



6342 Ferris Square  
San Diego, CA 92121

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## Aquacycl™ raises \$4M in seed round funding

Investment will help scale high strength wastewater treatment for food and beverage manufacturers

SAN DIEGO (Aug. 22, 2019) - San Diego-based wastewater technology company [Aquacycl™](#) today announced it has closed a \$4M seed round. The Roddenberry Foundation led the investment round with participation from existing and new angel investors and impact funds. The raise will help the company expand its sales and marketing efforts as well as scale manufacturing.

“More than 80 percent of wastewater is discharged or land-applied without any treatment because the current technology is cost prohibitive,” said Orianna Bretschger, CEO of Aquacycl. “We are providing food and beverage producers with technology that will save them up to 90 percent in wastewater treatment costs. We are proud that our investors recognize the critical problem we are solving for.”

Aquacycl™ provides plug-and-play, energy neutral wastewater treatment options for food and beverage companies that need to treat high-strength wastewater. The company’s BioElectrochemical Treatment Technology (BETT™) uses naturally existing bacteria to convert organic waste and sludge into direct electricity without any methane production. BETT™ is distinctive in the industry because it can treat wastewater with up to 150,000 milligrams of Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD) per liter without the need for dilution, and it can treat wastewater that is five to ten times stronger than what conventional technologies can provide.

Dario Guerra, cofounder of Joshua Tree Brewery has been using the technology for over a year. “Without the BETT™ system, the city wouldn’t let us open our brewery because they didn’t have infrastructure to treat the high-strength wastewater. Aquacycl™ has allowed us to focus on making great beer, and they have consistently been hitting home runs for us.”

“This funding will allow us to increase our market penetration by hiring additional sales and service teams, forming key partnerships and ramping up production,” added Bretschger.

### About Aquacycl™

Founded in 2016 by Orianna Bretschger, Sofia Babanova and Ryoji Naito, woman-owned Aquacycl is a wastewater technology company that helps food and beverage businesses more effectively treat wastewater while saving up to 90 percent in treatment costs. The San Diego-based company was a part of the Imagine H2O accelerator, the Southern California Energy Innovation Network accelerator, and has won numerous innovation awards, including Investor and People's choice at the San Diego Angel Conference, People's Choice at Sustainable Brands, Best Pitch at WEFTEC, and Best New Technology Innovation at BlueTech Forum. Aquacycl's clients can deploy the company's BioElectrochemical Treatment Technology (BETT™) systems with no capital expense through competitive leasing options. The system offers the fastest treatment times, smallest footprint, direct energy recovery and lowest sludge management requirements. For more information, visit <https://www.aquacycl.com/>.

### About The Roddenberry Foundation

The Roddenberry Foundation was established in 2010 by Rod Roddenberry, son of Gene Roddenberry, creator of the Star Trek series. The Roddenberry Foundation builds on his father's legacy and philosophy of inclusion, diversity, and respect for life to drive social change and meaningfully improve the lives of people around the world.

For more information:

Juli Iacuaniello

Marketing Director

Aquacycl™

+1.858.405.6476

[jiacuaniello@aquacycl.com](mailto:jiacuaniello@aquacycl.com)

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