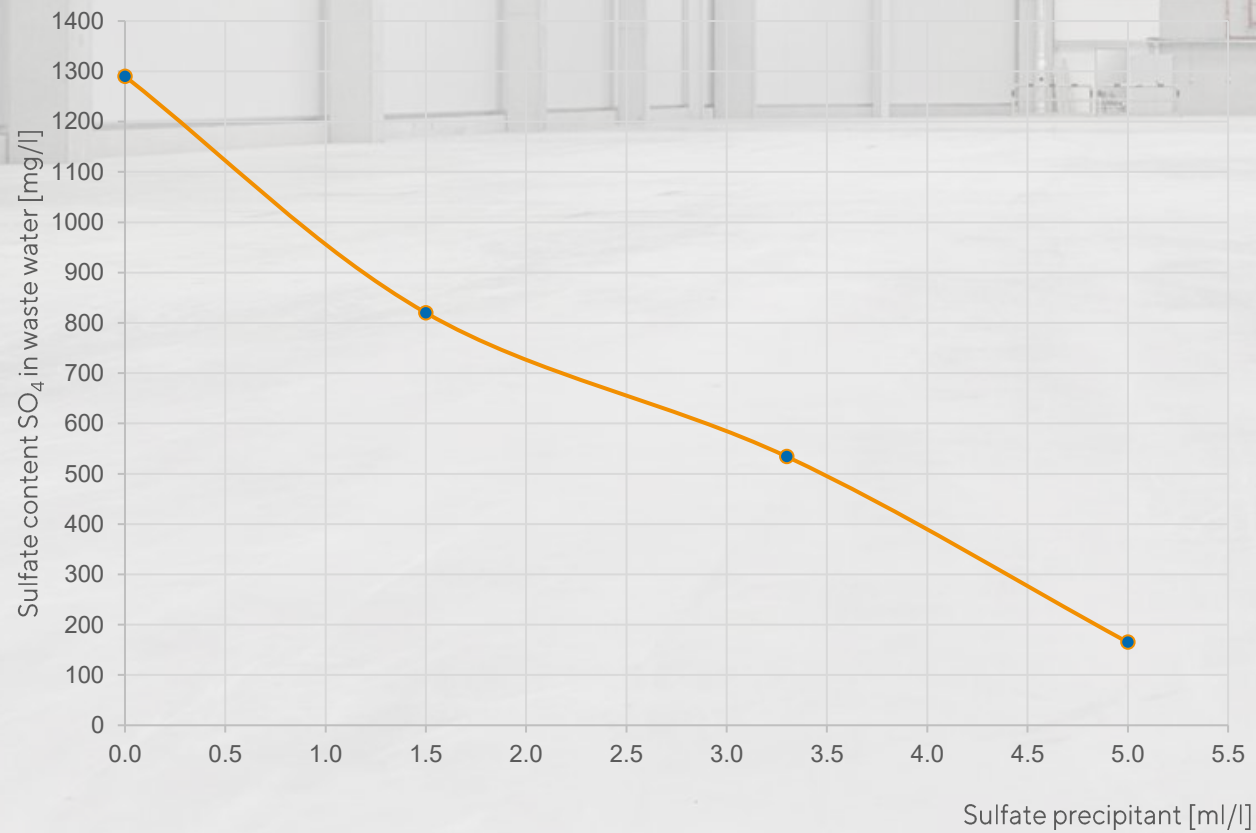
## Sulfate Precipitation: Stage 2





# Sulfate Precipitation

Sulfate precipitation using ADF 400 process



## Sulfate Precipitation: In Action





## Sulfate Precipitation In Action





## Case Study 2: Acid Cleaning

- During the formation of lead-acid using acid circulation or closed-loop acid management:
  - Certain metals such as antimony or cadmium dissolve in the electrolyte over time.
- Metal removal from the acid using an ion exchanger is possible.
- Why pay high disposal costs?



## Case Study 2: Acid Cleaning

Acid from Kustan circulation  
modules which contains  
antimony (1.5 mg/l) and  
cadmium  
(6 mg/l)

**Mechanical  
Filtration:**  
Mesh Size  
5  $\mu\text{m}$

F1

F2

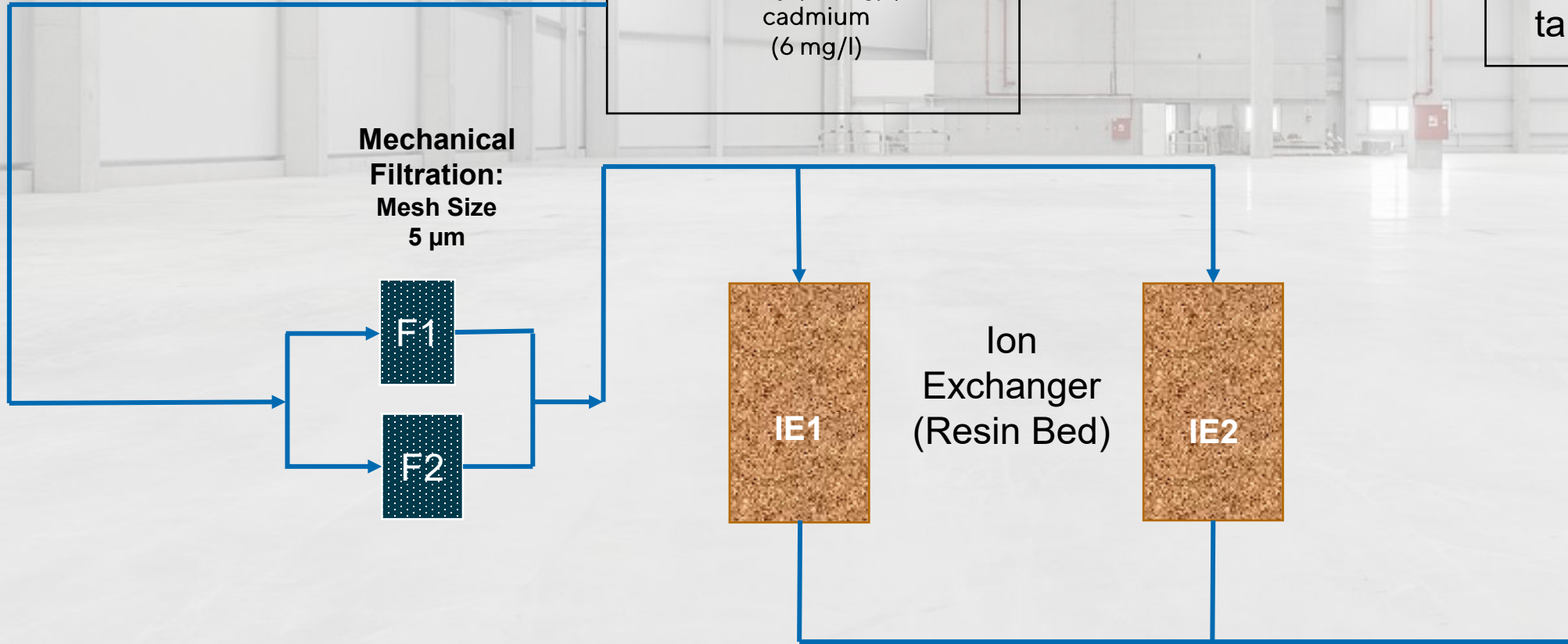
IE1

Ion  
Exchanger  
(Resin Bed)

IE2

Storage  
tank

Cleaned  
acid  
Antimony  
(0,02 mg/l),  
cadmium  
(<0,001  
mg/l)





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**Let's talk  
Recycle/EHS!**

**We Know Flow!**