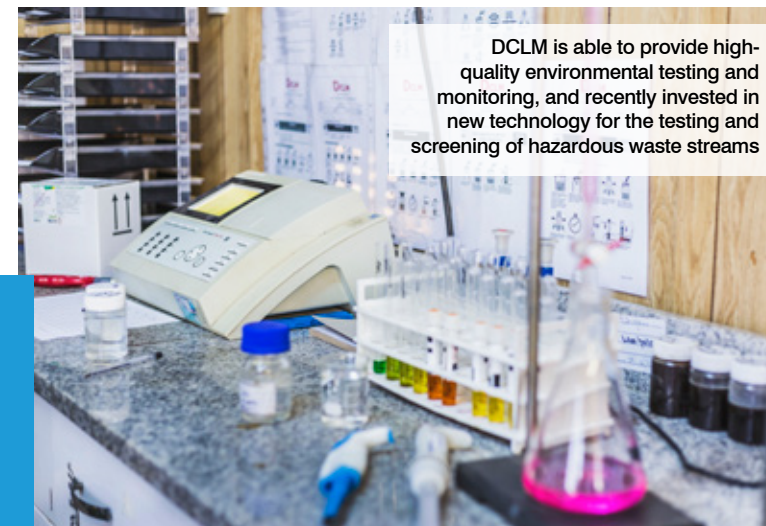


Growing market for waste challenges

Dolphin Coast Landfill Management (DCLM) owns one of the largest hazardous landfills in KwaZulu-Natal (KwaDukuza) and is expanding its footprint to Gauteng.



Nick Mannie, MD of DCLM



DCLM is able to provide high-quality environmental testing and monitoring, and recently invested in new technology for the testing and screening of hazardous waste streams

Concerns over the environment and landfill space continue to escalate as the world's population grows and more waste is generated. It is not always possible to stop using landfills. But companies are looking to embrace the circular economy and are searching for alternative treatment methods for high hazardous waste streams. There is a huge drive to zero waste. This makes the waste management sector an exciting and demanding space," says Nick Mannie, MD of DCLM.

Operated by Veolia since 2019, DCLM specialises in the management of both liquid and solid hazardous and non-hazardous waste. The company was formed 10 years ago and develops industry-specific waste management plans. "We implement the most optimal waste management solution for our clients, which is tailored to identify and recover additional resources, increase recycling and avoid disposal costs," adds Mannie.

Innovation

According to Mannie, DCLM has benefited greatly from the Veolia acquisition. "Veolia is the world reference in the management of solid or liquid non-hazardous or hazardous waste. It has a Business Support and Performance Department where, for instance, if DCLM is searching for a solution for a particular waste stream, the department will consult a global technical team of resource specialists who can find the best suited solutions and practices. The Veolia brand and reputation in the market put us on a good footing to have high-level discussions and engagements with different industries."

DCLM has prioritised innovation and has a technical team that evaluates waste streams, and looks to reuse or repurpose them. The team also tries to create a market for these repurposed waste streams. "We have key people in our team that engage with our clients on a daily basis regarding challenges and

solutions as concerns waste generation. Very often, effluent can be treated to a standard where it can be reused in a factory's own internal processes rather than using additional raw water," explains Mannie.

Three treatment technologies for liquids are used on-site:

- reverse osmosis plant
- vibration shear enhanced process that is a membrane separation technology platform for tough effluent streams
- EVALED process plant (designed and developed by Veolia).

"The opportunities are endless, but DCLM has chosen focus areas, in which it has fine-tuned its expertise. Currently, we mostly work within the pulp and paper, oil and gas, mining, minerals (fertilisers), food and beverage, and manufacturing markets."

There is also an on-site laboratory where hazardous waste goes through an initial testing process to determine the best treatment method. DCLM is able to provide high-quality

environmental testing and monitoring, and recently invested in new technology for the testing and screening of hazardous waste streams. The laboratory is the confirmation and verification point where a decision is made to either accept or reject a waste stream.

Safety, legal compliance and certifications

The KwaDukuza landfill site is classified as a Class A Landfill [(H:H) (Highly Hazardous)] with the capability of accepting all types of waste. It has the following certifications and professional affiliations:

- Laboratory Quality System: ISO 17025
- Environmental Management System: ISO 14001
- Health and Safety Management System: ISO 45001
- IWMSA Member (Institute of Waste Management of Southern Africa)
- CAIA Member (Chemical & Allied Industries Association)
- Level 1 BBBEE accreditation.

As an accredited service provider, DCLM has a responsibility to ensure the correct handling, classification, analysis, transportation and disposal of hazardous waste. The company further recognises that waste management can have an impact on the health and safety of its employees, and therefore identifies such risks to minimise, reduce and eliminate harm to employees and any other persons associated with its business activities.

"Safety is one of the key focus areas in our business and a huge priority for our holding company, Veolia. We are fortunate to have global exposure and often adopt safety measures from the Group. Contractors and staff are trained on using the correct personal protective equipment as well as the handling and preparation of different waste streams. Employees at the coalface of the operations are constantly trained and educated on safe work procedures, planned task observations, treatment methodologies, and establishing the nature of the waste streams. Safety officers on-site play an active role in embedding a safety-oriented culture and implement corrective measures should anyone fall short of our high safety standards," adds Mannie.

After a successful decade of waste management in KwaZulu-Natal, DCLM will be expanding its footprint in the coming months to Gauteng, with technical personnel and a fleet. "DCLM is playing a pivotal role in assisting companies to achieve their ESG (environmental, social, governance) goals and attain the UN Sustainable Development Goals," concludes Mannie. **35**

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