OQEMA

Q-FOAM™

Defoamers for Efficient and Advanced Foam Control in Water Treatment Applications

GROUP Water Solutions

OQEMA is one of the leading full-line distributors in Europe for commodities and specialties combining deep market expertise with technical support from specialised labs to deliver tailored solutions that meet the unique needs of our partners.

Always reliable. Always responsive. Always on-site.

OQEMA Water Solutions offers innovative, eco-friendly solutions that are as diverse as our customers' needs. Specialising in wastewater and process water treatment, we deliver tailored, reliable, and innovative solutions that prioritise efficiency and sustainability. Beyond supplying high-quality products to tackle water challenges across different industries, OQEMA also brings technical expertise directly to your site, supported by mobile labs and on-the-go experts.

KEY FIGURES 2024

BN. € TURNOVER

1.5

PRODUCTS

15,000

EMPLOYEES

1,600

COUNTRIES

25

WHY FOAM CONTROL MATTERS?

When not controlled, excessive foam can lead to significant operational challenges, inefficiencies of industrial & biological processes. Foam formation disrupts the smooth functioning of water treatment systems and can cause equipment damage or failure. Additionally, it poses compliance risks, as untreated foam can lead to environmental discharge violations. Effective foam control ensures uninterrupted operations, maintains process reliability, and helps industries meet regulatory standards while optimising overall performance.

WHAT SETS Q-FOAM™ APART?

Q-FOAM stands out for its advanced formulation and versatility, making it an ideal solution for tackling foam-related challenges across a wide range of applications, from wastewater to food processing. Our solutions are engineered to deliver fast and effective foam control, optimising efficiency and preventing disruptions in critical processes. Formulated as emulsions, dispersions or blends, Q-FOAM incorporates carefully selected raw materials such as silicones, fatty alcohols, mineral oils, surfactants, polyols, and more. These components are chosen to ensure compatibility with diverse systems and applications, providing reliable and consistent performance while maintaining safety and environmental sustainability.

ASSESS DEFOAMER PROPERTIES WITH GUIDANCE OF OUR EXPERTS

Choosing the defoamer that is rightly designed for your application is truly important. When doing so, there are several parameters that need to be considered and identified. OQEMA's team of technical experts is here to support you every step of the way, helping you evaluate each of the following factors:

- Knockdown Effect: The primary goal of some defoamers is to eliminate foam as soon as it appears. These products are designed for immediate effect and should only be dosed when required, not continuously.
- Persistency: For applications requiring foam prevention rather than immediate elimination, defoamers with long-lasting persistency are ideal. These products offer an excellent performance-to-dosage ratio and are formulated for continuous dosing at low concentrations.
- Temperature range: Every defoamer has an optimal temperature range within which its active ingredients function most efficiently. Operating outside this range – whether above or below – can reduce effectiveness and increase dosing requirements.
- pH Compatibility: Most defoamers perform well within a pH range of 4–10. However, for applications in more extreme conditions, specialised defoamers are necessary to maintain performance.
- Biodegradability: When applying defoamers to a biological reactor it is important that they are biodegradable over time to avoid negatively impacting the overall health and balance of the biological system.
- COD addition: Defoamers may contribute to Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD) in waste-water. If COD is a critical parameter for your system, low-COD formulations should be selected to minimise the impact.
- Compatibility: Certain raw materials in defoamers can interfere with production or wastewater plants. Selecting a defoamer compatible with your specific system is vital to avoid unintended disruptions.

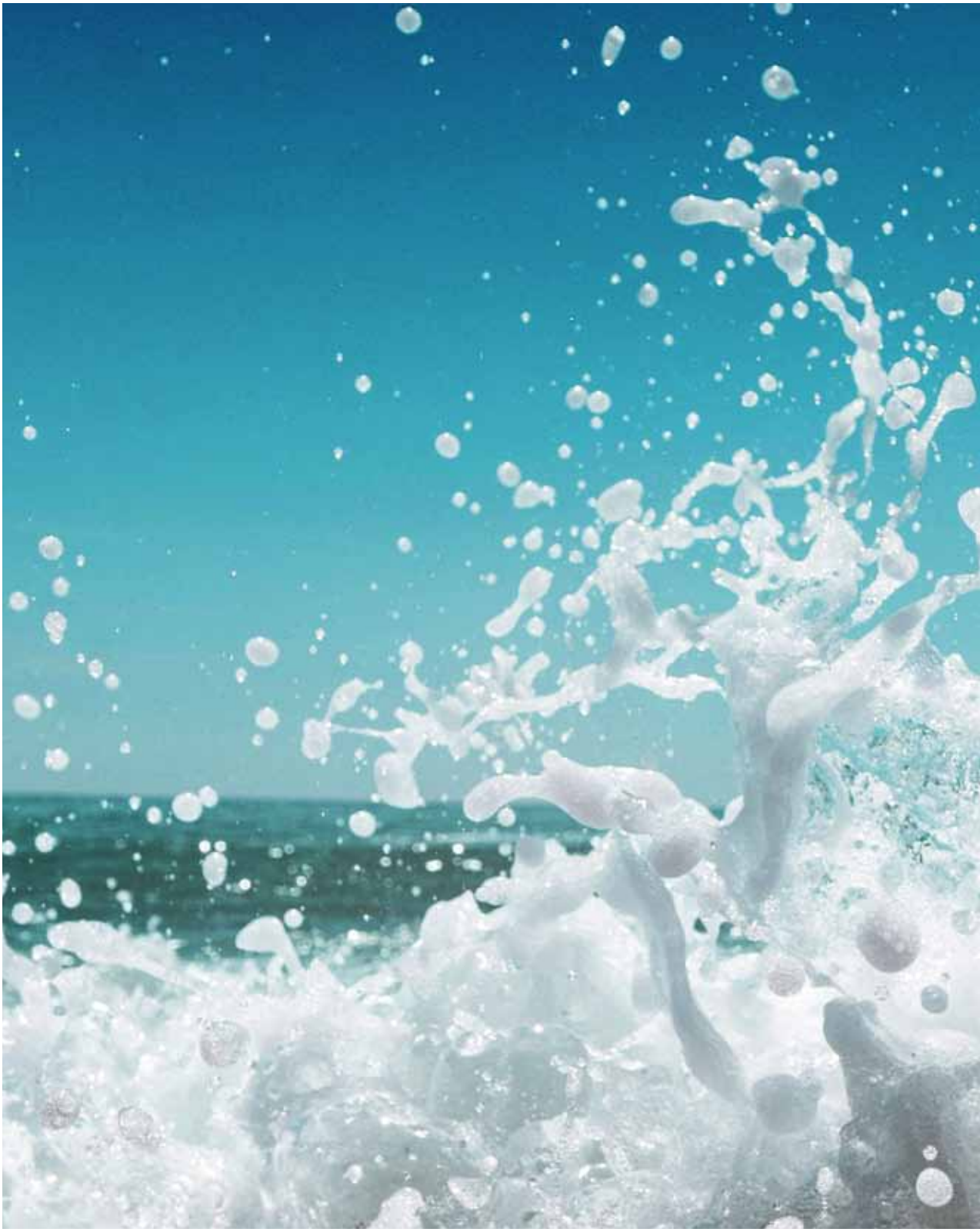
MATCH THE RIGHT DEFOAMER TO YOUR NEEDS

- Silicone-Based Defoamers: Designed with PDMS (polydimethylsiloxane), these defoamers deliver long-lasting foam control and excel in challenging conditions such as high-temperature and high-pH environments. Ideal for industrial water treatment processes, they are highly effective but should be avoided in applications where silicone could impact product quality, interfere with downstream membrane filtration, or where high biodegradability is required.
- Oil-Based Defoamers: Powerful foam suppressors designed for heavy-duty applications with persistent and high-volume foam. They offer a cost-effective balance of strong knockdown power and good persistency. However, mineral oil-based defoamers should not be used in biological systems, particularly anaerobic digesters, due to potential negative impacts.
- Water-Based Emulsions & Dispersion: These defoamers provide reliable foam control and disperse easily in aqueous systems, making them suitable for general-purpose applications and environmentally sensitive processes. Often composed of readily biodegradable actives, they are commonly used in biological wastewater treatment and paper and pulp applications.
- Organic Blend Defoamers: Formulated from synthetic or bio-based materials such as natural oils, waxes, surfactants, and polysaccharides, these defoamers combine foam control with sustainability. They align with environmental goals and are highly versatile, allowing customised solutions to meet specific industrial challenges.

APPLICATIONS FOR OUR Q-FOAM:

- Wastewater Treatment Plants: Effectively control foam in aeration basins, clarifiers, and sludge treatment systems.
- Anaerobic Digestion: Designed for biogas plants, UASB reactors, and primary wastewater treatment anaerobic reactors to manage foam and optimise efficiency.
- Plastics recycling: Maintain system performance by suppressing foam in closed-loop washing systems operating at high pH and temperatures.
- Pulp and Paper Manufacturing: Reduce foam during critical processes such as pulp washing, paper machine operations, and wastewater treatment.
- Food and Beverage Processing: Manage foam during fermentation, washing, and cleaning processes with food-grade antifoams to ensure compliance and quality.

	Applications					Characteristics (+,++, or+++)			Components	
Q-FOAM Product	**WWT**	**Plastics Recycling**	**Anaerobic Digestion**	**Food processing**	**Pulp & Paper**	**Persistency**	**Knockdown**	**Biodegradab ility**	**Contains mineral oils**	**Silicone based**
Q-FOAM 122	O				O	••	•	•••		
Q-FOAM 128	O				O	••	•	•••		
Q-FOAM 150 SF	O	O		O		••	••	•		O
Q-FOAM 151 S	O			O		•	•••	••		O
Q-FOAM 153 S					O	••	•••	••		O
Q-FOAM 155 S	O				O	••	•••	••		O
Q-FOAM 210 S	O	O			O	•••	•••	•		O
Q-FOAM 224	O	O				••	••	••		
Q-FOAM 251 S	O	O		O		•	•••	••		O
Q-FOAM 252	O		O			•••	••	•		
Q-FOAM 257	O					•••	••	••		
Q-FOAM 310 S	O	O			O	•••	•••	•		O
Q-FOAM 311 S					O	••	•••	••		O
Q-FOAM 319 S					O	••	•••	••		O
Q-FOAM 320	O		O			••	••	••		
Q-FOAM 321	O		O			••	••	••		
Q-FOAM 450	O	O	O	O	O	••	••	•••		
Q-FOAM 490 S	O	O				•••	••	•		O
Q-FOAM 492 SF	O	O		O		••	••	•		O
Q-FOAM 508	O				O	•	•	•••		
Q-FOAM 601	O	O				•••	••	•	O	
Q-FOAM 602	O					••	••	••	O	
Q-FOAM 700	O					••	••	•••		
Q-FOAM 701	O					•••	•••	•	O	
Q-FOAM 821	O	O				••	••	•••		
Q-FOAM 822	O					••	••	••	O	
Q-FOAM 823	O	O				•••	••	•	O	
Q-FOAM 890 SFK	O	O		O		••	••	•		O
Q-FOAM 911	O		O		O	••	••	•••		
Q-FOAM 952	O					••	••	•••	O	
Q-FOAM 953	O					••	••	••		

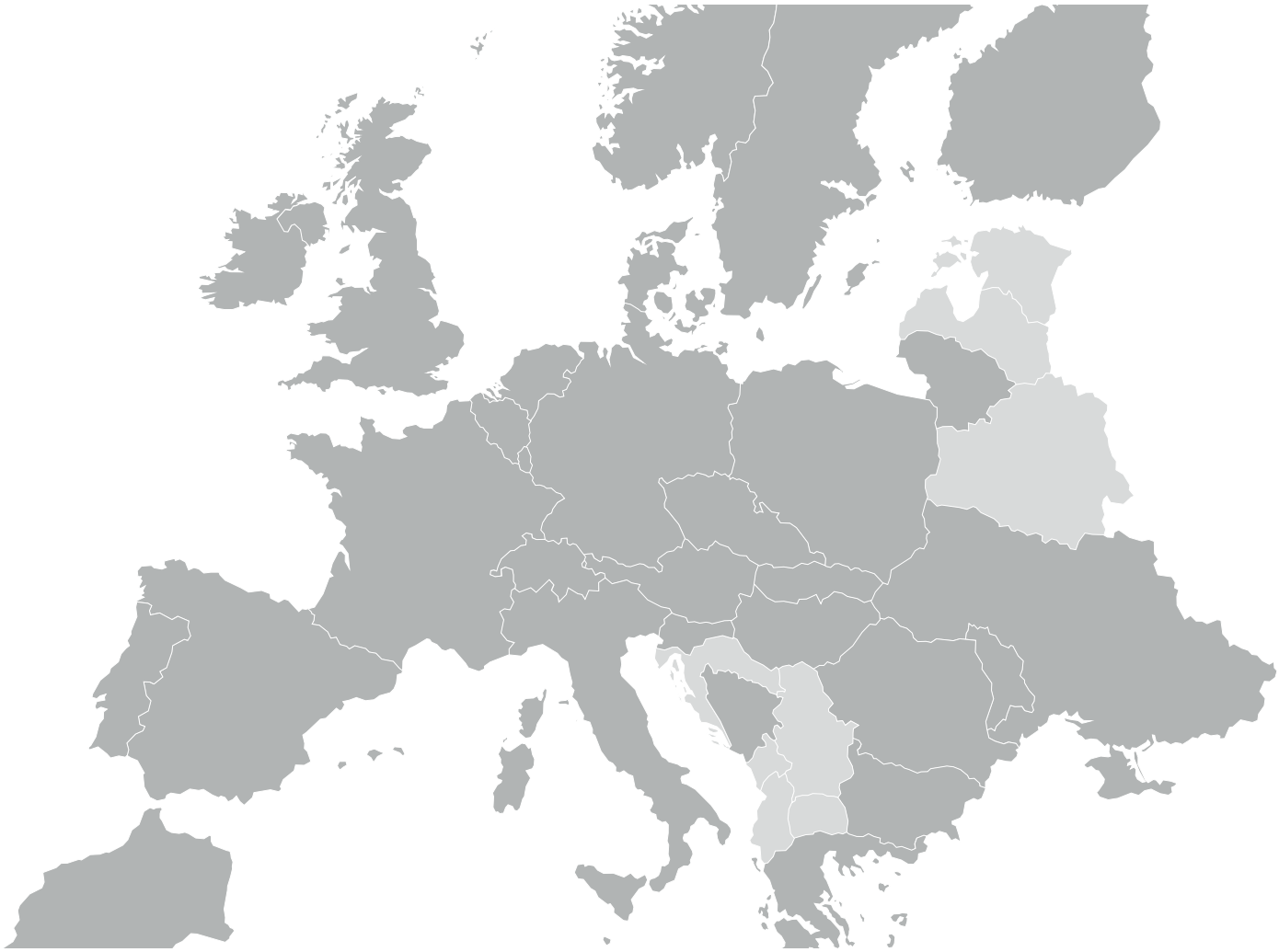


OQEMA. We make the world go round.

Formed in 1922, the OQEMA Group has consistently developed. For the last 25 years our growth throughout Europe and the rest of the world has resulted in us becoming one of the leading global chemical distributors. Our pioneering spirit and entrepreneurial approach has resulted in refined sourcing capabilities and market expertise. Our strategic supply network ensures that we are there where you need us, when you need us! Welcome to our world!

We have been growing constantly and are present all across Europe – close to our customers and ready to serve their needs.

NETWORK



Contact us.

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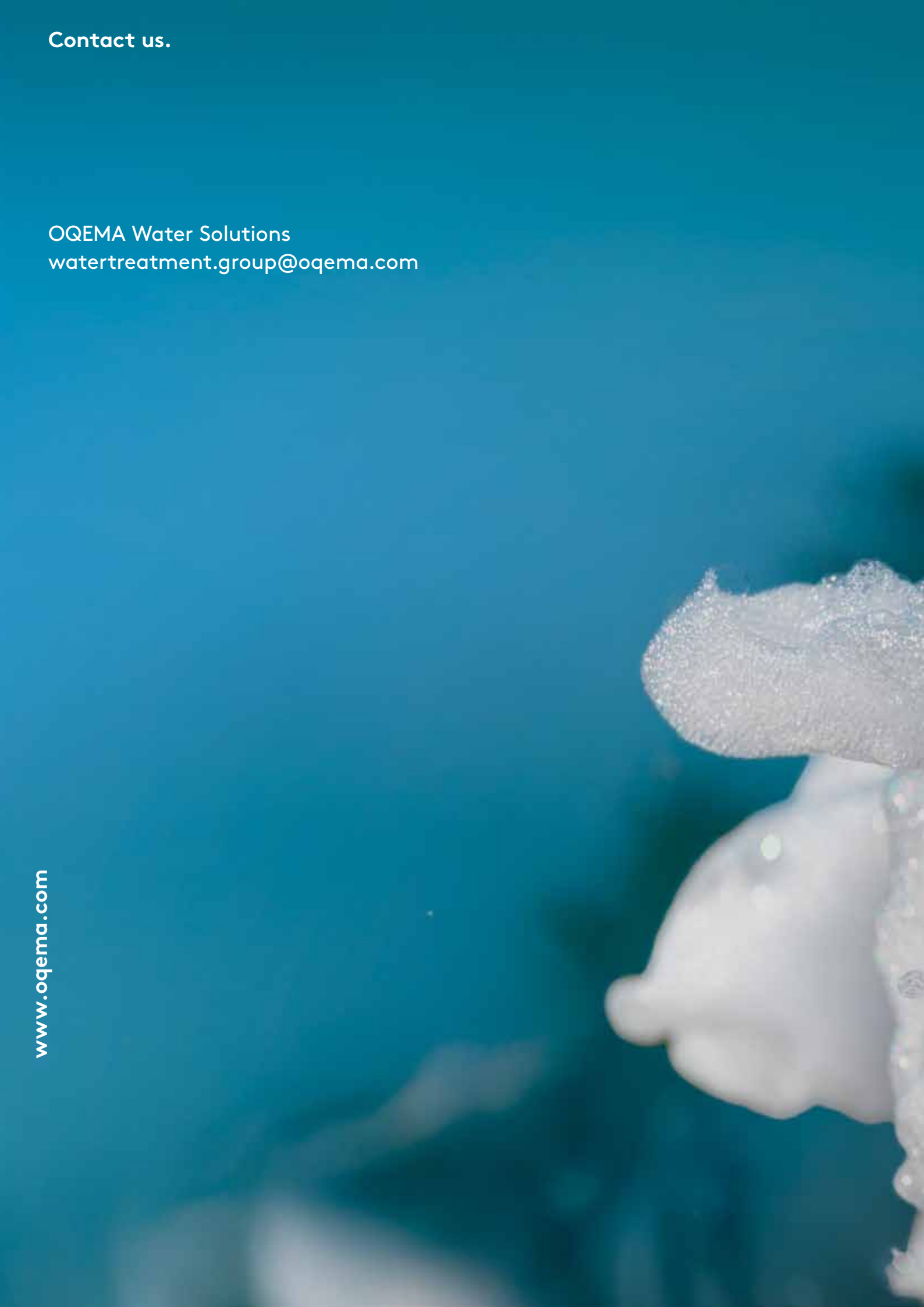

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