

# **BIOFILTER SYSTEM FOR AIR POLLUTION CONTROL: A REVIEW**

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**ABSTRACT** - Air pollution is a main problem faced by industries during the different production process. The control of this pollution is very necessary for the environment and living organism as it creates harmful effects. One of the main used pollution control technology is biofilter. This is relatively simple and cheap technology. It can be easily operator and produce biomass. The contaminants removed from the air include microbes and harmful gases. The contaminants removed are utilized as a food source for the microbes and exhausted into the atmosphere as small amounts of carbon dioxide and water vapor. The advantage bio filters have over all of these technologies is their ability to treat dilute gas streams in cost effective manner. Researchers are does to improve the biofilter by association with the other available technologies Include high fuel use, high maintenance requirements, high capital costs, and the Pollution of wash water or air streams in the removal process.

Keywords: Air pollution, biofilter, contaminants, microbes

### 1. INTRODUCTION

Air contamination comprises of vapours, fluid, or strong substances that, when present in adequate fixation, for an adequate time, and under specific conditions, will in general interfere with human solace, wellbeing or welfare, and cause natural harm. Air contamination causes corrosive downpour, ozone consumption, photochemical exhaust cloud, and other such wonders. Carbon dioxide, an ozone depleting substance, is the fundamental contamination that is warming Earth. In spite of the fact that living things transmit carbon dioxide when they inhale, carbon dioxide is broadly viewed as a contamination when related with vehicles, planes, control plants, and other human exercises that include the consuming of petroleum derivatives, for example, gas and gaseous petrol. Air toxins come as gases or particles. (McDonald, 1981) Pollutants certainties it is assessed that you inhale 20,000 litters of air every day. This implies the more dirtied the air is, the more we inhale into our lung's perilous synthetic concoctions. Contaminations realities Air can be dirtied both inside and outside. Tobacco and different sorts of smoking are instances of indoor air contamination.

Contaminations realities Sick Building Syndrome is a wellbeing condition identified with pesticides, bug sprays and synthetic substances we use at home and workplaces. Toxins certainties in the incomparable "Exhaust cloud Disaster" in London in 1952, four thousand individuals kicked the bucket in a couple of days because of the high groupings of contamination air contamination affected on human rural, fowl, atmosphere the two sorts of air poisons are essential toxins, which enter the environment specifically, and auxiliary toxins, which structure from a substance response. (Katz j,1980)

#### Causes of air pollution

Air contaminations are strong particles, gases, and fluid beads noticeable all around that can unfavourably influence biological communities and the strength of people. Major surrounding air contaminations incorporate poisonous metals, polycyclic fragrant hydrocarbons, benzene, particulate issue (PM), nitrogen oxides, sulphur Oxide, carbon monoxide, and ozone. Power plants, production lines, and vehicle and air traffic are the most essential anthropogenic wellsprings of air contamination. Moreover, characteristic sources, for example, out of control fires and volcanic action add to surrounding air contamination. (Hein, 1989)

The cardiovascular and respiratory impacts of this major ecological wellbeing hazard factor have been widely explored. Recently, a lot of research has been done to examine whether air contamination is destructive to the cerebrum. Rate of air contamination is high especially in kids since they invest much energy outside and have a high breathing rate. An unsettling influence of fast and broad formative procedures experienced by youngsters may largely affect the sensory system. A new born child's blood- mind boundary is increasingly defining less to interruption, enabling toxicants to enter the cerebrum. (Karl b. et.al, 1951)

#### Industrial plants and factories

Plants that produce the products as a whole depend on regular discharge, yet release huge amount of contamination into the air. Mechanical plants that produce metals, for example, aluminium and steel, refine oil, produce bond, integrate plastic, or make different synthetic compounds are among those that can create hurtful air contamination. Now and then mechanical plants discharge large amount of air contamination incidentally in a short space of time. One outstanding case occurred in Bhopal, India in December 1984, when a vast substance plant kept running by the Union Carbide organization discharged a harmful gas (methyl isocyanine) that hung over the neighbourhood, around 3000 individuals and harming thousands more. (Hein, 1989)

## 2. TYPES OF AIR POLLUTION SYSTEM

Other control innovation for the control of VOCs and air toxics incorporate burning, carbon adsorption, build-up, and wet scouring. The preferred standpoint that bio filters have over these advances is their capacity to treat weakens gas streams in a financially savvy way. Inadequacies related with the other accessible advances incorporate high fuel use, high upkeep prerequisites, high capital expenses, and the contamination of wash water or air streams in the expulsion procedure. Different advancements frequently take the contamination from one structure and spot it in another, for instance, expelling pollution from an air stream and putting it in the clothes washer water. Bio-altars enable the biotransformation of the contamination to less-or nontoxic structures and decreased volumes. (Peter I)

Bio-filter	Bio-scrubber	Bio-carbon
Low operating costs	High operating costs	High operating costs
Low capital costs	Need for complex chemical	High Moderate capital costs
Effective removal of compounds	feed systems	Carbonlife reduced by moist
Low pressure drops	Does not remove all VOCs	Createsecondary waste streams
No further waste streams produced	Nozzlemaintenance often required	

Table 1. Types of Air Pollution System (Peter I)

## 3. **BIOFILTRATION HISTORY**

While the use of bio filtration within the us is not wide unfold, many these frameworks square measure effectively operating in Europe, Netherlands New Sjaelland, Germany, and Japan. Bio filters are planned essentially for scent management at waste matter treatment plants, rendering plants, and fertilizing the soil activities. In any case, bio filters square measure polishing off increasingly distinguished within the treatment of VOCs and different natural mixes. (Android v. et. al, 1997)

1923 -- Biological strategies were projected to treat odorous emissions.

1955 -- Biological strategies were applied to treat odorous emissions in low concentrations in FRG.

1960's -- Bio filtration was used for the treatment of evaporated pollutants each in FRG and USA.

1970's -- Bio filtration is employed with high success in FRG.

1990's -- nowadays, there square measure over five hundred bio filters in operation each in FRG and Netherlands and it's wide spreading in USA.

#### 4. **BIOFILTER**

Distinctive sorts of technique for controlling air pollution. one of the Bio oxidations a bio channel framework. Bio-oxidation is a naturally air contamination control innovation that uses microscopic organisms & fungi to organically assimilate and process vapour stage VOCs and smelly mixes normally found in mechanical and metropolitan. (James t. Boswell,2013) System by means of instigated draft fans, the contaminants first experience microorganisms in a circulated air through sump and inorganic media with bio film development. The last treatment happens in a manure media, where they are caught and processed by a network of normally happening organisms. The contaminants are used as a nourishment hotspot for the microorganisms and depleted into the environment as little measures of carbon dioxide and water vapour. Bio filtration is a moderately new contamination control innovation. The most widely recognized style bio channel is only a major box the least difficult innovation to be considered inside the study of organic air filtration IS the bio channel. Some can be as large as a b-ball court or as little as one cubic yard. A bio channel's principle work is to carry microorganisms into contact with toxins. (David m. Haddock, 2007) Bio filters-made out of a strong help, secured by a functioning bio film, a bed through which the gas with unsafe mixes go to nature an innovation accessible and is being explored now-a-days. The system of the procedure comprises of evacuating the undesirable smelly natural compound from the vaporous

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stage, agreeing its ingestion or adsorption onto the permeable strong period of the bio filter or disintegration into the fluid stage, and after that oxidation of this mixes by microorganisms. (S. F. Adler, J. E. Burgess, 2001)

#### 4.1. **BIOFILTER MECHANISM**

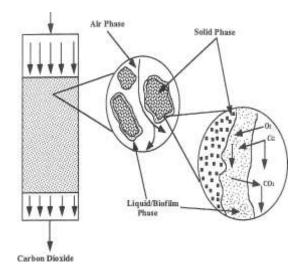


Figure1 : Internal Mechanisms Of a Bio filters. (Joseph s. Devein.et.al,2000)

	oxidation
1. By product is nitrogen oxide	1. Product chlorine and
which causes	chlorinated
ozone depletion	products.
and smog	
formation.	
	2. Require
	precise
•	temperature and
	pressure condition.
high temperature	condition.
hence increases	3. In chemical
	oxidations chemicals have
	to stored and
3. Operation and handling cost is high.	handled.
	<ul> <li>which causes</li> <li>ozone depletion</li> <li>and smog</li> <li>formation.</li> <li>2. Required</li> <li>additional nature</li> <li>gas for achieving</li> <li>high</li> <li>temperature</li> <li>hence increases</li> <li>CO2.</li> <li>3. Operation and</li> <li>handling cost is</li> </ul>

Table2: Differanciation between biofilteration, chemical oxidation, thermal process

Contaminated air passes through the filter bed medium (compost, peat, soil, etc.) with oxygen  $(0_2)$  and sorbs into

microbial bio film/liquid phase attached to the filter medium. Microbes convert the Contaminant to carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) and water. (Joseph s. Devein.et.al,2000)

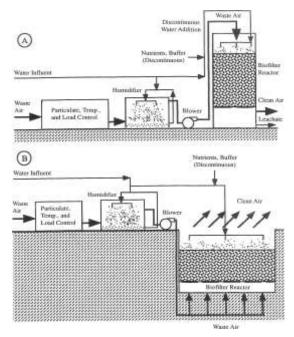


Figure 2: Schematic diagrams of (A) Above-ground closed bio filters and (B) Belowground (Joseph s. Devein.et.al,2000)

The filter-bed medium consists of comparatively inert substances (compost, peat, etc.) that guarantee giant surface attachment areas and extra nutrient offer. Because the air passes through Botswana monetarv unit. the contaminants within the air section sorbs into the bio film onto filter and the medium, wherever they're biodegraded (Figure 2). Bio filters aren't filtration units as strictly outlined. Instead, they're systems that use a mix of basic processes: absorption, adsorption, degradation, and natural action of gas section contaminants. (Joseph s. Devein.et.al,2000)

#### 4.2. PARAMETERS

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The microbial inoculums, medium pH, temperature, and the medium moisture and nutrient content (Table3).

Table3: Typical Bio filters Operating Conditions for Waste Air Treatment (Joseph s. Devein.et.al,2000)

Parameter	Typical value	
Bio filters layer height	1-1.5 m	
Bio filters area	1-3000 m2	
Waste air flow	50-300,000 m3 h-I	
Bio filters surface loading	5-500 m h'	
Bio filters volumetric	5-500 m3 h~^	
loading		
Bed void volume	50%	

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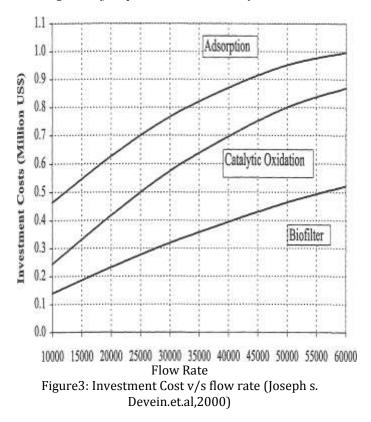
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Mean effective gas residence time	15-60 s	
Pressure drop per meter of	0.2-1.0 cm water gauge	
bed height	(max. 10 cm)	
Inlet air relative humidity	>98%	
pH of the support material	рН 6-8	
Typical removal efficiencies	60-100%	
Inlet pollutant and/or odour	0.01-5 g m-3, 500-50,000	
concentration	OU m-3	

#### 4.3. Technology effectiveness and costs

There is no waste gas treatment innovation that can adequately and monetarily be connected to each mechanical or business application. The viability of an innovation can frequently be characterized by the stream rates and focuses at which satisfactory financially savvy treatment can be normal (Figures 3). For all advances, cost-viability is site explicit. Expenses rely upon the specific application, squander stream to be dealt with, materials required for development, checking frameworks, and so forth. This makes it hard to look at explicit expenses of advances between locales. Nonetheless, some broad perceptions can be made. Expenses for waste gas control advancements fluctuate due to preparing contrasts. On account of vitality costs, incinerators are best connected to air with higher convergences.(Josephs.Devein.et.al,2000)



#### 5. BIOFILTER PROCESS

#### **Bed material**

Peat, hater, bark, composted sewage sludge, granular carbon, other suitable material. The useful life of media is 5 years.

#### Reaction

Bio Degradation is — Organic Pollutant +  $O_2 CO_2$ +  $H_{20}$ + Heat + Biomass (Burns, 1995)

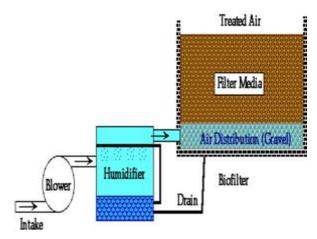


Figure 4: Bio Filter (Chou. m. et.al, 1997)

#### **Process description**

Infiltration utilizes а supported media for microbe growth to get rid of odours and organic contaminants from air streams. The filter consists of a closed chamber containing contamination degrading microbes and absorbed water suspended in a very filter medium. The filter medial is meant to produce a high capability for water uptake, have an extended operating life, and supply a coffee pressure drop for the gases passing through the media. (Android v. et. al, 1997)

#### Working

Their eating regimen depends principally on carbonbased mixes, water, and oxygen (for Aerobic responses) and macronutrients. Bioreactors use microorganisms to expel toxins from Emissions by expending the contaminations. The idea is basic, yet the execution can be very confused.

Bioreactors have been utilized for a long time to treat sewage and different odoriferous, waterborne waste. Around sixty years back, Europeans started utilizing bioreactors to treat defiled air (scents); especially outflows from sewage treatment plant plants. The underlying procedure utilized a gadget called a "bio



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channel." A bio channel is typically sand rendering rectangular. (Jialing halo.et.al)

#### 6. BIO FILTER ELEMENTS

Open-bed horizontal bio filters square measure the foremost common in animal agriculture embraces the subsequent elements: an automatically airy area with perishable gas

emissions. a disciple to manoeuvre the odorous exhaust air from the building or manure storage through the duct, plenum, and bio filter media. Ducting connecting the airy area associated an air plenum that distributes the air to be treated equally to a lower place the bio filter media.

#### 6.1. Moisture content

Bio channel media dampness control is fundamental for viable treatment. Deficient dampness can lessen channel productivity by enabling the media to dry out, deactivating the organisms and making breaks that permit air directing. An excess of dampness can connect a portion of the pores the media, cause diverting, confine wind stream through the media and the horse shelter, and breaking point oxygen stream in soaked regions in the media, which makes anaerobic zones in the bio film. These anaerobic zones may create nitrous oxide, a vital ozone harming substance. Some abundance dampness is by and large not an issue in light of the fact that the additional dampness could either deplete through the media or dissipate because of the wind current through the media. (Kevin a. Jani,2012)

#### 6.2. Temperature

Microorganisms endure a scope of temperatures. They are most dynamic somewhere in the range of 70 and 90°F. In winter the cooler temperatures will lessen the microbial action, and vet, there is less wind current since winter ventilating rates are roughly one-tenth of the mid-year levels. Most bio channels keep up segments of the bio channel media above solidifying even in winter because of constant stream of warm air from animals or poultry structures. Be that as it may, bio channels on compost stockpiles or on unheated structures will solidify in chilly climate, incidentally ceasing bio channel treatment. As the bio channel warms up in the spring, microorganisms wind up dynamic again and bio channel viability is re-established. Warming a bio channel to abstain from solidifying is normally not practical in creature agribusiness. (Vijay kumar1.et.al,2013)

#### 6.3. Microorganism seeding

Biofiltertreatment potency dependsonthe microbe break-downofvolatilecompounds withinthe air. organism sortand variety withinthe biofilterimpactperformance.Naturalmedia

materials like vegetable matter, soil soil and compost sometimes contain spare microorganisms to seed a bio filter treating air from a placental building or manure storage. Bio filters can also be seeded with aerated manure. (Vijay kumar1.et.al,2013)

# Bio filter media moisture control is essential for effective treatment

Bio filter media must embody lots of voids, 50-80 plc., to permit air to flow through simply. several bio filters employed in animal agriculture use a media that's a mix of wood chips and compost. Wood chips offer structural support and void house, associated compost provides nutrient-rich surroundings and an initial supply of Microorganisms. Recent analysis has incontestable that media comprised primarily of Wood chips coated in manure suspension or another being supply is additionally effective and needs less frequent replacement. Alternative doable filter media embody wood bark, Coconut fabricator, peat, granular-activated carbon, prelate, lava rock, and vinyl benzene beads. (Richard k. Nicolai,2012)

#### 7. APPLICATIONS (Burns, 1995)

- 1. Chemical and petrochemical industry
- 2. Oil and gas industry
- 3. Synthetic resins
- 4. Paint and ink
- 5. Pharmaceutical industry
- 6. Waste and wastewater treatment
- 7. Soil and Groundwater remediation
- 8. Sewage treatment

#### 8. ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES

Table 4: Advantages and Disadvantages (Vijay kumar1.et.al,2013)

Advantages		Disadvantages	
1	Low operating and	1	Largo footprint
1.	Low operating and capital costs.	1.	Large footprint requirement.
2.	Effective removal	2.	Medium
	of compounds.		deterioration will
3.	Low pressure		occur.
	drops.	3.	Less suitable for
4.	No further waste		high
	streams produced.		concentrations.
5.	Most bio filters are	4.	Moisture and pH
	constructed from		difficult to
	common materials		control.
	locally available	5.	Large land



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<ul> <li>such as lumber, fiberglass, and plastic pipe.</li> <li>6. They can be assembled using carpenters, plumbers, and earthmovers.</li> <li>6. No continuous internal liquid flow in which to adjust bed pH or to add nutrients.</li> <li>7. Natural bed media used in bio filters must be replaced every 2 to 5 years. Bed replacement can take 2 to 6 weeks, depending on bed</li> </ul>

### 9. CONCLUSION

Bio filtration assumes vital job responsible for air contamination. The fundamental points of interest are Low expense, effectively work, and produce biomass. Conventional advances, for example, cremation and assimilation are powerful air contamination control advances. In any case, the monetary viability of burning decays when it is utilized for Low-focus squander streams, while carbon adsorption frequently makes auxiliary Wastes that must be treated as strong unsafe waste. An option in contrast to these conventional advances has been the improvement of bio filtration Technology. Bio filtration will assume a noteworthy job in the treatment of natural and inorganic emanations from an assortment of mechanical and waste air treatment forms.

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