



# Membrane Harvesting Technology Algae Separation & Concentration

Enabling Industry Solutions


BIO – Pacific Rim

Simmit on Industrial Biotechnology & Bioenergy

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Industrial BioTechnology**

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- **Pall Algae BioMass Program**
  - Dewatering using Membranes
- **Research and Modeling Scale System (RAMs)**
- **Algae Separation & Concentration Filter (ASCF)**
- **Commercialization**



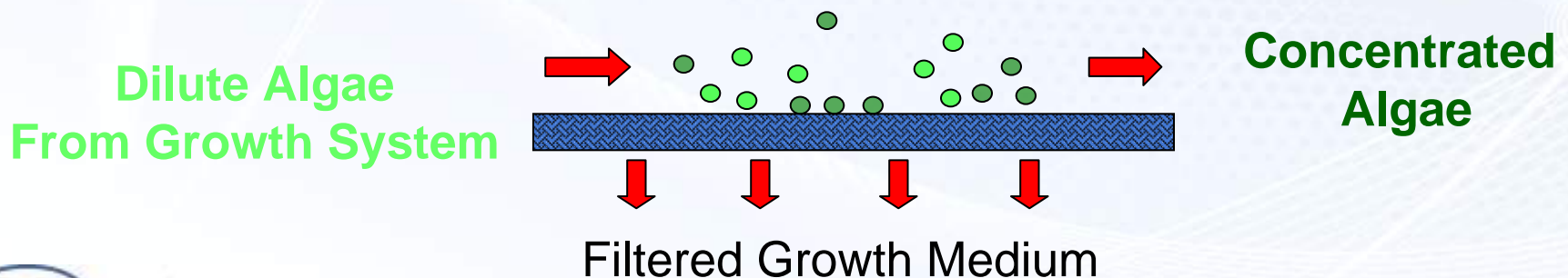
# Pall Algal BioMass Program

- **Pall's Algal BioMass Process Development Program has been finding solutions for technology developers for over 6 years**
  - **Industry Need**
    - **Low energy means of DeWatering harvested algae**
    - **Ability to manage water resources (scarcity)**
    - **Ability to manage nutrients**
    - ⇒ **Technology must be scalable**
  - **For some applications**
    - **Undamaged cells (viability)**
    - **DeWatering without chemicals**
    - **Control over the algae slurry concentration**
- **Pall's membrane based Algae Separation & Concentration approach meets these industry requirements**

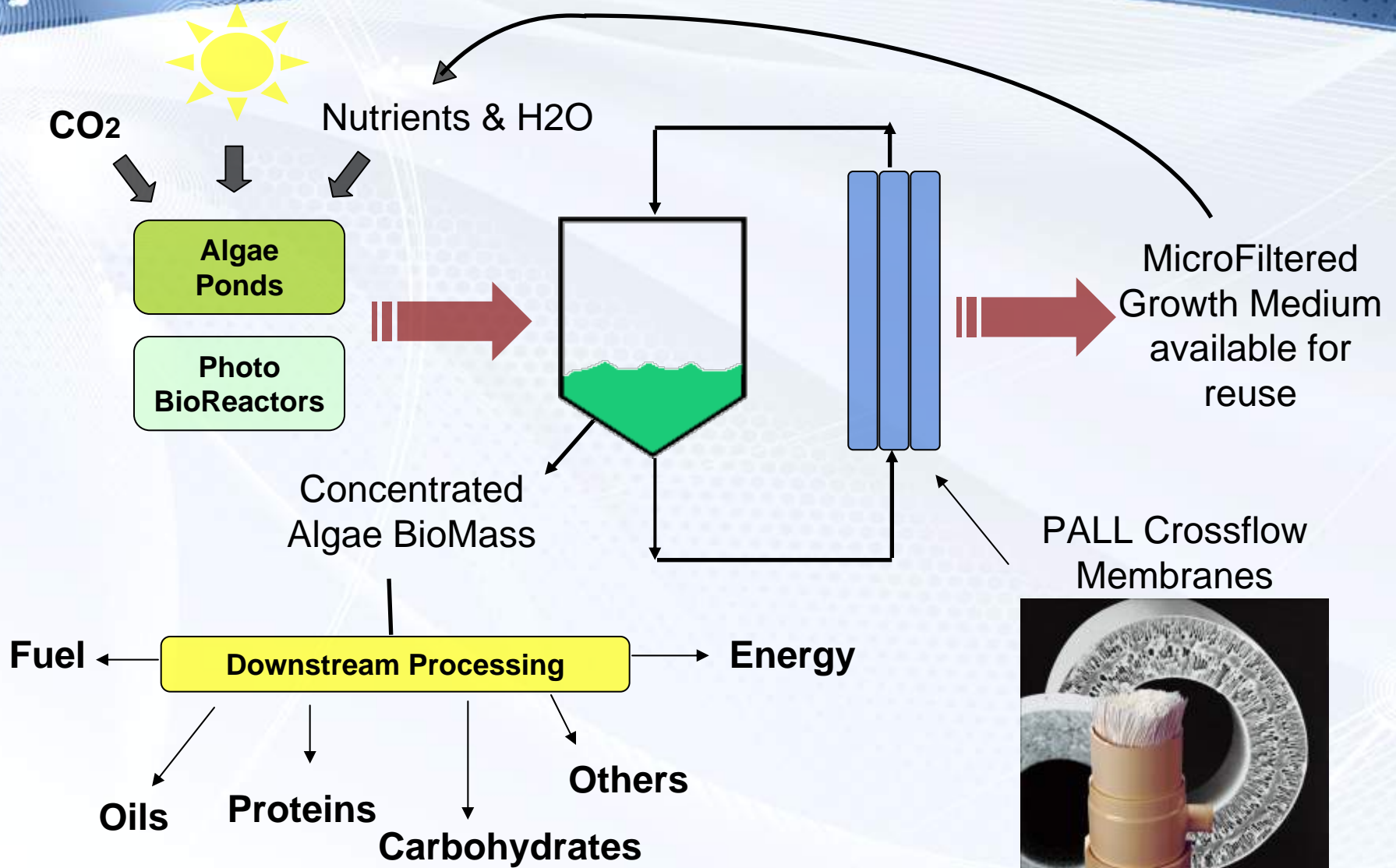
# Algal BioMass Membrane Applications

- Water mining for make-up water with MF
- Algae BioMass concentration with membrane systems
  - Research, Pilot & demonstration scale commercial systems
  - Water & Nutrient management
  - 100% BioMass harvest yield
  - Preconcentration step before high solids device
  - Recover BioMass from secondary DeWatering equipment
    - water & nutrient recycle
  - Maintain optimal concentration in Waste Water remediation
  - Microfiltered growth medium for inoculation use

• **Crossflow Filtration** - Flow is parallel to membrane



# Algal BioMass Concentration Application

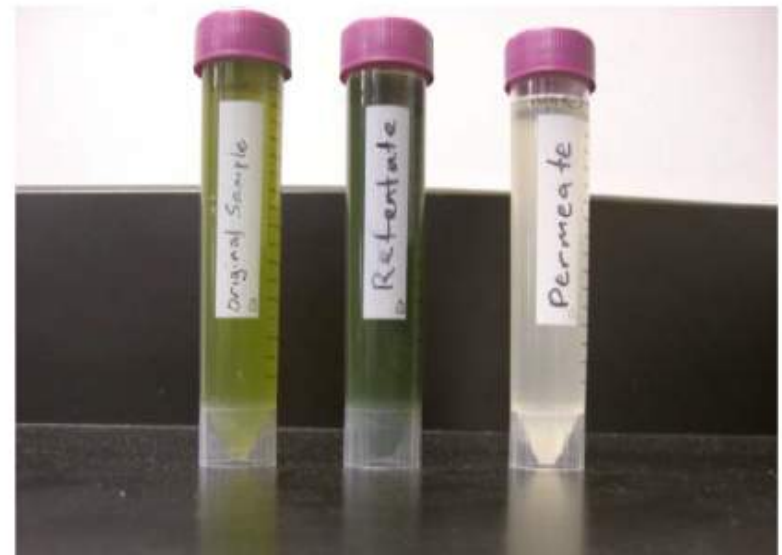


# Algal Membrane Processes – Where to Start

## BioMass End Use Determination :

- **Concentration & Consistency**
  - Final Concentration of BioMass Slurry
  - Degree of DeWatering Required
- **Downstream Processes**
  - Aqueous Extraction
  - Hydro Thermal Liquefaction
  - Fermentation
- **Consistency**
  - Slurry
  - Paste
  - Dry

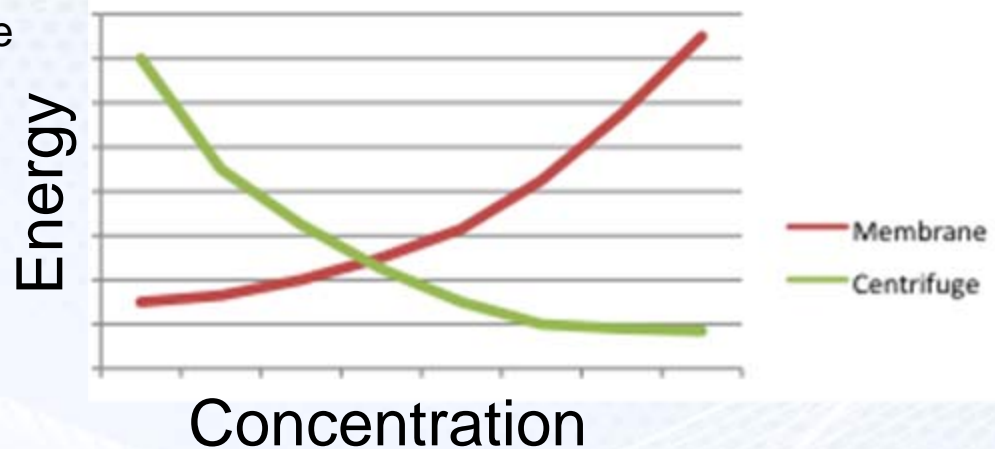
Algae Biomass Concentration using Membranes



- **The degree of DeWatering required will be determined by the downstream processing of the BioMass**
- **Combination of technologies may be needed to optimally achieve the final desired concentration**
- **Goal: Thickened paste or dry products**
  - Membranes used as a pre-concentration step
  - Additional unit to perform the final concentration

- Centrifuge for thickened paste
- Belt filter for dry flake
- Spray drier for dry powder

⇒ Energy Efficient Approach



- **Goal: Thickened slurry**

Membranes can be used to provide a slurry with a consistent concentration for downstream processing



# Pall Experience – Specific Energy Consumption

<b>Concentration at Harvest</b> <b>0.5 g/l dry weight</b>	<b>Concentration at Harvest</b> <b>10 g/l dry weight</b>
<b>Concentrated to 60 g/l</b> <b>Specific Energy</b> <b>&lt; 0.5 kW-hr Per M3 of Harvest</b> <b>&lt; 1.0 kW-hr Per Kg of BioMass</b>	<b>Concentrated to 60 g/l</b> <b>Specific Energy</b> <b>&lt; 0.7 kW-hr Per M3 of Harvest</b> <b>&lt; 0.07 kW-hr Per Kg of BioMass</b>
<b>Concentrated to 100 g/l</b> <b>Specific Energy</b> <b>&lt; 0.6 kW-hr Per M3 of Harvest</b> <b>&lt; 1.2 kW-hr Per Kg of BioMass</b>	<b>Concentrated to 100 g/l</b> <b>Specific Energy</b> <b>&lt; 1.4 kW-hr Per M3 of Harvest</b> <b>&lt; 0.14 kW-hr Per Kg of BioMass</b>
<b>Concentrated to 200 g/l</b> <b>Specific Energy</b> <b>&lt; 0.7 kW-hr Per M3 of Harvest</b> <b>&lt; 1.4 kW-hr Per Kg of BioMass</b>	<b>Concentrated to 200 g/l</b> <b>Specific Energy</b> <b>&lt; 1.7 kW-hr Per M3 of Harvest</b> <b>&lt; 0.17 kW-hr Per Kg of BioMass</b>

**Crossflow system design and operation can be optimized for low energy consumption**

**Harvest concentration impacts CAPEX & OPEX**

# Algae Concentration Membrane Systems

- **Membrane approach has been compared directly with:**

**Dissolved Air Flotation (DAF):**

- Higher BioMass concentration than DAF
- No need for flocculation chemicals
- Lower overall energy
- 100% algae harvest yield
- Water & nutrient recycle

**Centrifuges:**

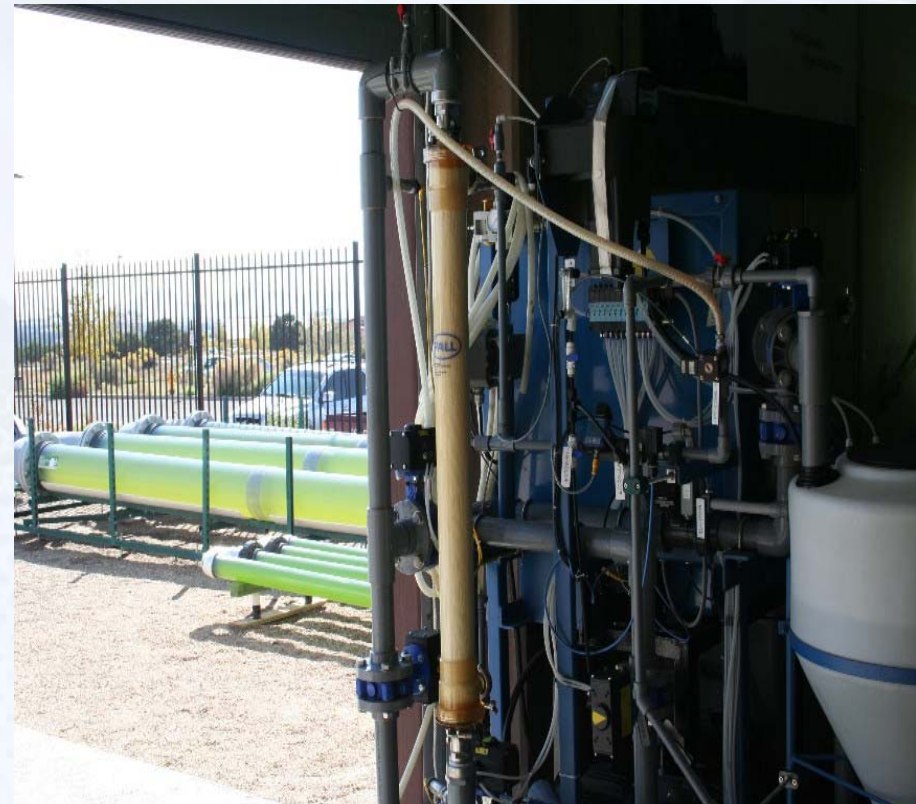
- Much more energy efficient than Centrifuges
- Considerably less maintenance required
- 100% algae harvest yield
- Water & nutrient recycle

**Evaporation:**

- Significantly lower energy than evaporation (unless waste heat)

**ASCF is Competitive & Robust:**

- Cost competitive (CAPEX)
- Lower OPEX (Energy)
- Small footprint
- Less stringent civil infrastructure requirement
- Lower labor requirement with lower skill level
- Scalable (Perfect for preconcentration)
- Control over slurry concentration
- Cell viability & higher quality BioMass



**Energy consumption  
with membranes  
<0.5 – 1.0 kW-hr per  
cu meter harvest processed**

# Algal BioMass Concentration Landscape

		Pall Algae Separation & Concentration Filter (ASCF)	DAF	Centrifugation	Settling	Belt / Press Filtration
CAPEX	Equipment Scope	Medium/High	Low/medium	High	Low	Medium
	Infrastructure	Low	High	Very High	Low	Low
	Footprint	Medium	High	Medium	Very High	Low
OPEX	Energy	Low	Low/medium	Very High	Low	Low/medium
	Chemicals	Low	Very High	Low	Low	Low
	Labor	Low Skill	High Skill	High Skill	Low Skill	Low Skill
	Maintenance	Low	Medium	High	Low	Low
Harvest	Harvest Yield	100%	90%	95%	90%	90%
	BioMass [ ]	20% - 25%	4% - 6%	30%+	2% - 5%	25%
	Degree of DeWatering	High	Low	Very High	Low	High
	Control of Slurry [ ]	Very High	Low	Low	Low	Low
Quality	Water & Nutrient Recycle	Very High	Low	Low	Low	Low
	Solids & BioMass in Growth Medium	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Microfiltered Growth Medium	Yes	No	No	No	No
	BioMass	Very High	Medium	Low	Medium	Medium
	Cell Viability	Very High	Medium	Low	High	Low
Scalability		Very High	High	Medium	Low	Low

## Collaborative & Paid Development Programs



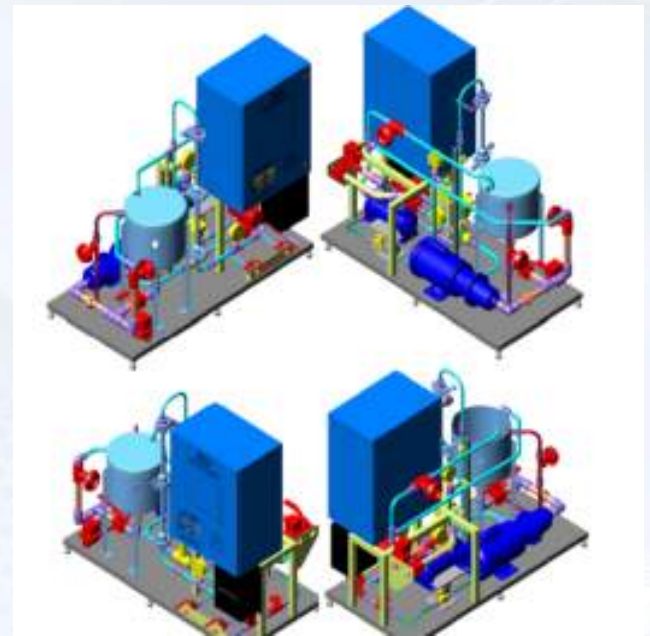
- **Development Program phases**

- **Research & Modeling**
- Field Evaluation
- Pre-commercial
- Commercial

Research & Modeling scale (RAMs) System

## Research & Modeling scale (RAMs) System

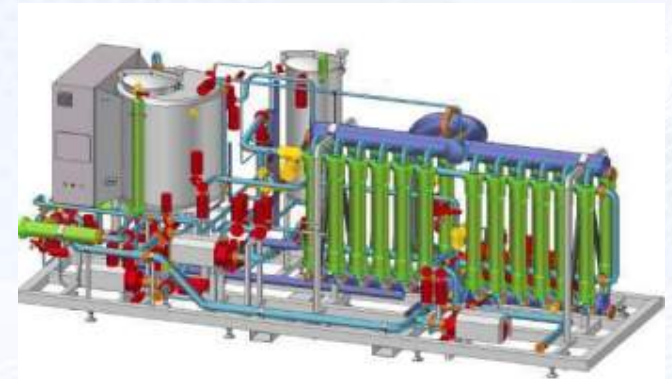
- **Cost effective method for evaluating membrane Concentration of Algal BioMass**
- **Eliminates costly “Trial and Error” experiments with “Fit for Purpose” design**
- **Provides budgetary guidance for pilot & commercial scale systems**
- **Minimum amounts of fluids required**
- **Flexible to test various membrane types**
- **Enables early Algal DeWatering feasibility forecasting for the process or project**



# Process & Application Scale Up

## RAMs → Field Evaluation → Commercial Scale

- Field Evaluation system designs and purchase specifications evolve from the data generated during Research & Modeling phase
- Process Optimization with Field Evaluation Systems
- Pall experts are available for process consultation and continuously refine the model for commercial economics
- Utility requirements can be predicted from the data generated
- All process development work is treated as “confidential”
- Evaluation reports are scientifically supported



# Algal Separation & Concentration Filter (ASCF) Systems

**Four customer programs have progressed to the Field Evaluation phase**



**Field Evaluation ASCF  
2<sup>nd</sup> stage concentration  
& lower volume  
processing  
1000 liters/shift**



**Combined Primary & Secondary  
Concentration on a single skid  
Field Evaluation ASCF  
1 – 2.5 m<sup>3</sup>/hr**



**Field Evaluation ASCF  
for Primary concentration &  
high volume processing  
7.5 – 38 m<sup>3</sup>/day**

# Pall Development Program Experience

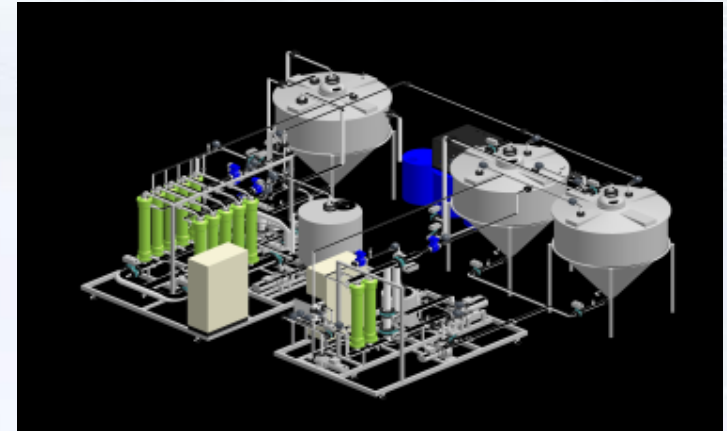
- **Research scale projects globally total 20 and counting**
- **Field Evaluation scale projects**
  - **Demonstration of concentration to customer requirements**
    - **Concentrate to 140 g/l for wet extraction**
      - Membrane approach evaluated against DAF + Centrifuge
      - No changes in membrane performance
    - **Preconcentration to 60 g/l prior to centrifuge DeWatering**
      - 60+ concentration cycles over 6 months
      - No changes in membrane performance
      - Recycling of growth medium into process
        - Water and nutrient management benefits
      - < 0.5 kWhr per cu meter harvested
    - **Multistage membrane concentration**
      - 200 g/l demonstrated with
      - Energy input < 0.7kWhr per cu meter harvested
    - **Maintenance of optimal Algae concentration for Waste Water**
- **Pall Aria™ pilot on waste water feeding algae growth systems**



# Pall Commercial Algae Project Experience

**Three technology developers have chosen Pall ASCF for their commercial projects**

- 8 m<sup>3</sup> per hour of harvest
- 15 m<sup>3</sup> per hour of harvest
- 14 m<sup>3</sup> per hour of harvest



**One technology developer has chosen Pall Aria™**

- Commercial Aria™ system sold for Pond water make-up



**Pall Algal BioMass Concentration Program in 6<sup>th</sup> Year  
Program is Enabling Energy Efficient BioMass Harvest**

**100% Algae BioMass Harvest – Perfect for  
Preconcentration**

**Enables Water & Nutrient Recycle**

**Systems Optimized for Low Energy Consumption**

**Systems Design Modeling and Project Economic  
Forecasting Capabilities**

**Systems Scale to Large Commercial Sizes**


**Process Developers are Deploying for their  
Commercial Projects**



# Questions?

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**Pall Total Fluid Management  
Process & Application Development Programs  
Providing Solutions to Algal BioMass Technology Developers**

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