Oasis Filter International Ltd. presents a new technology to meet the demand for safe water in a sustainable, cost-effective and environmentally responsible manner. The Manz Slow Sand Filter™ (MSSF) has applications in all markets (developing, emerging and developed countries), scalable from 240 to 15,000,000 litres (60 to 4,000,000 gallons) per hour.

Many communities are deprived of safe water, including in North America¹, simply because until now an affordable solution was not available. Appropriate for use at any scale, its affordability, ease of maintenance and simplicity of operation makes this new water treatment technology uniquely suitable for smaller communities.

The MSSF, patent pending, is a novel variation of the Traditional Slow Sand Filter (TSSF) which meets the well-established performance standards of the TSSF for pathogen removal (parasites, spores, bacteria and viruses). The MSSF is novel as the first slow sand filter that allows demand operation with ease of cleaning (using a backwash process under low pressure).

¹49 Million In U.S. Exposed to Dangerous Water - The New York Times | Tuesday, Dec. 8, 2009
See article at:
Demand Operated

Entire cleaning process takes less than 30 minutes for very large filters. No media is removed or needs to be replaced. The wastewater does not represent a biohazard or a disposal problem if chemicals are NOT used. Recycling wastewater may be practical.

The TSSF in comparison:

- Must be operated continuously or the biological layer (‘schmutzedeke’) responsible for removal of microorganisms will be damaged or killed.
- Beginning of operation: no biofilm around particles and no biolayer. Biolayer forms with use and time.
- Biolayer thickens and captured material accumulates and starts to restrict flow. Flow becomes unacceptably low and filter must be scraped.
- Layer of filter bed is removed (scraped) from top and discarded. The scraping process will remove the biolayer which must reform over time.
- Successive scrapings will reduce the filter depth to the minimum level and the media must be replaced, a costly and time-consuming process.

Cleaning a Traditional Slow Sand Filter (TSSF) at the Vartry Water Treatment Works, County Wicklow, Ireland (March 2009). Built in 1868 to supply Dublin City and environs.
MSSF technology advantages:

- Offers a much wider range of pathogen, particulate and toxin removal than any other traditional sand filtration technology.
- Simple design and ease of operation create an environmentally efficient and more reliable supply of safe water, with fewer breakdowns, less chemical use or waste water production.
- May be manufactured using the most cost-effective local material, whether precast or poured in place concrete, steel, aluminum, fiberglass or plastic. Other competing systems, due to their complexity require imported components and have significant ongoing maintenance and operation support expense.
- Inexpensive piloting process to assure effectiveness in treating specific water.
- Ideal for small community applications due to ease of maintenance and operation, responding to local needs and objectives.
- Can be prefabricated or skid mounted for transportation to remote areas or for wide-spread introduction in developing countries.
- May be operated manually or with minimal energy sources including alternative energy.
- Larger systems provide a range of automation from minimal to completely automated.

MSSF based treatment systems effectively remove:

- Particulate matter (sand, silt and clay sized with or without use of coagulants)
- Parasites including Giardia cysts and Cryptosporidium oocysts
- Helminthes and their eggs
- Spores
- Bacteria
- Viruses
- TOC/DOC (taste, odour, colour)
- Toxins
- Algae

The MSF meets American Water Works Association Guidelines or Standards for ‘slow sand filter design’ and ‘specification of filter media’.

- Maximum Loading of 200 to 400 litres per hour per m² of filter surface as per local regulatory guidelines.
- The depth of the filtering media in the MSF equals the minimum depth recommended for the TSSF. The minimum depth is thought to be necessary for de-activation of viruses.

Manz Polishing Sand Filter™ (MPSF)

MPSF based treatment systems, in addition to what MSSF based systems do, also effectively remove:

- Iron (directly or using pre-oxidation)
- Manganese (directly or using pre-oxidation)
- Hydrogen sulphide (using pre-oxidation)
- Arsenic (using pre-oxidation and coagulants)
- Fluoride (using lime and coagulants)
- Heavy metals (with use of appropriate coagulants)

The MPSF is the most appropriate technology available to remove arsenic for small to large communities.

MPSF based treatment systems may be used to treat:

- Surface water, ground water, storm water runoff, rain water
- Brackish or saline water as part of pre-treatment for desalination process
- Industrial, agricultural or municipal wastewater to condition satisfactory for reuse and recycle or disposal

The MPSF also has application as polishing filtration for municipal wastewater that has been treated to tertiary (perhaps secondary) standards

MPSFs are constructed and operated in a similar manner to MSF technology with all of the same advantages.

MPSF based treatment systems are simpler and less expensive than treatment systems using other filtration technologies.

![Image of MPSF technology advantages](image1.jpg)

*0.8 to 2.0m total height of filter*  
*Similar to MSF or shallower*

*Loading up to 600 litres per hour per m² of filter surface area or greater*
**MPSF technology advantages:** Simple to clean and does not consume any filtering media. Pretreatment using low concentrations of coagulant is very effective and practical.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metal</th>
<th>TSSF</th>
<th>MPSF</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oxidized Iron</td>
<td>Not Used</td>
<td>Up to 100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oxidized Manganese</td>
<td>Not Used</td>
<td>Up to 100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arsenic with pre-treatment</td>
<td>Not Used</td>
<td>Up to 100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mercury with pre-treatment</td>
<td>Not Used</td>
<td>Up to 100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lead with pre-treatment</td>
<td>Not Used</td>
<td>90 - 99</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dissolved Substance</th>
<th>TSSF</th>
<th>MPSF</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Organic toxins</td>
<td>Variable</td>
<td>Variable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inorganic toxins</td>
<td>Variable</td>
<td>Variable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colour</td>
<td>Variable</td>
<td>Variable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fluoride with pre-treatment</td>
<td>Not Used</td>
<td>Effective</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hydrogen Sulphide with pre-treatment</td>
<td>Not Used</td>
<td>Effective</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Odour with pre-treatment</td>
<td>Not Used</td>
<td>Effective</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Current Projects in Canada (under construction and tendering)**

Water treatment plant using MPSF technology in Exshaw, Alberta (left and above) currently under construction: 50,000 LPH expandable to 100,000 LPH.

Water treatment plant using MPSF technology in Saskatchewan, Canada (right) to be constructed in early 2011: 100,000 LPH.

David Manz, Ph.D., P.Eng., P.Ag., is the inventor of both the MSSF and the BioSand Filter™ (BSF) water filter technologies and 50% owner of Oasis. He brings over 25 years consulting experience in water related industries of private and publicly owned water and wastewater treatment firms.

David Manz achieved acclaim in the early 1990’s with his invention of the BSF, a variation of the traditional slow sand filter to allow intermittent usage instead of the continuous operation required previously. The BSF was a humanitarian breakthrough. Today, over 300,000 households in over 100 countries - more than a million people worldwide - are provided safe drinking water from the BioSand Filter™, a product endorsed by the World Bank and World Health Organization. From the outset, David Manz has allowed production of the household BSF concrete filters to be royalty exempt.