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## Craft Brew Alliance Taps into Envirogen Water Treatment Expertise

### Challenge

Craft Brew Alliance (CBA), the 7th largest craft brewer in the United States, approached Envirogen for assistance in assessing and improving their water system at their Portsmouth, NH facility, with the ultimate goal of enhancing the quality of their beer and enabling high gravity brewing. A secondary, but socially responsible goal, was to enable the canning and bottling of water during times of emergency.

“Working with Envirogen Technologies, through their detailed knowledge of the brewing process and the importance of water as an ingredient, has provided the CBA the opportunity to directly improve the quality of our final product for the consumer, resulting in some of the freshest tasting beer in the industry.”

Kris Scholl, Sr. Director of Operations &  
Engineering with CBA

Issues with the incoming cellar water were occasionally detected, despite a multi-step installed water treatment system. CBA required a clearer understanding of the variability in the incoming municipal water supply, as well as the water components that led to potential off-flavors in the water itself.

Envirogen was engaged to study the current system, identify areas of concern and additional actions needed, and ultimately to recommend possible solutions.

### Solution

An on-site audit of the CBA water system, coupled with water system data analysis, revealed areas requiring further investigation. Envirogen water treatment experts examined the current system to assess the design capacity. They also analyzed microbiological test data to gauge the effectiveness of the CIP system’s methods and frequency to prevent microbial growth in holding and process tanks. The sequence of the process steps was also scrutinized to determine if an alternative arrangement would result in improved water quality and consistency.

### Results

A number of the recommendations made by Envirogen have been implemented by CBA. These include changing from hot water to steam CIP, increasing the CIP frequency, regularly scheduled filter

changeouts, regular testing for microbial contaminants at multiple locations within the process, and assessing UV dosage adequacy.

Further, an important recommendation centered around the granular activated carbon system, essential for the removal of chlorine and other organics, but a potential source known to harbor microbiological growth. Suggestions for that system included more frequent steam CIP's, elimination of nutrients via upstream RO or nano filtration, and installation of UV downstream of the carbon bed to inactivate any potential microbes that may emerge from the GAC system.

### ***Envirogen and CBA***

Envirogen and Craft Brew Alliance continue to work together on water treatment projects at various plant locations across the USA. A new installation consisting of a granular activated carbon system with pre- and post-filtration was recently installed in their Seattle, WA facility.

Whether a brewery, winery, distillery, or other F&B application, choose Envirogen for our depth of experience to solve your water treatment challenges.

Call us today!