

Creating a Crystal-Clear Solution

By Virginia Wilkinson

Like magic, Saskatchewan-based Tec-Water Supplies Inc.'s new Floc Filtration system takes dirty surface water and turns out clear water, ready for purification and then drinking. The newly developed Floc Filtration 100 System is in hot demand across Saskatchewan—and now around the world.

Located in Tisdale, Saskatchewan, Tec-Water was started by Bill Kidd in 1988,

“Our goal was to create a mini version of a water treatment plant that would only run when needed, using a batch process rather than a continuous flow, and was automatic.”

as a distributor of water treatment equipment and products. Within a few years, Bill found that many of his clients were coming in saying that their filter and treatment equipment were either not working, or only working for short periods of time.

“People were telling me their water had so many problems that the standard equipment was getting gummed up with sludge, and was no longer doing the job they needed,” says Bill.

“I wasn’t interested in selling equipment that wasn’t going to work.”

He began searching for a better pre-treatment filtration system. After much research, he realized the system he was searching for didn’t exist. So Kidd decided to create it himself.

“Our goal was to create a mini version of a city water treatment plant, that would run only when needed, using a batch process rather than a continuous flow, and was automatic—eliminating the need for someone to be on hand when a batch was running,” says Tec-Water partner Joely Kidd.

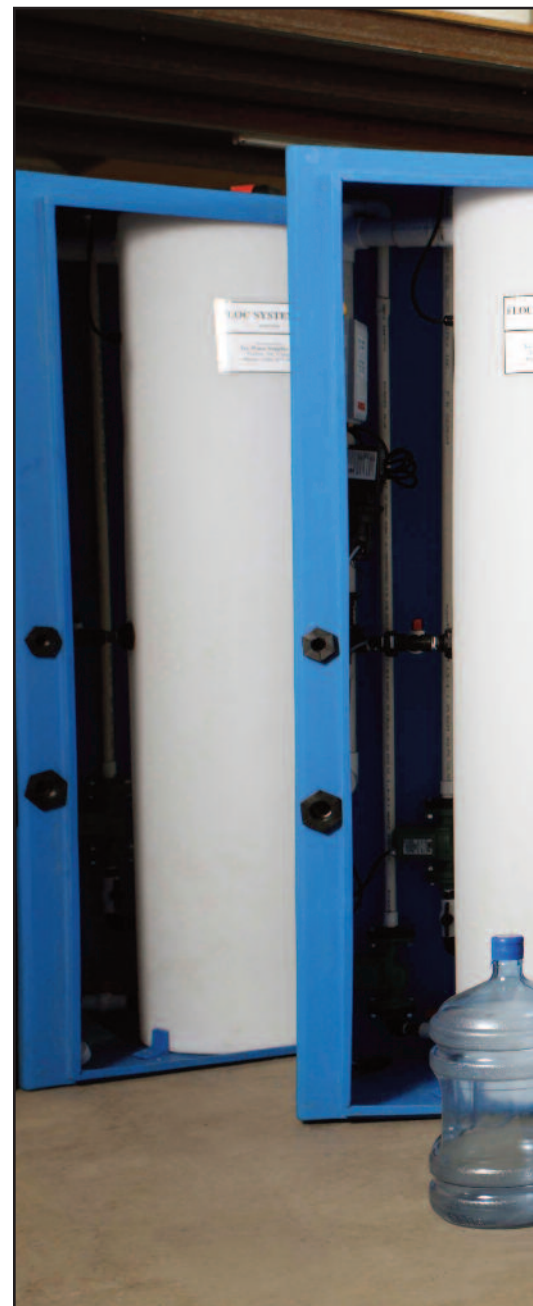
It was a lofty goal, especially since the family continued to run the equipment and product distribution end of the business while working on the new process.

Key to their success was identifying a coagulant that would successfully bind with the impurities in the dirty water and fall to the bottom of a tank. Bill tried a number of different coagulants, ensuring they reduced or eliminated impurities, colors and odours in the water. Eventually, he found a product that did exactly what he wanted.

“It took unheard-of turbidity levels and brought them within the water quality guidelines—it proved itself in a very short period of time,” he says.

Before the prototype was even finished in 1996, a long list of people had signed

up to test the new system. All continued to use the system once the tests had wrapped up. He then started to get calls from larger farms, smaller municipalities and regional parks.



Bill Kidd of Tec-Water

In 2009, Tec-Water was approached by Sun Dale Recreation, a new resort development outside of Regina that was looking to create a unique water treatment plant. It was the first community-sized (approximately 300 homes) Floc Filtration System that Bill had developed.

“It was very exciting. It really became a living lab for us. We were able to take what we had developed and expand it for

a community system. We received great support and assistance from Communities of Tomorrow.”

Joely says the treatment plant at Sun Dale has been a huge success, providing high-quality drinking water to all resort development residents.

Today, Tec-Water’s systems are used in hundreds of homes and farm settings, and in five small communities. The

company has daily requests for their product from across the country and more recently around the world. They’ve also had numerous investor requests. In fact, Tec-Water has had so many requests they can’t keep up. They are currently looking at expansion options to help them address the demand they expect will continue to grow into the future. ↘



Photo by Kevin Hogarth