
**BIOTECH ANAEROBIC
WASTE TREATMENT PROCESS
AS AN ALTERNATIVE TO AEROBIC COMPOSTING**

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The article describes an industrial method of waste treatment, which uses mixed, unsorted garbage, thus avoiding separate collection of Municipal Solid Waste.

The organic components of the waste are treated by anaerobic fermentation and converted into biogas and subsequently into electricity and into high quality compost. Excess heat can be used for far-distance heating and/or for industrial purposes.

These by-products will be sold commercially, thus reducing the costs of waste treatment to levels around 20 - 30 DM/t, usually equal or even less than sanitary landfilling.

The process takes place in closed tanks and buildings thus avoiding completely emissions of smell or leachate into the environment, so that a plant can be located within the cities even close to residential areas, thus avoiding large transport distances.

The generated compost is very clean and of high quality. All European and US standards for heavy metal and other contamination are easily fulfilled, so that it is perfectly suited to replace/reduce the use of chemical fertiliser.

Key words: waste treatment, anaerobic fermentation, biogas, compost