

With JS Proputec lamella pumps, Bioceval avoids costly production downtime

Lamella pumps from JS Proputec have eliminated the costly production stops that German fishmeal and fish oil producer Bioceval previously faced due to foreign objects blocking their pumps.

The company processes fish by-products – the remains left after fillets have been cut for food production. Around 300 suppliers deliver raw materials by truck to Bioceval's facility in Cuxhaven, where they are transformed into fishmeal and fish oil.

“With so many suppliers involved, the logistics chain has many steps. Large foreign objects such as gears or stainless-steel rods can occasionally get mixed in with the raw material and end up in our pumps,” explains **Markus Beckmann, Operations Manager at Bioceval**. “In the past, that meant several hours of downtime while we shut down production, replaced the damaged pump, and restarted the system – assuming the pump wasn't completely destroyed. Every stop was extremely costly.”

Located in Cuxhaven on the southern bank of the River Elbe, where it flows into the North Sea, Bioceval receives raw materials from all over Europe. For many years, the company transported materials internally via screw conveyors. About 15 years ago, they switched to lamella pumps from another supplier – but foreign objects continued to cause expensive shutdowns.

“That problem disappeared when we switched to **JS Proputec lamella pumps**,” says Beckmann. “Their **Easy-Clean design** allows us to simply open the pump from the side, remove the obstruction, and get production running again within minutes. Inspections and cleaning are also quick and straightforward. The pumps are much more hygienic than open conveyors because we're no longer exposed to fish residues in the same way.”

17 JS Proputec Pumps in Daily Operation

Bioceval installed its first JS Proputec pump eight years ago and now operates **17 lamella pumps**, with two additional units on standby as backups.

“Initially, the project involved designing and installing a special-purpose pump for a raw material crusher,” explains **Anders Rytter Madsen, CCO at JS Proputec**. “But it quickly expanded into a full-scale solution. We ended up delivering and installing pumps, a truck hopper with a screw conveyor, 11 tanks with integrated screws, and the complete piping for Bioceval's new raw material intake facility.”

Bioceval's upgraded intake system now handles **600–700 tonnes of raw material per day**, replacing an older setup from the 1960s. The new system meets today's hygiene and safety standards and has also eliminated odor issues previously caused by open raw material tanks.

“We’re proud to have contributed to such a major modernization,” says Madsen. “The installation was completed in two phases, allowing Bioceval to stay operational throughout. It’s the largest project in JS Proputec’s 40-year history, and it reflects the kind of long-term partnerships we aim to build with our customers.”

Today, the lamella pumps are installed beneath the raw material tanks, ensuring a continuous and reliable feed to Bioceval’s production line.

“We have an excellent relationship with JS Proputec and their engineers and technicians,” Beckmann adds. “They understand exactly what we need and deliver quickly and precisely. That’s why JS Proputec is our trusted pump supplier.”



Photo: Markus Beckmann, Bioceval GmbH & Co. KG, at the completed raw material intake facility. (Photo: JS Proputec)

FACTS

JS Proputec A/S develops and manufactures patented **lamella pumps** and customized process equipment for handling by-products from fish, seafood, poultry, and meat processing. The company focuses on **sustainability, resource optimization, and operational reliability**. JS Proputec is headquartered and manufactures in **Hjørring, Denmark**.

Bioceval GmbH & Co. KG, part of the **SARIA Group**, processes fish by-products into fishmeal and fish oil used in animal feed and in products for industries such as food, agriculture, manufacturing, and water treatment.