



Principle of Purification mechanism to make artificial safe drinking water had been misunderstood as mechanical filter by the name of Slow Sand Filter.

#### Image of Slow Sand Filter







### **Mechanical Filtration**

Slow sand filter was constructed in 1923 (100years ago) in Ueda city, Nagano Prefecture.





When Sugadaira Reservoir was constructed in 1968, odor problem was happened in tap water.



 $\rightarrow$ Rename to

alg od an filti sa

They believed that algae produced odor substance and pass to the filtrate of slow sand filter.

Algae are Bad.

IS THE WATER SAFE TO DRINK? Harris Report 1974



Cancer risk by chlorine addition



Safe and delicious tap water by Ecological Purification System.





Ecological Purification System

https://www.youtube.com/ watch?v=b7wPQIKVIMY



During the Industrial Revolution, the population gathered in cities. The rivers in cities were polluted.



by **slow** filtration with **fine sand**.

They believed this was **mechanical reduction** with **fine sand**.

### Vertical of slow sand filtration was the key.



if the flow speed is high or

the flow speed changes.

The shallow depth and the vertical flow allowed creatures to be active and safe near the surface of sand layer.



Germ free filtrate



They believed SSF was **mechanical reduction** of impurity by **slow** filtration with **fine sand**.



The clear proof of the filtration was provided in **1892**. This was **130 years ago**. **Hamburg** suffered from a cholera epidemic that infected and caused more than 7,500 deaths, while **Altona** was few.



Dr. **Robert Koch** tested the bacteria in the water with slow sand filtration. When bacterial counts were less than *100 colony-forming units per mL* (cfu/mL), epidemics of cholera and typhoid were reduced.



It was found that SSF could eliminate pathogens and spread all over the world as English Filter.



100000

Depth in Inches

8-

Bacteria per Gram.

500000

Monster Soup commonly called Thames Water on the Metropolitan Water supply in 1828.

Layer removed by Scraping

1000000



1832 : The great common sewers discharged into the Thames river. This was the Source of the Southwark Water Works.



Report in 1893 (Berlin): Bacteria and dirty matter were accumulated at the top of sand layer. Depth of scraping was deep in winter, shallow in summer. However, algae was in bloom. Reduction of bacteria in open filters is effective and more clear filtrate water in comparison with open and covered filters during 20 years. But it may be especial case.

It was notified to **biological phenomenon**. However, he said that **physical process** was main.

Removal of pathogens is not explained by these phenomena in comparison with size of microbial pathogens and opening space of sand grains. We can operate the filter without any clog during long filter run. We can not explain the reduction mechanism of pathogens by physical phenomena.

M.N.Baker 1949. The Quest for Pure Water



and hot summers.

due to the warm current.



Winter temperatures in North America are cold and biological activity is weak. And the viscosity of water is high in winter.





Algae in water supplies: an illustrated manual on the identification, significance, and control of algae in water supplies. C. M. Palmer 1962

http://digital.library.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metadc9129/m1/

Algae had been trouble for the conventional filter (rapid sand filter) in US. Taste and odor algae, filter clogging algae are important in water supplies (Rapid Sand Filter).

In slow sand filter, the algae and other aquatic microorganisms may play a **useful part in the treatment process.** They form a loose, slimy layer

ALGAE IMPORTANT IN WATER SUPPLIES TASTE AND ODOR ALGAE



They form a loose, slimy layer over the surface of the sand and act as a filter. The algae in this layer release oxygen during photosynthesis, and the oxygen in turn is utilized by aerobic saprophytic bacteria, fungi, and protozoa which establish themselves in and on the filter. This permits the decomposition or stabilization of the organic material that was present in the raw water. In p.22.

Main focus of this book is how to kill algae for Rapid Sand Filter.

## Refocus to Slow Sand Filtration as chemical free treatment instead of chemical treatment of Rapid Sand Filter.





SLOW

SAND

Filter problem : Odor, taste and filter clog problem caused by algae. New chemicals were developed one after another.





PART 1: THE PROBLEM

Robert H. Harris et. al. 1974 Consumer Report. Chlorine sterilization is essential for rapid filtration of chemical treatment. There is a warning that trihalomethane, which are carcer risk substances, are generated by adding chlorine.

#### Rachel Carson 1962 Silent Spring.

Pesticides and herbicides have been pointed out the risk of chemical hazards through biological concentrations through the food chain.

That was Chlorine compound.

WHO published a manual of Slow Sand Filtration which is chemical free treatment

for safe drinking water in 1974.



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Water depth is **1-1.5 m**. Simpson filter in 1827 is **38 cm**.

## The diarrhea-causing crypt parasites passed through the backwashing process of the rapid sand filtration.



In April 1993, an outbreak of massive diarrhea in 400,000 people due to Cryptoprotozoa occurred in Milwaukee, USA. The dormant protozoa had thick shells and passed through the rapid filter ponds and were not killed by the final chlorine.



In In September 1994, the American Water Works Association held a slow filtration workshop in Salem, Oregon.

They said Refocus, Re-discovery, Timeless Technology for Modern Application.

F However, people loves New Technology.

Journalawwa

Volume 88, Issue 12 December 1996 Pages 8-8

#### Acceptable Microbial Risk

Charles N. Haas



Volume 89, Issue 12 December 1997 Pages 14-15

Slow Sand Filtration: Still a Timeless Technology Under the New Regs?

Stephen A. Tanner





With slow sand filtration, they can trust that it will be absolutely safe even if it is contaminated with cryptoprotozoa. SSF plant was constructed in 1997 at Central Bridge, NY, USA.

Crypto-protozoa are detected in more than 85% of surface water, but no crypto-protozoa are detected in treated water.



















Luiz Di Bernardo examined chemical free roughing filter from 1980 in Brazil.

He reported the results in 1988, in London.

SKA

I visited São Carlos, Brazil in Aug. 1995. He still examined URF.





I examined URF with students from 1996, I noticed a large contribution of biological action in URF.

Multiple Roughing Filters to eliminate SS from an irrigation canal water.



Effect of open filter and covered filter.



Filter resistance (NHL) of Open filter was almost constant. But the resistance of Covered filter increased almost every day.





OISCA (The Organization for Industrial, Spiritual and Cultural Advancement-International)





There are sedimentation tank, several gravel filter, and slow sand filter. Polluted water turns to safe and reliable water quality.

Polluted water of River Kanda, Tokyo is pumped up. No detection of coli-form bacteria, lead, herbicides of Atrazine and Simazine. Nitrate N concentration : 2.0 mg/l, Nitrite N: 0 mg/l, pH8.5, total hardness: 250 mg/l and residual chlorine 0 mg/l. OISCA Tokyo: polluted water (Kanda river) $\rightarrow$ gravel filter  $\rightarrow$  gravel filter  $\rightarrow$ small sand filter $\rightarrow$  safe water

Sri Lank: three Up flow roughing filters  $\rightarrow$  sand filter  $\rightarrow$  safe drinking water (300 liters / day). This water is the demand of safe drinking and cooking water for 5-6 families.

Wise use of natural phenomena. We can easily get safe drinking water by ourselves. Mr. Kizuki knew this EPS and applied it for villagers.





### Three points worth to remember

- 1. Knowing is NOT enough, we must APPLY it to something useful.
- 2. Willingness is NOT enough, we must PUT it into the PLAN and ACTION.
- 3. Putting the PLAN into action is NOT enough, we must ACCOMPLISH the goals.

# OISCA International

Niko-San participated OISCA training in Fukuoka, Japan, in 2007 during 1 year. He remember my work on Ecological Purification System.

### Yoshiko Y. Nakano

#### September 2006

As an example of this method to utilize the power of soil that, I believe, will be highly useful, I would like to introduce a water purification method called the "Ecological Water Purification System." Prof. Tadanobu Nakamoto, of Shinshu University, Japan, driven by a sincere desire to provide people with safe drinking water, has studied this method over the past decades. After traveling the world to study various water purification systems, he arrived at the conclusion that the high speed filtration method that uses chemicals for disinfection is not the best way to purify water. Rather, running the water slowly through layers of sand and allowing the water to be purified by the microorganisms in a rich ecosystem could produce water tastier and better for human health.

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I met Niko-San in Fiji, in June, 2017. He showed his text on EPS.

To keep continuous flow by a small pump

Up-flow roughing filter To make subsurface suspension free clean water in the flood plain.



Under drainage porous pipe covered with mesh cloth.

keep out small

animals

K



In Japan, river water is usually clear and small amount of water.

## After heavy storm event, river water becomes dirty and rapidly increases.







Clear and suspended free water from spring is found in a flood plain.





Flood water is dirty. There is huge amount of soil matter from land surface.

Light and small particle which is not easily settled.

A large amount of heavy and large particles in a storm water.



There were extremely small particles like as colloidal particles in case of small turbidity, like as less than 20 NTU. The rapid settling of turbid matters was observed within 4 hrs. However, a large portion of turbidity did not decrease. Light turbid water 25 20 NTU water March 18-19, 2008 Light turbid water: 20 -5cm → 25cm → 45cm - 65cm 60.4% 39.6% was settled. small turbidity, a 15 **Iurbidity NTU** Light particle large portion of 10 light particle. 60.4% of SS did not settled. 5 39.6% Turbid water after a heavy rain fall In case of turbid water, a large 350 portion was heavy particles. July 29-30, 2008 300 28.5% → 5cm → 25cm → 45cm - 65cm Light particle 250 71.5% was settled 200 150 Heavy particles rapidly 100 71.5% settled within 4 hrs. Heavy particle 50 Heavy particle

20

16

24

4 hrs. settling is enough.

**Turbidity NTU** 

0

0

settled within 4 hrs.

4

8

12

Elasped Time in Hours

27

### EPS-Use of Natural Process-Chemical Free : Gentle for small organisms







### Receiving Tank (Settling Tank)



Heavy particulate matters are easily settled. However, colloidal light particles like silt material are not settled in this settling tank.

### Up-Flow Roughing Filter (URF): Gravel Filter *Additional URF if necessary.*



Colloidal fine particles adhesive to the surface of gravels. Small animals scrape them and produces fecal pellets. Fecal pellets accumulated to the bottom.

When the filter resistance increase, the drain cock is opened in short time to drain the mud (accumulated fecal pellets.)

### EPS (Sand) Filter (Natural Down Flow) Ecological Purification System



Algae and animals grow well on the sand surface. Deep sand layer is a guarantee layer for emergency.

Storage (Filtrate) Tank





Filter rate can be measured using a cup and is regulated by a cock.



Filter area = 30.5 cm x 44 cm = 1,342 cm 2In case of Present Thames filter rate (40 cm/h = 9.6 m/d) Filtrate/min = 1,342 cm 2 x 40 cm/h / 60 (min) = 895 cm 3(ml)/minFiltrate/h = 1,342 cm 2 x 40 cm/h = 53,680 cm 3/h = 53.7 liter/hFiltrate/d = 53.7 liter x 24 hrs = 1.29 m 3/d



Shallow water depth over sand is important to keep aerobic condition.

Passing time of water is shorter in shallower depth. And higher flow rate is also better to keep aerobic condition.

|  | unit | Simpson<br>1829 | English<br>Filter | Present<br>Thames<br>Filter | Experiment<br>in Samoa |
|--|------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| Flow rate                                    | m/d  | 2               | 4.8               | 9.6                         | 20                     |
|  | cm/h | 8.3             | 20                | 40                          | 83                     |
| Flow rate in sand<br>layer (50%<br>porosity) | cm/h | 16.7            | 40                | 80                          | 167                    |
| Passing time of 1 m sand layer               | hr   | 6               | 2.5               | 1.25                        | 0.6                    |
| Passing time of<br>upper active 1<br>cm      | min  | 3.6             | 1.5               | 0.75                        | 0.36                   |

### JICA Training on Ecological Purification System (EPS) in Okinawa, Japan in 2022

DIY EPS bucket model making 2022 - YouTube / 38:01

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jz94KFkLL3E



NGO Okinawa Blue Water













Un sistema ecológico, económico y replicable que puede ser utilizado por pequeñas, medianas y grandes comunidades. Este sistema fue desarrollado por el Doctor Nobutada Nakamoto

- Ecological Purification System



**Daniel Castro** 2017/07/20 に公開

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ye-POV6qBU0&t=39s





http://www.cwsc.or.jp/files/pdf/ EPStext-NC-2019.pdf

11<sup>th</sup> Pacific Water and Waste water conference, Noumea, New Caledonia, August, 2018



I studied on ecological function of Miyako-Jima wks. I made a video on EPS function of Miyako wks in March 2004 and published a book in August 2005.



**JICA** training started in 2006.



Quest for Safe and Delicious Tap Water, Miyako-Jima, Island in March 2004. /15:22 With English subtitle version in Oct. 2007.







JICA made Video in 2008

Slow sand filtration: creating clean, safe water(Full ver) in 2020





https://www.youtube. com/watch?v=V6 uD ZE I8E&t=1218s

Slow sand filtration: (Digest ver) in 2021/3:26

watch?v=NCI9oeNM0al

2013



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v= QAH1SoAgfL0&t=37s



安全でおいしい水を求めて

Safe and Delicious Water







People loved the latest advanced technology. However, there is suitable technology for each country. That can be maintained and managed by local people. That is EPS.

# EPS Public Seminar/ Workshop

" An approach to securing the safe water "

Reviewing Fiji's successful EPS implementation at Rural Area and future perspective of implementation in PICs

12 & 13 March 2019 @ Japan-Pacific ICT Centre, USP Laucala Campus



Day 1 09:30~17:00 Public Seminar (Inc. refreshments & lunch) Main Presenter - Dr Nobutada NAKAMOTO\* JICA Expert, EPS advisor for Rural Water Supp) Professor Emeritus of Shinshu University, Japar - Live lecture from JICA HO, Tokyo Japar

Day 2 09:00~18:30 Workshop & Study Tour (Inc. lunch)\*\* Workshop - Demonstration of EPS Construction By Mr Makoto YANO, Okinawa Blue Water, Japan

Study Tour - EPS Site Visit to NAKINI Village

18:30~20:00 - Evening Reception (Cocktail Party)

Pre-registration is required at Day 1 (close at 11:30) due to limited space.

For further details, please contact JICA Fiji Office by email: jicafj-recept@jica.go.jp or telephone: +679 330 2522