

Corporate History

RCM's Mark Moser Helped Shape Anaerobic Digestion Industry

RCM Digesters, Headquarters: Oakland, CA

RCM developed many of the business models that have emerged to form successful digester companies, even entirely new market segments.



RCM
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Overview

When Mark Moser founded RCM Digesters in 1982, anaerobic digestion was still in its commercial infancy. Digester technology has been around since ancient times. Although the science had been proven in academic lab settings and was used by some municipalities, there weren't easy options available for farms or factories. His leadership has transformed - and largely created - the anaerobic digester industry.

Over the past 30 years, RCM has been a pioneer in many leading agricultural and renewable energy sectors. We have integrated the knowledge and cultural bases of farming, agricultural science and renewable energy policy making. Nationally and internationally, RCM's work has enabled the company to provide true global perspectives for clients with business interests that transcend countries and regions. In addition to working in more than a dozen states in the U.S., RCM has provided consulting services in Armenia, Australia, Belize, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Korea, Mexico, Philippines, Spain and Taiwan.

Milestones

1982 - 1985 - RCM Digesters founded, based on the name Resource Conservation Management. First codigestion system built at Langerwerf Dairy in Durham, CA, for 500 cows and food waste. Thirty years later, the Plug Flow digester is still in successful operation. Within a year, RCM has built a Plug Flow digester at Frey Dairy in Conestoga, PA, for its 600 cows. Two more systems begin operation in Lodi, CA, and Gonzales, CA, in 1985.

1986 -1989 - RCM's Complete Mix system debuts at DJ Acres in Seven Valleys, PA. The ground-breaking design was designed to optimize energy production. At DJ Acres, the 150 kilowatt system was used to heat farm buildings by handling the waste of up to 18,000 hogs. RCM's first international projects began with Complete Mix systems installed in Ireland (1988) and two locations in Japan (1989).

1990s - Complete Mix, Covered Lagoon and Plug Flow systems are built by RCM across the US, including locations in California, Colorado, Connecticut, Iowa, Minnesota, New York and Oregon. A Complete Mix digester is designed and constructed at Seoul National Technical University for research purposes. During this time, RCM began its long-standing partnership with the farm credit association AgStar.

2000-present - RCM's projects include a growing number of regional centers, including Port of Tillamook Bay in Oregon and Santiago, Chile. Codigestion plants that handle a variety of waste materials become increasingly popular, particularly in dairy businesses in Pennsylvania and New York.