# STRONGER TOGETHER

**2021 SUSTAINABILITY OVERVIEW** 

1241, 11,





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**ABOUT THIS REPORT** This is Axius Water's second report on our platform's sustainability performance, including environmental, social, and governance (ESG) issues. The content and performance metrics were developed in part from the UN Sustainable Development Goals, in particular Target 6.3, which calls for improving water quality by reducing pollution and the proportion of untreated wastewater globally, and the Sustainable Accounting Standards Board (SASB) Waste Management Industry Standard. This report covers the reporting period for the fiscal year 2021 — January 1 to December 31, 2021 — with selected highlights from early 2022. Unless otherwise noted, the metrics provided are as of December 31, 2021.

This report provides highlights of our performance in these areas and the benefits we have created for society, our investors, and other stakeholders. In the spirit of continuous improvement, we also expect to strengthen our overall sustainability strategy, approach, and performance.

Cover: Axius companies contribute to ongoing improvements in the water quality of the vast Chesapeake Bay, as well as many other rivers, bays, and waterbodies globally.

### FROM OUR CEO

Like many other companies, Axius experienced unprecedented challenges resulting from the ongoing pandemic in 2021. It was gratifying to see our teams adapt to the new normal as they prioritized doing business safely while continuing to serve customers. Our business resilience was tested — and proven — as we confronted and resolved supply chain disruptions and shortages of key raw materials. Through it all, our people worked as a team to overcome obstacles and remain focused on our mission to achieve clean water globally by bringing people together to drive out nutrient pollution. I am so proud of the Axius team for excelling, collaborating, and adapting. They proved that, indeed, we are stronger together.

#### A Purpose-Driven Company

We are ever mindful of our purpose — making the world a better place. Water is a precious resource essential for human survival. The team members of Axius are remarkable people who have chosen to devote their professional lives and expertise to protecting this critical resource. Like them, we are a purpose-driven company. We look beyond the bottom line. Our companies are focused on safeguarding the environment. We respect people and are committed to helping them thrive and stay safe. We operate with integrity and excellence to earn the trust of our team, communities, and customers. We seek to deliver our best for our customers. In short, we put managing environment, social, and governance (ESG) issues at the forefront of everything we do. Not because we are being told to do it, but because we want to. Because it's the right thing to do.

The talented people of Axius are unsung heroes, devising innovative, research-based solutions to safeguard our most precious resource: clean water.



#### **Our Team of Elite Professionals**

Having worked in the water industry for decades, I know that the people in our industry are special. That said, the folks at Axius are extraordinary. All around the globe, our team of elite professionals serve customers every day. With creativity and expertise, they take complex, highly technical problems and fix them. Working behind the scenes, these highly trained experts constantly devise solutions to problems, none of which are ever the same. They know that the health of people and our planet depend on their success, and they are passionate about what they do. They are truly unsung heroes. Throughout this report, we briefly introduce a few of these talented professionals.

#### **Building Together for a Better Tomorrow**

In the United States, the federal government is poised to invest billions of dollars into water infrastructure over the next five years for drinking water and clean water. As we learn more about infrastructure funding, we have been helping our U.S.-based customers understand and leverage this once-ina-lifetime opportunity. We're advising customers on ways to use these funds to look ahead by adopting new water treatment techniques that can meet the advanced nutrient removal, energy reduction demands, and other ESG goals required for a healthy planet and community. Collaborating with our customers, we are stronger together.

I am proud to share this report that highlights these actions and more. On the following pages, you will learn how the people of Axius are stronger together.

Chris McIntire Chief Executive Officer

### **ABOUT AXIUS WATER**

## We solve real-world problems for municipal and industrial wastewater treatment facilities.

Axius Water is a portfolio company in KKR's Global Impact Fund, which invests in companies that deliver impact through their products or services. Our differentiated products and services improve the effectiveness of the wastewater treatment process, thereby measurably improving the quality of treated water. Our platform is expanding globally as we build a diversified portfolio of operating companies that offer leading solutions that improve the overall wastewater management processes.

#### **Our Founding Partners**

KKR launched the Global Impact Fund in 2018 as its dedicated lower-middle market private equity strategy established to invest in businesses delivering solutions to significant societal challenges. KKR is a leading global investment firm that offers alternative asset management as well as capital markets and insurance solutions. KKR aims to generate attractive investment returns by following a patient and disciplined investment approach, employing world-class people, and supporting growth in its portfolio companies and communities.

XPV Water Partners is a team of experienced operators and investors who are committed to making a difference in water. The firm manages investment capital from some of the world's top institutional investors and partners with emerging water-related companies to help them rapidly expand and achieve their strategic goals. XPV aims to generate strong, risk-adjusted returns for its investors by leveraging its trusted ecosystem, deep industry knowledge, and water-centric company scaling platform. XPV is committed to building partnerships that contribute to growing people, sustainable businesses, prosperous communities, and a better planet for everyone.

#### **OUR OPERATING COMPANIES**

**ATAC Solutions Ltd.** is a leading UK environmental services company specializing in wastewater services and wastewater equipment on a capital purchase or hire basis. ATAC designs, manufactures, installs, and commissions a large range of process equipment and bespoke process technologies from its BS EN ISO 9001 and ISO 14001 quality standard accredited facility in Maidstone, Kent.

#### in Pocasset, Massachusetts, EOSi provides proprietary nonhazardous and environmentally sustainable liquid organic chemicals (MicroC®) and technical services for biological nutrient removal applications in wastewater systems. EOSi offers strong product quality, technical support, and service levels to plant operators at municipal and industrial wastewater treatment facilities of all sizes.

EOSi (Environmental Operating Solutions, Inc.) Based

#### EDI (Environmental Dynamics International, Inc.)

Founded in 1975, EDI designs, manufactures, and installs custom high-efficiency diffused aeration systems for which it also provides maintenance and parts support. Customers are served through several international offices, a UK manufacturing and distribution center, and a wide network of local independent partners. Research and development, engineering, design, manufacturing, and a sales center are located in Columbia, Missouri. **Nexom** Based in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Nexom provides engineers and operators with turnkey biological, filtration, and lagoon-based technology solutions for nutrient removal and cleaner water. At more than 800 installations worldwide, operators utilize proprietary Nexom technologies to achieve regulatory compliance of pollutants, including ammonia, phosphorus, nitrate, biological oxygen demand (BOD), and wastewater reuse, particularly in cold climates.

### **2021 IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS**

ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE

Contributed to the advancement of

UN SDG 6 Clean Water and Sanitation

Removed

**BO**, / million kilograms of harmful nutrients from wastewater

Assisted nearly

**clients** in achieving compliance with water and sanitation regulation



SOCIAL IMPACT

Added

diverse board

in early 2021,

including the

former CEO of

standing equity research analyst

Xylem and a long-

covering the water

MUST SHARE SHARE

of employees and

identify as diverse

according to gender

30% of senior

executives

or ethnicity

directors

sector



Appointed a senior vice president of operations

to lead Axius' ESG initiatives

Strengthened our

### executive leadership team

with the addition of a chief commercial officer and chief financial officer

Began introducing a **supplier survey** across all operating companies to advance responsible

sourcing



SERVING CUSTOMERS

Advised U.S. clients on ways to **obtain and optimize** 

federal infrastructure funding

EOSi achieved

delivery performance despite unprecedented supply chain and raw material challenges



EDI SiteWorks<sup>™</sup> crews performing routine lagoon maintenance.

4 Axius Water 2021 Sustainability Overview axiuswater.com

### **ADDRESSING GLOBAL WATER CHALLENGES**

Wastewater treatment facilities are on the front lines of reducing the nutrient pollution degrading much of the world's fresh water.

#### Watershed Health

Waterways around the world are threatened by pollutants, including the nutrients nitrogen and phosphorus. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has named nutrient pollution "one of America's most widespread, costly, and challenging environmental problems."<sup>1</sup> Globally, nutrient pollution significantly contributed to more than 700 "dead zones" — areas of the ocean that can no longer support marine life because of reduced oxygen. This is up from 400 in 2008.<sup>2</sup> Communities around waterbodies with algal blooms and dead zones suffer significant economic losses related to negative impacts on tourism and recreation, commercial fishing, property values, and human health.<sup>3</sup> There are also increased costs for drinking water treatment, mitigation efforts, and environmental restoration.

#### Aging infrastructure

When operating efficiently and equipped with advanced processes to lower nutrients, wastewater treatment facilities can help improve the health of waterbodies. However, many municipal wastewater treatment facilities, especially those in older urban areas, are well over 100 years old. Overburdened through urban growth, deteriorating due to lack of maintenance, and based on outdated treatment methods,

#### What is nutrient pollution?

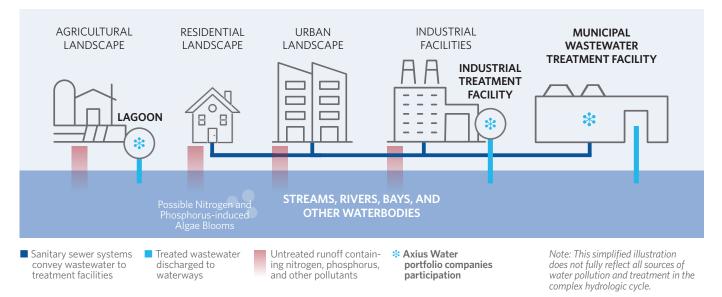
Nutrient pollution is a form of water pollution in which too many nutrients, mainly nitrogen and phosphorus, enter streams, rivers, and other bodies of water. Excess nitrogen and phosphorus can lead to deteriorating water quality, including habitat damage, algal blooms, dead zones, fish kills, and contaminated drinking water.

many of these facilities operate inefficiently and are unable to achieve regulatory limits. Even when funds for updating are available, landlocked facilities face space constraints and need to do more with less space.

#### **Rising Regulation**

Across North America, the UK, and elsewhere, regulatory authorities are implementing increasingly stringent pollution limits to protect and preserve waterways. As regulations on pollution tighten, treatment facilities face costly upgrades to maintain compliance.

Axius operating companies allow wastewater treatment facilities and lagoons to meet existing and new regulatory limits around nitrogen and phosphorus in order to reduce impact to waterbodies.



### **RESTORING THE CHESAPEAKE BAY WATERSHED**

As Axius professionals and products work to clean water around the world, their efforts are helping heal the largest estuary in the United States.



Encompassing nearly 4,500 square miles, the massive Chesapeake Bay is the birthplace of much of the shrimp, oysters, and other aquatic life in the northern Atlantic Ocean. However, the rivers that flow into the Bay are laden with pollutants from the enormous 64,000 square mile Chesapeake Bay watershed, which extends from Delaware, the District of Columbia, and Maryland into Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, and even New York. Nutrient pollutants (i.e., nitrogen, phosphorous, and ammonia), including fertilizer from farms as far away as New York State, collect in the Bay, where they create hypoxic or dead zones that kill fish and harm other aquatic life.

EDI, EOSi, and Nexom all play a critical role in protecting this endangered but vital environment and economic engine of the recreation, tourism, and fishing industries. Our companies support hundreds of municipal wastewater treatment facilities in the seven jurisdictions of the Chesapeake Bay watershed that work daily to remove the nutrient pollutants. We help our customers meet pollution goals set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency,

## Why is the Chesapeake Bay so important?

The Chesapeake Bay is the largest of more than 100 estuaries in the United States. As such a large estuary, the Bay impacts the health and safety of 18 million people who live in the Chesapeake Bay watershed as well as thousands of species of animals and plants. The Bay also supports the seafood, recreation, and tourism industries, making it an important economic resource.<sup>4</sup>

the Chesapeake Bay Commission, and other agencies. Our actions are supporting the joint efforts and huge commitment that are helping reduce dead zones and bring back shrimp, fish, and crabs as we jointly work toward the EPA's 2025 pollution reduction target.

#### **EDI: Expertise for Replacing Outdated Equipment**

EDI has provided aeration products to more than 450 wastewater treatment plants in the Chesapeake Bay watershed, serving well over 15 million people. One of its largest customers is the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC), which EOSi also serves. Established in 1918, WSSC is one of the largest water and wastewater utilities in the nation, serving 1.9 million residents over an area of nearly 1,000 square miles in Prince George's and Montgomery counties. Recently, EDI replaced outdated equipment in the WSSC's Piscataway Water Resource Recovery Plant, which could no longer achieve regulatory limits. From the start, the EDI team's deep application knowledge enabled it to overcome multiple challenges. In the end, EDI supplied 18,400 aeration diffusers with factory-configured Smart Packaging that now enables this plant to achieve its mission of restoring life to the water in its treatment basins and, in turn, protecting life in the Chesapeake Bay. Learn more in the case study later in this report.

#### **Nexom: Consistently Achieving Discharge Limits**

When a U.S. Department of Defense military base needed to comply with new water quality standards imposed by the Maryland Department of the Environment, the engineers at its wastewater treatment facility turned to Nexom. The company proposed a three-part solution: its Blue PRO<sup>®</sup> and Blue Nite<sup>®</sup> products to be used for phosphorus and nitrogen removal, respectively, all contained within six Centra-flo<sup>®</sup> sand filters. Since adding both Blue PRO and Blue Nite to its wastewater treatment plant in 2011, the military base has consistently maintained nitrogen and phosphorus removal discharge limits required by the Chesapeake Bay Restoration Program.

#### EOSi: Providing Sustainable Chemistry for Direct Nutrient Removal

Wastewater treatment facilities require affordable, effective liquid carbon solutions to remove nutrient pollutants from the water they process. EOSi provides its MicroC<sup>®</sup> products, a premier line of a sustainable liquid carbon sources to more than 75 clients in the Chesapeake Bay area, including three of the six plants operated in Maryland by the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC). One of the largest water and wastewater utilities in the United States, WSSC serves 1.9 million residents across more than 1,000 square miles in Maryland. WSSC uses EOSi's MicroC<sup>®</sup> 3000, a certified reclaimed product formulated from renewable resources produced in the United States as a replacement for pure methanol, an alcohol derived from natural gas. Using this environmentally sustainable product, WSSC reduced total nitrogen by 1 million kilograms in 2021.



## System Upgrades Lead to Decline in Pollution

The collective efforts of the Chesapeake Bay Restoration Program and others, including wastewater treatment plants operated by Axius customers, are leading to improvements. According to 2021 estimates of the Chesapeake Bay Program, best management practices (BMPs) are in place to reduce pollution by achieving 49% of the nitrogen reductions and 64% of the phosphorus reductions needed to attain applicable water quality standards.<sup>5</sup>

### **ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE**

While Axius strives to responsibly manage the impacts of our own operations, we achieve the greatest impact through our products and services.

#### Water Quality Management

By helping its customers reduce pollution and improve water quality, Axius Water contributes to measurable progress toward SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation. Through their work with customers, our operating companies' efforts led to the removal of 80 million kilograms of harmful nutrients from wastewater during 2021 despite pandemic-related project slowdowns. In the quest for continuous improvement, our companies are committed to staying abreast of industry best practices and evolving regulatory standards.

- ATAC constantly replenishes its rental fleet to ensure that client needs are met without delay, with equipment being deployed to help avoid potential spills to the environment.
- EOSi continues to monitor regulations relevant to climate change and nutrients to help ensure that it is positioned to provide products and services when needed.
- EDI and Nexom design, manufacture, install, and service simple and sustainable technologies that enable small and remote communities to manage local waterway impacts with limited resources effectively.



I come to work excited every day, knowing that I am making a difference in the world by helping our clients achieve cleaner water. I'm grateful that my education and experience enable me to help people and our planet.

**Tanner Devlin**, PhD, Wastewater Product Manager, BioPorts JOINED NEXOM IN AUGUST 2018

#### **Regulatory Compliance**

We provide services and products our clients use to monitor and manage the quality of their wastewater discharge to comply with regulatory quality standards.

- ATAC samples the quality of treated wastewater discharged from customer treatment plants to ensure that it achieves ever-increasing consent limits set by the UK Environment Agency. ATAC provides regular servicing and maintenance regimes to help mitigate poor effluent quality.
- EOSi's Process Solutions and Programs application engineering team assists customers with monitoring effluent discharges and cost-effective control of the MicroC<sup>®</sup> chemical dosing required for the biological nutrient removal process to meet permit requirements. Frequently this involves installation of EOSi's Nitrack<sup>®</sup> Control Program, a cloud-based automation system that provides real-time monitoring and control of the biological nutrient removal process.
- Nexom and EDI sales and applications teams monitor changes to North American effluent discharge regulations at the federal, state, and provincial levels and develop strategies to help customers achieve compliance.



#### **Climate Impact**

Axius Water strives to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, both directly in our operations and through the implementation of our technologies at customer sites.

- ATAC significantly reduced energy consumption at its headquarters office and workshop through the installation of energy-efficient LED lighting, which it calculates has resulted in a 62.3% savings in energy use.
- Because up to 70% of a typical wastewater plant's energy consumption may be used to power the aeration process, EDI assists customers in optimizing their energy use by replacing, maintaining, or investing in the aeration process. EDI's distinctive matrix membranes were designed specifically to operate at the lowest energy requirements for the longest interval, enabling customers to drive down their power requirements.
- EOSi reduced natural gas energy consumption at its headquarters by 50% in 2021 over the previous year by installing two high-efficiency furnaces and reported lower greenhouse gas emissions due to reduced air travel and commuting.

#### **AXIUS GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS<sup>6</sup>**

	2019	2020	2021
Scope 1	19	295	527
Scope 2	15	392	410

Scope 1 and 2 emissions increase in 2021 reflects the addition of the baseline emissions of our acquisition of ATAC that year.

#### Waste Management

While most of our operations do not involve or generate significant amounts of waste, we employ policies and procedures as necessary for the treatment, handling, storage, disposal, and regulatory compliance related to hazardous and nonhazardous waste, including chemicals.

- **ATAC** does not produce or use hazardous waste.
- **EOSi** has completed its hazardous materials and waste program for its new headquarters and has onboarded

a new vendor. EOSi also updated its safety data sheet library for handling chemicals stored at headquarters. Going forward, EOSi plans to develop an electronic chemical inventory management system and adapt its hazardous waste program as needed when laboratory activities change.

 Nexom and EDI meet all requirements for the disposal of hazardous waste from their operations. Most of their production processes do not produce hazardous waste.

## VALUING PEOPLE

## We focus on creating a workplace in which employees feel welcome, affirmed, and safe.

#### **Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion**

We are committed to creating workplaces that welcome and support people from all backgrounds. We are proud that in 2021 EOSi adopted a formal diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) policy, implemented a diversity and inclusion program, and delivered online training for all employees. Following EOSi's example, we are looking to implement DEI training programs at ATAC, EDI, and Nexom. Senior leadership

#### DIVERSITY<sup>7</sup>

	2019	2020	2021
Board of Directors	0%	0%	29%
Executive Level	28%	27%	28%
Employees	50%	36%	32%

Axius' addition of EDI's large workforce in 2020 impacted the overall diversity profile for "employees" by diluting the prior Axius percentage.

support of DEI conveys the importance of these efforts, which is why the business lead for each operating company will be responsible for implementing DEI programs. We will continue to ensure that EDI, a federal contractor, has an Affirmative Action/Equal Employment Opportunity program.

I have helped ATAC grow as a business over the past 10 years and will continue to do so for many years to come. I constantly thrive from job satisfaction, which is a testament to my ATAC colleagues who support me.

**Richard Pottle**, Operations Director JOINED ATAC IN 2012



#### **Worker Well-being**

Our goal and responsibility are to return our valued employees safe and healthy to their families and loved ones every day. We expect each operating company to maintain robust health and safety programs that incorporate industry best practices and closely monitor their performance.

- ATAC utilizes a controlled training matrix to help ensure that all relevant training needs are met, in accordance with its Training and Development Policy. While ATAC had no reportable incidents under the UK's RIDDOR regulation during 2021, the company recorded two minor accidents with one day lost time. In response, ATAC has introduced refresher safety training for various disciplines annually even when the industry standard does not require this.
- EDI experienced three recordable employee injuries in 2021. In response, the company has instituted Six Sigma standard protocols as it implemented routine observation facility walks to identify possible safety risks and proactively resolves any found issues.
- **EOSi** had zero recordable incidents and achieved its goal of conducting six internal safety audits and six safety refresher training courses.
- Nexom had zero recordable incidents and achieved its goal of exceeding a 95% score for Manitoba Heavy Construction Association's COR<sup>™</sup> safety certification.

### **RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS**

We operate according to the principles of responsibility and reliability so stakeholders can depend on us.

#### Sustainability, Governance, and Strategy

We place consideration of ESG issues at the forefront of everything we do because we believe it's the right thing to do. While responsibility for Axius' ESG performance is shared by the Axius Water leadership team, in 2021, the company appointed the senior vice president of operations to lead and coordinate Axius' ESG initiatives. Our board of directors reviews Axius' ESG performance as part of its quarterly business planning and review process.

#### **Business Continuity**

Our operating companies strive to build operational resilience and maintain business continuity to assure that they can deliver critical raw materials even during market disruptions.

Wastewater treatment facilities must operate continuously, through all weather conditions, and thus require an uninterrupted supply of consistent quality products. **EOSi's** nationwide manufacturing and logistics network is built to provide a reliable supply of highquality carbon sources to its 550+ wastewater treatment facility customers. In 2021, EOSi achieved 100% delivery performance despite unprecedented supply chain and raw material challenges.

I spend my time helping our team help our customers with process optimization and troubleshooting. I love having the ability to use our specialized expertise to make our customers' lives a little easier and experience tremendous satisfaction when they succeed.

**Ryan Coleman**, PE, Director — Process Solutions and Programs JOINED EOSi IN 2014

#### **Supply Chain Management**

Our operating companies took steps to strengthen oversight of labor, human rights, environmental, and diversity issues with their respective supply chains in 2021, with ATAC leading the way.

- ATAC issued a standard Supplier Questionnaire to prospective suppliers, which is assessed prior to approval. Environmental and social considerations are included in the process, and evidence is sought of such aspects.
- EOSi maintains a stringent quality control and assurance program for raw materials, which requires approval prior to MicroC<sup>®</sup> manufacturing. This incorporates rigorous raw material supplier prequalification and management. EOSi plans to expand its supplier questionnaire, utilizing ideas from ATAC, with the addition of an ESG program question and completing a domestic supply chain diversity program.
- **Nexom** and **EDI** also plan to review ATAC's supply chain review and approval process and adopt where applicable.

#### **Risk Management**

At both the platform and operating company levels, senior leaders take various actions to identify, assess, and manage ESG and other risks and opportunities. For example, in 2021, Axius recognized a risk management vulnerability and identified the need to more clearly articulate the scope and limits of authority delegated by Axius across the day-to-day operations of our companies. In response, in early 2020, we developed and adopted a Delegation of Authority policy covering commercial transactions, capital expenditures, employment matters, banking/treasury/investment matters, contributions and changes to the corporate structure, legal entities, and mergers and acquisitions.

In 2021, ATAC achieved a 98.5% overall score in an Achilles management system audit covering its performance in four key supply chain risk areas, including health and safety, quality, environmental, and corporate social responsibility. This independent, external rating affirms ATAC as an efficient, ethical, and sustainable supplier for current and prospective customers.

### SERVING CUSTOMERS

## We draw on decades of experience to create economical, effective, and sustainable solutions for clean water.

Our customers define success using many terms, such as SOTE, power, space, NPV, Total N, P, BOD, and TSS. These terms may be rather technical, but what our customers really want is a positive outcome, not a product.

Our highly experienced professionals offer deep application knowledge backed by unique services and technologies to assist our clients in providing cleaner, healthier water in communities around the world. They design and implement innovative, cost-effective, sustainable solutions that help clients maintain compliance of the contaminants and nutrients that regulators are targeting today and into the future. Our ability to solve customer problems is evidenced by the number of Axius professionals who previously worked for one of our customers and were so impressed with our service level that they chose to join our team and provide that service level to other customers.

#### **Building Local Economies**

Each of our operating companies has deep roots in its local and regional communities. They contribute to vibrant economies by providing rewarding careers, depending on local suppliers, and contributing to the expansion of U.S. exports.

EDI has received both the Missouri Small Business Exporter of the Year Award and the U.S. Department of Commerce President's 'E' Award for Excellence. Also known as the E-Star Award, this recognition is the highest recognition any U.S. entity can receive for making a significant contribution to the expansion of U.S. exports and has only been granted to 300 companies since its inception.

#### **Applications Knowledge**

Axius professionals offer highly specialized technical expertise to help plant engineers and operators use our products and achieve their effluent performance objectives. Collaborating as a united team, our professionals can offer a portfolio of proprietary technologies for cleaner water so that our customers can confidently meet and exceed their treatment needs.

- EOSi's Process Solutions and Programs (PSP) team of skilled technical experts helps plant engineers and operators optimize their processes and achieve their performance goals. The PSP team helps customers carry out continuous improvement initiatives, as they cultivate long, beneficial relationships with our clients.
- Nexom customers have the opportunity to engage with experts in biological and filtration wastewater processes. Two Nexom application specialists have master's degrees in wastewater treatment, three have PhDs in the field, and some possess more than 30 years of industry experience.
- Through its online <u>Knowledge Center</u>, **EDI** engineers and industry leaders share their deep knowledge by offering technical bulletins; case studies; and information on the latest technologies, operator tips, and water industry developments.

#### **Research-Based Solutions**

In addition to conducting disciplined Research and Development and extensive analysis of customer-specific needs, we can draw on years of data from dozens of full-scale installations that have been meeting rigorous regulations and recognized academic authorities and regulatory agencies.

- In a field in which experience matters, EDI's people have been solving aeration challenges for 47 years.
- EOSi is engaged in research and development of the next generation of high-performance, cost-effective contaminant removal.
- Nexom's proprietary SAGR® technology is featured in a 2021 EPA report analyzing the performance of five facilities in the U.S. and one facility in Canada over a three-year period. Each case study spotlights facilities that have implemented innovative technologies or process enhancements designed to significantly intensify treatment or enhance the removal of nitrogen or phosphorus. Read more in <u>Innovative Nutrient Removal</u> Technologies: Case Studies of Intensified or Enhanced Treatment (EPA, August 2021).

#### **Innovating for a Better Tomorrow**

Our operating companies offer proprietary, eco-friendly treatment products and services that can replace outdated methods with current best practices and utilize information technology to enhance and remotely control process management.

- EOSi has provided green chemicals and technical services for biological contaminant removal applications since 2003. EOSi currently provides more than 550 wastewater treatment plants with a safer, more effective, and environmentally sustainable solution than methanol and other carbon sources.
- EOSi's Nitrack<sup>®</sup> control system offers a cost-effective PC-based platform that enables its team of engineers to openly communicate with customer control systems to manage certain aspects of the treatment process remotely. The cloud-based Nitrack<sup>®</sup> system integrates the wastewater treatment industry's first PC-based controller for biological nutrient removal applications.
- Nexom is the exclusive source for both SAGR<sup>®</sup>, a simple, powerful tool that enables lagoons to treat wastewater in any climate effectively, and Blue PRO<sup>®</sup>, which

At EDI, we value the voice of the customer and look beyond what standard "commodity" systems can offer. We have almost 50 years of aeration innovation and have always placed the highest regard on value for our customers while simultaneously recognizing our corporate mission: being good stewards of the environment.

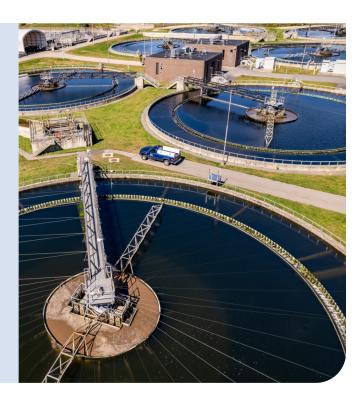
Patrick Ely, Regional Sales Manager JOINED EDI IN 1988

removes phosphorus to ultra-low levels and is used to efficiently meet North America's lowest phosphorus limit of <0.02 mg/L.

#### Water Infrastructure Investments

In response to prolonged underinvestment in water infrastructure in the United States, the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law enacted in 2022 delivers more than \$50 billion to the EPA to improve U.S. drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater infrastructure.<sup>8</sup> Axius companies are advising and assisting customers on how they can best access and utilize funding from the single largest investment in water that the U.S. federal government has ever made. Axius operating companies possess innovative water treatment technology that can help customers achieve aggressive clean water goals and build future-focused solutions for the 21st century.

 As U.S.-based manufacturers, both EDI and Nexom produce clean water technologies that are eligible for projects funded under the Build America, Buy America Act, which is part of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.





Refurbishment at a 158-year-old treatment facility helps improve Thames River water quality for today and tomorrow.



London's first sewage treatment works, built in 1864 as part of the revolutionary Victorian sewer network, drastically improved River Thames water quality when it was built. Today, the sprawling 158-year-old Beckton facility covers over 100 hectares (250 acres) and is now treating the wastewater of around 4 million Londoners.

In 2021, ATAC Solutions was contracted to clean and refurbish two of the facility's 22 aeration lanes, in part by replacing more than 18,000 individual 9" fine bubble diffuser membranes. Completing infrastructure work on aeration lanes is always time-sensitive and process critical. Taking an essential part of the wastewater infrastructure off-line places an additional process load on the remaining lanes and can upset effluent quality. Thus, speed and quality are critical. Thames Water selected ATAC as a reliable process engineering contractor who can supply, refurbish, and manage a turnkey construction-design-management scheme. The customer also trusted ATAC's ability to utilize its extensive supply chain and in-house products for timely completion.

ATACs most significant accomplishment was its ability to refurbish the aeration lanes to budget, time, and quality key performance indicators in a safe and constructive manner.

The first aeration lane was completed early in March 2022, with the second lane due for completion later in the year. Today the Beckton Sewage Treatment Works provides a cleaner effluent that discharges into London's rivers and water courses, assuring a safer, healthier environment for Londoners for years to come. Going forward, ATAC can provide full in-house managed solutions with regular project reviews by qualified solution providers and offer recommendations and further improvements to the site.

#### Nutrients Removed Annually



million kg biological oxygen demand (BOD)

1.06 million kg nitrogen

## CASE STUDY: EDI

A complex, coordinated system upgrade is helping to restore the Chesapeake Bay, one diffuser at a time.



Located in a rural section of Prince George's County, Maryland, the Piscataway Wastewater Treatment Plant treats water that enters an environmentally sensitive area of Piscataway Creek before it flows into the Potomac River. Expanded twice since it was built in 1967, the sophisticated plant treats 30 million gallons per day, removing suspended solids, organics, ammonia, nitrogen, and phosphorus. In 2021, EDI played a critical role in upgrading the plant by installing 18,400 units of FlexAir Pro 9" Disc Diffusers with EDI's proprietary Matrix Plus membranes for the fixed-grid aeration system.

The plant has four basins and 96 unique zones, each with different layouts, designs, piping, and independent shipping requirement, making this a mammoth undertaking. Also, quick installation was crucial because taking one of the basins off-line during installation significantly impacted treatment capacity. EDI's solution included factoryconfigured Smart Packaging, in which EDI delivers equipment for each tank and zone with color-coded pallets to make inventory and installation easier and faster for the contractor. In coordination with the materials contractor and engineering firm, the tenacious EDI crew persevered through snowy weather and installed the system during the winter of 2021, with a final startup in January 2022. Since then, the plant has operated smoothly, removing nutrients and biological oxygen demand (BOD) and protecting the delicate balance of water in the Potomac estuary.

Annual Nutrient Removal Capacity 5.5 million kg biological oxygen demand (BOD) 11 million kg nitrogen

## CASE STUDY: EOSi

## New York City uses EOSi's affordable solution to lower nitrogen levels and clean local waterways.

By using EOSi's MicroC<sup>®</sup> premium nonhazardous supplemental carbon sources to manage nutrient discharges in wastewater, the New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is able to reduce nitrogen discharges into local waterways. Adding MicroC<sup>®</sup> 2000 to the existing wastewater treatment process allows New York City to achieve its nutrient limits and prevents 2.45 million kilograms of nitrogen from entering Long Island Sound, Jamaica Bay, and other waterways each year. This reduces the formation of algae and eutrophication, or dead zones, at the watershed level, which results in a healthier ecosystem.

MicroC<sup>®</sup> Premium Carbon Sources are proprietary, nonhazardous, eco-friendly liquid chemicals that help water and wastewater treatment facilities obtain more effective biological treatment and achieve their contaminant removal goals. With EOSi, the treatment process has been optimized to minimize chemical costs while maintaining consistent compliance and maximizing environmental impact.

DEP operates 14 wastewater treatment facilities that treat an average of 1.3 billion gallons of wastewater daily. Following an upgrade to the sophisticated MicroC<sup>®</sup> dosing systems, the wastewater treatment facilities are now injected 24 hours/day, 365 days/year. The health of Long Island Sound and Jamaica Bay is improving, and wildlife and fisheries are rebounding along with increased recreational use of the City's waterways.

Nutrients Removed Annually

2.45 million kg nitrogen



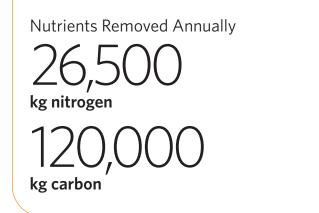
## CASE STUDY: NEXOM

## Nexom's simple but powerful solution helps this small community achieve clean water despite cold weather.

Meeting the low ammonia levels required by the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit levels is challenging for small communities such as the Park View Water and Sanitary District in Iowa. With a small facility and budget to match, Park View relies on aerated lagoon systems that provide some ammonia removal in warmer months but are generally incapable of meeting ammonia limits during periods of low water temperatures.

To remedy this gap, Park View engaged a regional engineering firm that, in turn, tapped Nexom for its specialized expertise. Nexom's experienced professionals designed a solution that would retain the simplicity and low maintenance nature of the lagoon system while dramatically increasing its ability to reduce ammonia as well as suspended solids and total nitrogen. Using diffusers suspended from floating laterals, the system is easy for operators to maintain from the water surface. The new system was commissioned in December 2021, preparing Park View for the cold winter weather and enabling it to achieve compliance with the 2016 update to the Iowa DNR New Technology Assessment No. 11.

This is one recent example of how Nexom positively impacts the environment by creating simple yet powerful solutions that meet or exceed industry regulations while serving consulting engineers, municipalities, and industrial clients.





### **LOOKING AHEAD**

While we are pleased with our recent accomplishments, we keep our sights focused on achieving more for our customers, employees, and communities. We're developing additional ESG goals and implementing ways to track our progress. We will intensify our focus on operations as well as outcomes achieved through our work for customers. And we plan to roll out DEI policies to guide our efforts and document our progress as we strive to diversify our workforce and ensure equity in our workplace. In each of these endeavors, we are stronger together as we strive toward our common missions.



#### FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Certain information set forth in this presentation contains "forward-looking information" about Axius Water ("the Company").

Except for statements of historical fact, the information contained herein constitutes forward-looking statements and includes, but is not limited to, the (i) projected financial performance of the Company; (ii) the expected development of the Company's business, projects, and joint ventures; (iii) execution of the Company's vision and growth strategy, including with respect to future M&A activity and global growth; (iv) completion of the Company's projects that are currently underway, in development or otherwise under consideration; and (v) renewal of the Company's current customer, supplier, and other material agreements. Forward-looking statements are provided to allow potential investors the opportunity to understand management's beliefs and opinions in respect of the future so that they may use such beliefs and opinions as one factor in evaluating an investment.

These statements are not guarantees of future performance, and undue reliance should not be placed on them. Such forwardlooking statements necessarily involve known and unknown risks and uncertainties, which may cause actual performance and results in future periods to differ materially from any projections of future performance or result expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements.

Although forward-looking statements contained in this presentation are based upon what management of the Company believes are reasonable assumptions, there can be no assurance that forward-looking statements will prove to be accurate, as actual results and future events could differ materially from those anticipated in such statements. The Company undertakes no obligation to update forward-looking statements if circumstances or management's estimates or opinions should change. The reader is cautioned not to place undue reliance on forward-looking statements.

#### **ENDNOTES**

- 1. U.S. EPA, Nutrient Pollution
- 2. Nature, Protecting the ocean requires better progress metrics
- 3. U.S. EPA, <u>A Compilation of Cost Data Associated with the</u> Impacts and Control of Nutrient Pollution
- 4. Chesapeake Bay Foundation, Why is the Chesapeake Bay so important?
- 5. Chesapeake Progress, 2025 Watershed Implementation Plans (WIPs)
- 6. Greenhouse Gas Emissions. These metrics are reported in CO2 equivalent metric tons absolute data. Includes Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions from all Axius platform companies. Scope 1 covers direct emissions from sources owned or controlled by Axius companies. Scope 2 covers indirect emissions from the generation of purchased electricity, steam, heating, and cooling consumed by Axius companies.
- 7. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
  - *i.* Number of board directors in 2020 corrected to five with no females (eight board members of which two females last year in error).
  - *ii.* Historically underrepresented groups refer to individuals that may identify as African American, Black, Hispanic, or Latino.
  - iii. Executive level includes individuals that report to the CEO.
  - *iv.* Numbers include full-time employees. In addition, it includes Nexom field crew and EDI production and site workers, who are employees who work over 2,000 hours per annum but not consistently every month. 2019 and 2020 figures have been adjusted to reflect the addition of Nexom field crew and EDI production and site workers.
  - Percentage diverse includes individuals self-identifying as female, from a historically underrepresented group, and from 2021 reporting also includes individuals identifying as Asian-American; with support from Axius to prevent double counting. Data for individuals identifying as LGBTQ+ was not available in 2021.
  - vi. For 2019, the historically underrepresented group figure has been updated from 12 to 24, based on the updated definition of full-time employees. Please see footnote 5.
    For 2020, the number of females has been corrected to 45, and individuals identifying as from a historically underrepresented group to 30 (reported as 48 and 40, respectively, in last year's reporting).
- 8. U.S. EPA, Water Infrastructure Investments



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#### **OPERATING COMPANY HEADQUARTERS**