

# PAPER TECHNOLOGY INTERNATIONAL

THE JOURNAL OF THE BIOFOREST PRODUCTS SECTOR



## PITA PAPER *matters!* 2018 Conference & Exhibition at Lancaster University

**KemRevive: Recovering starch from recycled fiber**

**Mike Armitage (Kemira)**

# PAPERmatters 2018!

## The Presentations

**Mike Armitage**

**Kemira Chemicals**

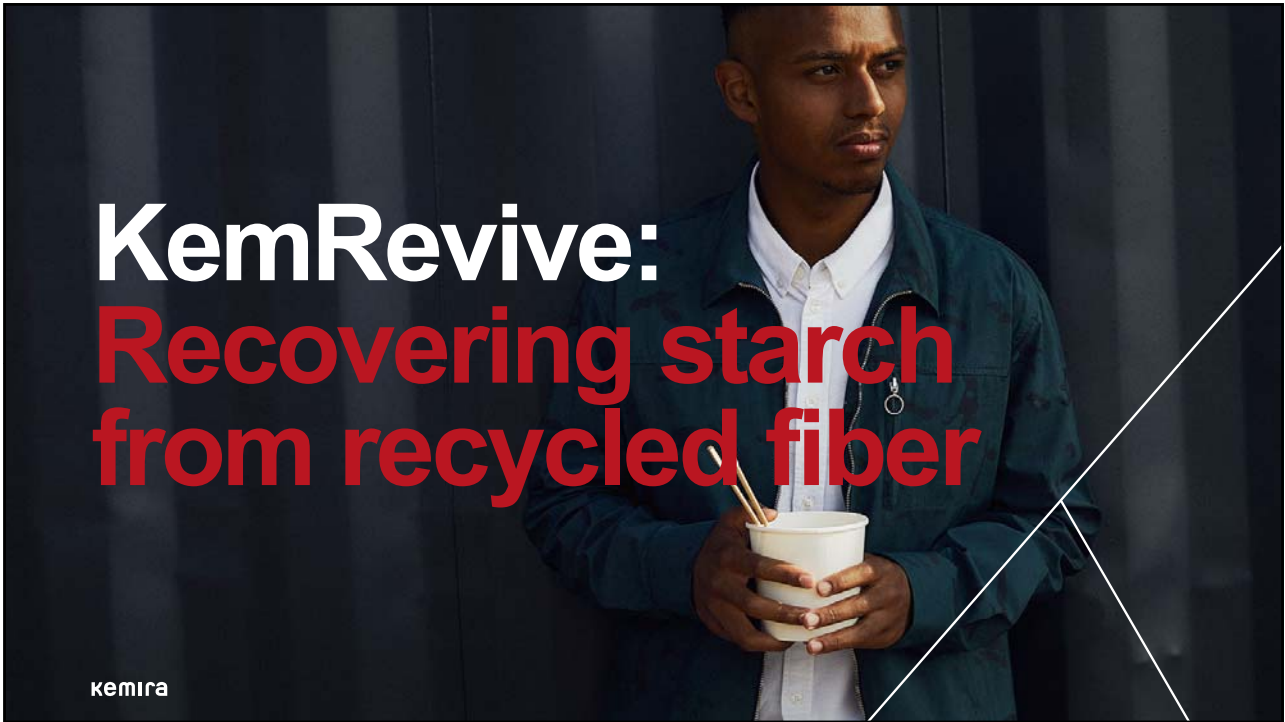
**Kemira**

Where water  
meets chemistry™

Mike Armitage is a relative new-comer to the Paper Industry with 4 ½ years experience with Kemira, firstly as a Technical Service Engineer and then as a Sales Representative. Mike's background in customer relations and digital applications, coupled with qualifications in Chemistry and Biology, has brought enthusiasm and expertise to push forward new Digital Technologies and Innovative Chemical Programmes.



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A microscopic view of a plant stem showing its internal structure. A text box on the left contains the following text:

**Overview**

- The Opportunity
- Current Practice
- KemRevive Concept Overview
- Case Studies



## Sustainability Through Reuse of Recycled Fiber Starch

For a mill producing 400,000 tons per year,  
**16,000 metric tons** of starch from recycled fibre is lost

700 Truckloads or 2  
per day of raw starch

Value of the lost  
starch is about **6 M€**

Represents area  
of corn field of around  
**3000 ha (7,500 acres)**

Number of times one  
can drive a car around  
the earth (CO<sub>2</sub>)



**3,500**

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## The Financial Opportunity

Recycled fiber contains high amounts of starch

- *Unprotected, this starch can become COD loading for the wastewater*
- *It can become food for microbiological growth which produce detrimental by-products*
- *Added starch costs are increasing. Allowing this "free" starch to be consumed is a financial burden.*
- **The ability to reuse starch provides a significant value potential**



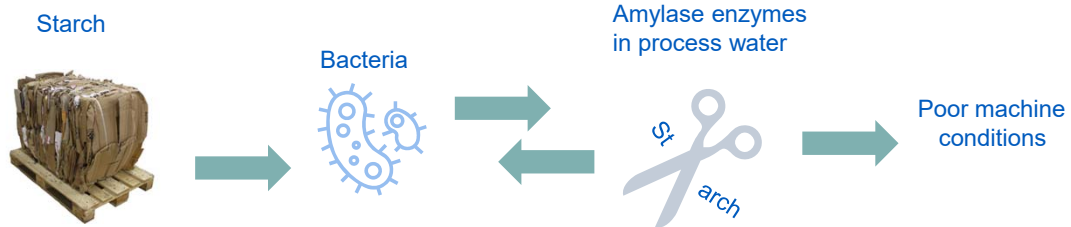
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## Process issues due to starch degradation



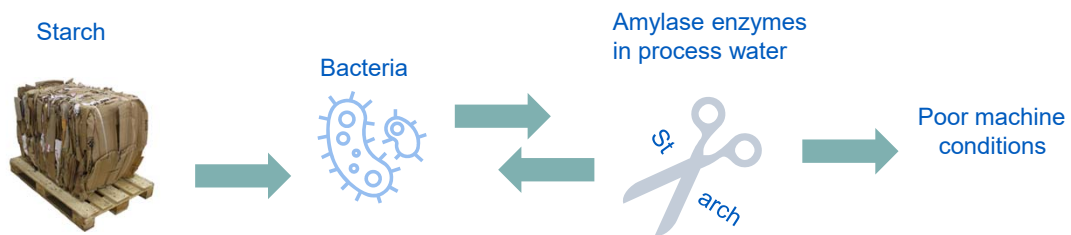
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## Process issues due to starch degradation



- High COD loading
- Increase in VFA's (Volatile Fatty Acids)
- pH depression
- Increased dissolved calcium concentrations

- Calcium scaling in waste water treatment
- Runability problems due to reduced chemical efficiency
- Increased use of biocides to combat high amounts of microbiological contamination

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# Starch Degradation in the Mill Environment

## Worst Case Scenario

Anaerobic bacteria are prevalent and able to grow  
Acid production, pH drop,  
Calcium dissolution, H<sub>2</sub>S production



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## Traditional Strategy

Amylase enzymes in process water degrade starch into sugars

**Starch from RCF is lost: COD and loss of yield**

Potential for system variability

Higher than normal biocide consumption needed



## KemRevive

Possible to reuse starch from recycled fiber

Stable wet-end pH and redox

**Lower COD**

**Increased yield**

**Lower VFA**

Further benefits



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# Traditional Strategies to Reduce Starch Degradation

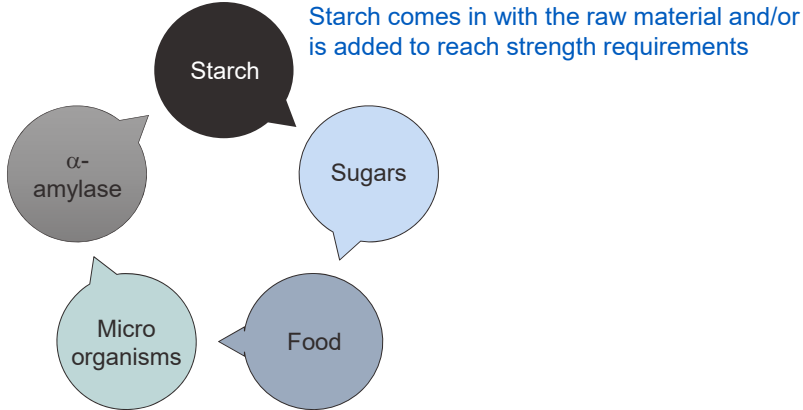
- Eliminate majority of the amylase-producing bacteria in the process
  - Requires **much higher** biocide dosage than is necessary for the purpose of machine cleanliness
- Reduce water closure (use more fresh water)
- Retain starch coming in with the recycled fiber (reduce starch cycle up)
- Use non-contaminated recycled furnish



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# The cycle of starch degradation in paperboard process



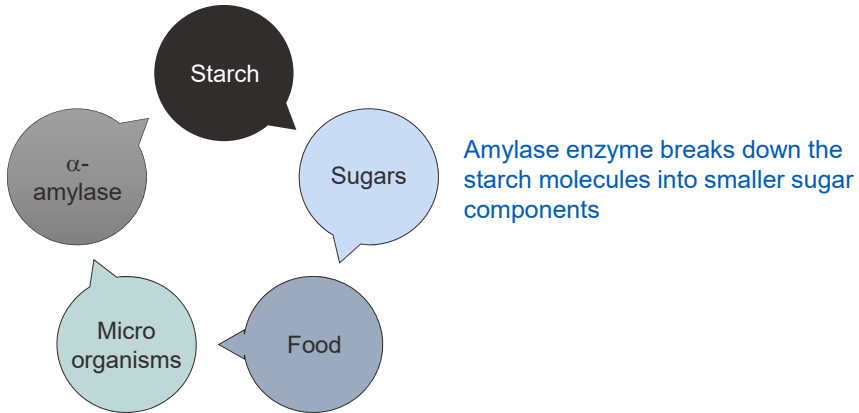
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# The cycle of starch degradation in paperboard process



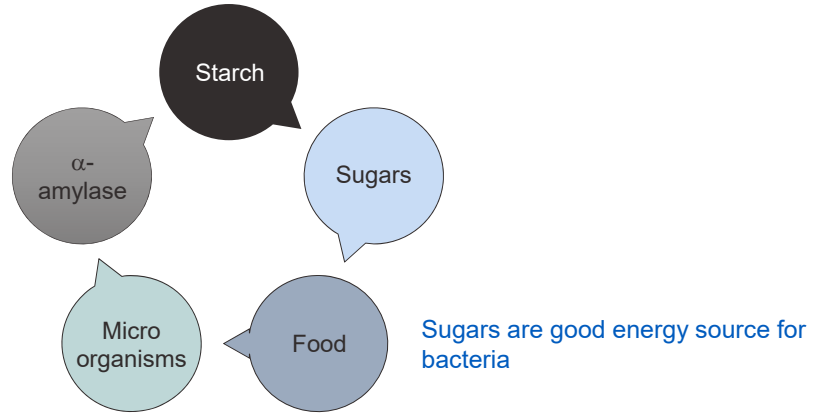
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# The cycle of starch degradation in paperboard process



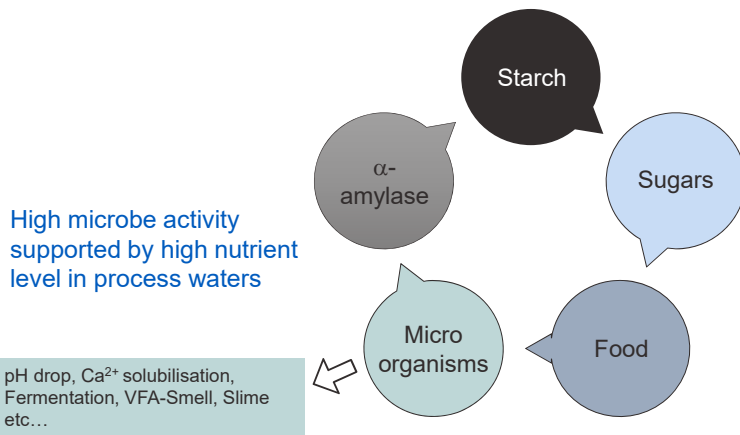
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# The cycle of starch degradation in paperboard process



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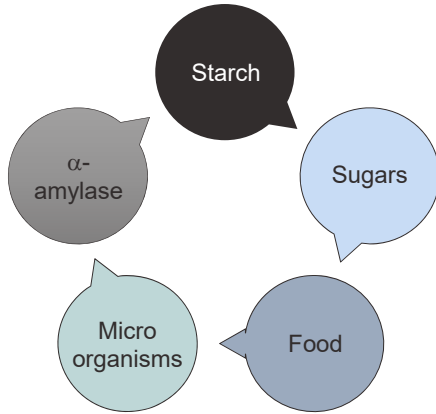
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# The cycle of starch degradation in paperboard process

High amount of amylase enzyme produced by bacteria to further break down the starch



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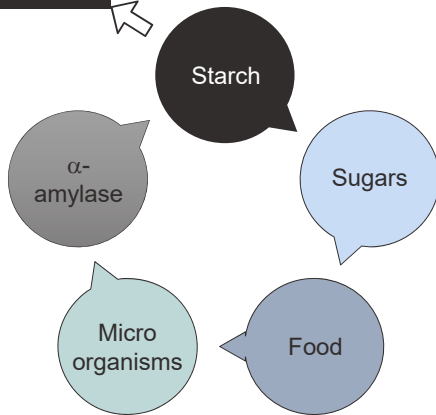
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# The cycle of starch degradation in paperboard process

COD / BOD  
1 ton starch = 1.2 ton COD



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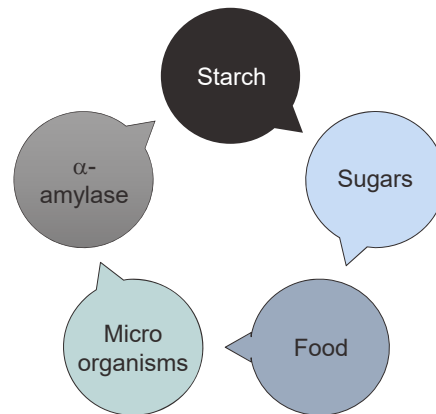
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## Keys to breaking the cycle of starch degradation

- Add enough inhibition chemistry such that we prevent amylase from degrading the starch
- If bacteria populations are not controlled to normal extent, the FennoSpec 1200 dosage would be cost prohibitive
- If starch is not retained in final sheet, benefits are greatly reduced

Therefore a successful KemRevive program consists of targeted inhibition, good MB control, and a retention program with the muscle to retain it

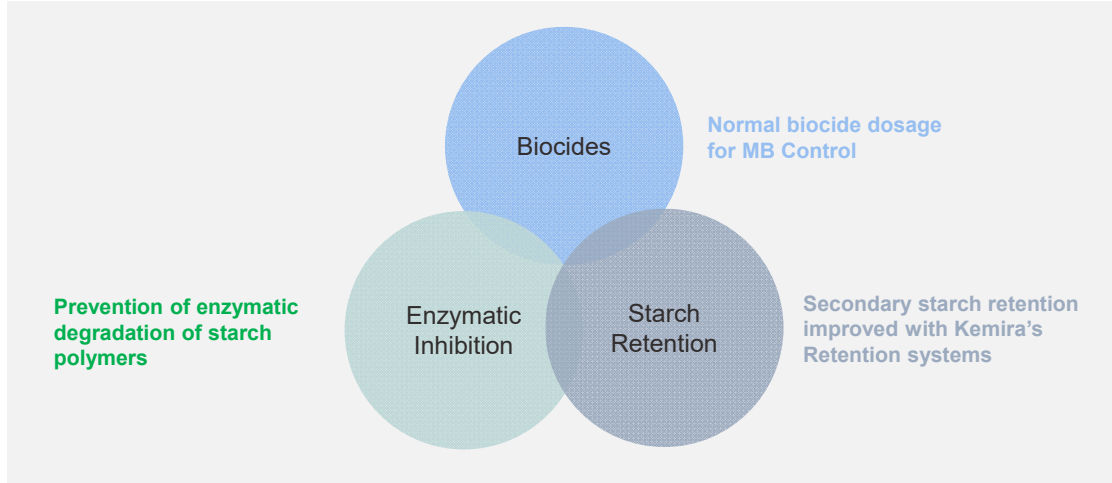


# KemRevive

Concept Overview

# Kemira KemRevive: The Basics

Patent pending Technology



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# Reclaiming Starch with KemRevive is a Two Step Process

## STEP ONE – Protect

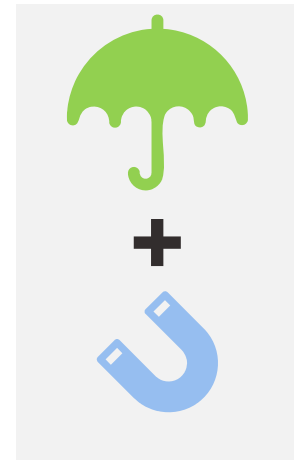
Amylase enzyme inhibitor (FennoSpec 1200)

Normal biocide use rate

## STEP TWO – Retain

KemForm retention program

retain starch while maintaining/improving drainage



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# Reclaiming Starch with KemRevive is a Two Step Process

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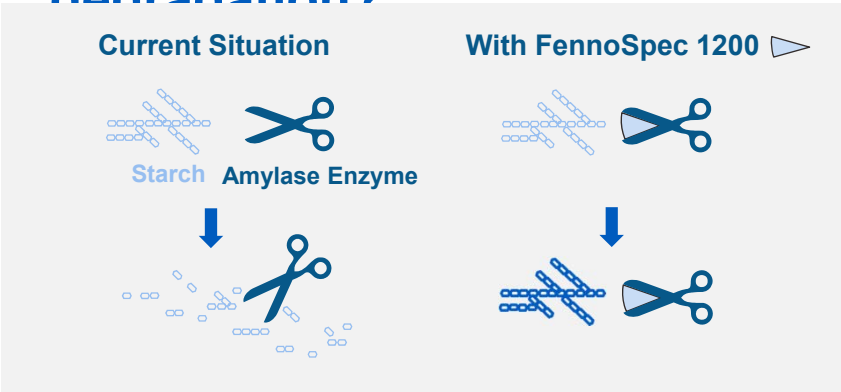
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# How does FennoSpec 1200 prevent starch degradation?

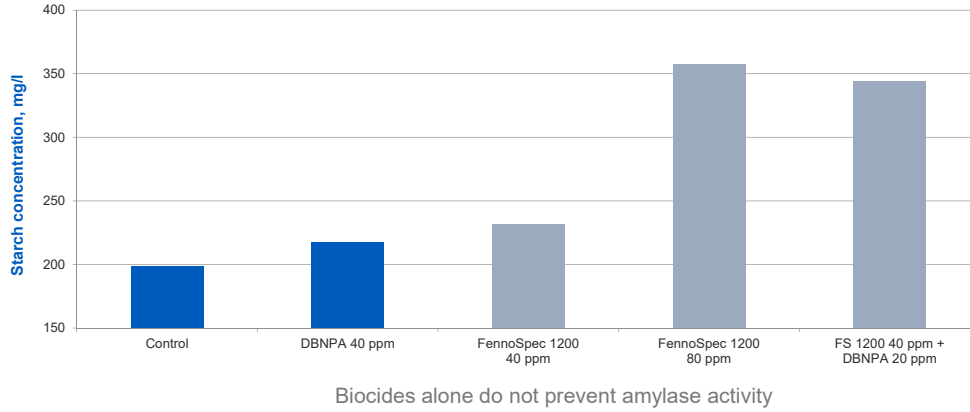


Alpha Amylase molecule – Calcium Ion

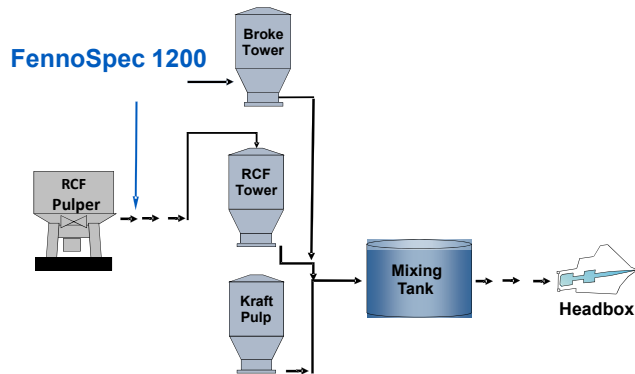
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# Amylase enzyme inhibitor provides an effect beyond biocides

## RESIDUAL STARCH IN PROCESS WATER



# Typical dosage points



Typical dosage points  
 After pulper  
 Before storage towers  
 Into broke system.  
 Typical FennoSpec 1200 dosage depending on situation  
 0,5 to 1,5 kg/tonne as received on fibre



# Reclaiming Starch with KemRevive is a Two Step Process

## STEP ONE – Protect

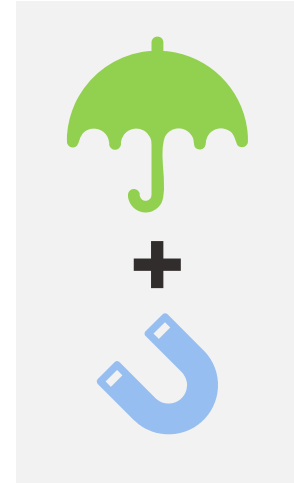
Amylase enzyme inhibitor (FennoSpec 1200)

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# Kemira’s KemForm Retention Concepts

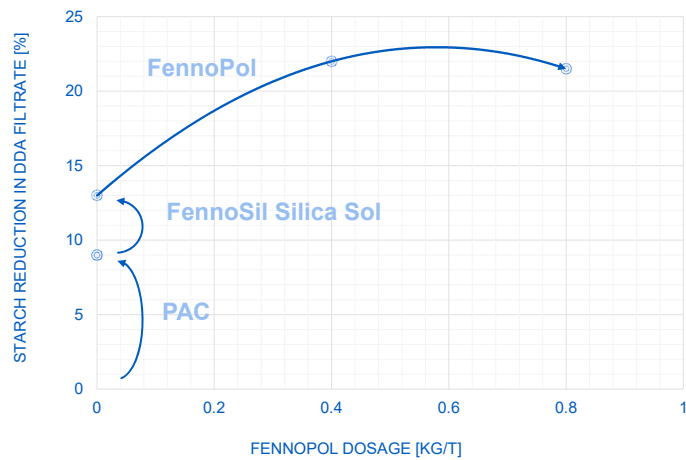
## Process

Conditions:

Furnish: 100 % OCC

Retention/dewatering system

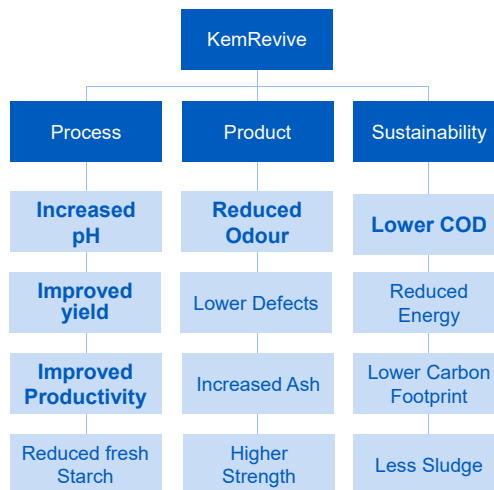
PAC + FennoSil + FennoPol



# The Opportunities and Benefits

## Significant benefits realised:

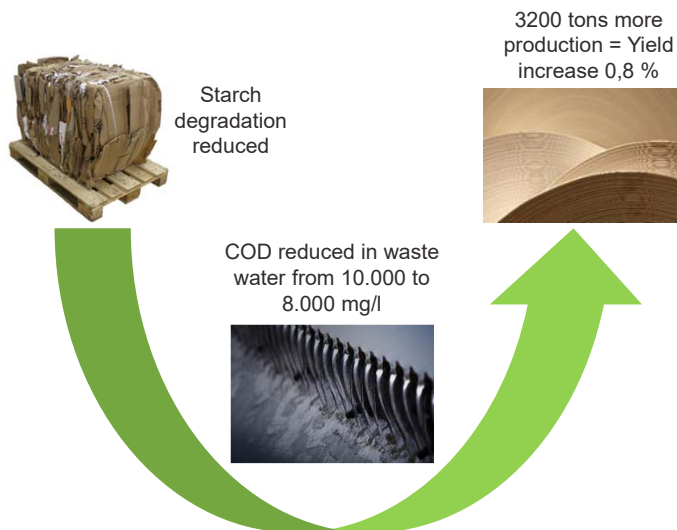
- Lower COD in waste water
  - Lower disposal costs
  - Improved yield
- Reduced odour
  - In final product and atmospheric
- Increased pH
  - Reduction in conductivity
  - Improved functional chemical efficiency
- Improved productivity



# The effect of COD reduction on board machine yield

## As an example consider:

- A 400,000 tpy board machine with a waste water amount of 4 m3 per produced ton of board.
- KemRevive reduces the COD by 2 kg/m3 of waste water
- With 1 600 000 m3 of waste water annually this means 3200 tons less COD into waste water
- This COD = the protected starch that ends up in the dry board as a yield increase



# Case Studies

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## Case study

### Program KPI

Customer requirements:

- Maintain fibre ratio waste/OCC ratio
  - To at least 50/50.
- COD reduction

Parameters measured

- Process water Redox, pH, conductivity
- Waste water COD
- Strength parameters of final board

VAT machine

Speed: 120 to 200 m/min

Production: 55 000 to 60 000 tonne/year

Grades: Chipboard at 320 to 900 gsm

Furnish: 100% RCF

Retention system: FennoLite UK @ 3,5 kg/t and FennoPol 4240T @ 660 g/t, PEI 1 kg/t

Biocide: Competitor Biocide program Glutaraldehyde and quat  
Amylase enzyme inhibitor FennoSpec 1200 @ 1,0 to 1,2 kg/t



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## Benefits to customer

KemRevive provided starch protection in the wet end enabling the mill to successfully alter the raw material ratio (waste/OCC) for the first time from 20/80 to 75/25

### Potential gross savings for the mill 0,9 M€/year based on fibre costs

#### Other benefits observed:

- Starch degradation was reduced
- Waste water COD reduced
  - 11 000 mg/l down to 2750 mg/l
  - Average reduction 75%
- Process water quality improved
  - Cationic demand down 15%
  - Increase in average redox potential from -153 to -60 mV
  - Maintained pH with no NaOH addition
  - No more odour across mill site
- Reduction of retention aid polymer 18%
- Reduced fixative dosage 2%
- Good situation allowed the mill to close the water loop more than ever before
  - Decrease in conductivity 5000  $\mu$ s to 2600  $\mu$ s
  - Good runnability

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## Summary

A new, sustainable and innovative way to reuse starch

Two-step concept:

- Amylase enzyme inhibitor decreases starch degradation
- Optimized retention system captures starch

Patented technology

BfR, FDA, and GB9685 compliant



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