PROCESS

Various types of manure are frequently tested in the FEECO Innovation Center. Because each source of manure varies considerably, testing is critical to the success of a process, no matter what the end goal is.

Depending on where the customer is in their process, and what they are looking to achieve, testing is generally carried out in four stages:

1. Feasibility/Proof of Concept - An initial non-witnessed batch testing phase in which the possibility of creating a product is explored.

2. Proof of Product - A more in-depth batch testing in which more time is spent determining whether a product can be made to desired specifications.

3. Proof of Process - A continuous testing phase that aims to establish the equipment setup and parameters required for continuous production of your specific material.

4. Process/Product Optimization - An in-depth study to optimize your specific material’s characteristics and/or production parameters in an industrial setting.

Equipment Commonly Tested:
- Disc Pelletizer
- Pin Mixer
- Pug Mill/Paddle Mixer
- Granulation Drum
- Rotary Dryer
- Rotary Cooler
- Hammer Mill
- Pumping System (to pump binder into a disc pelletizer and pin mixer)

Commonly Tested Manure Materials:
- Chicken Manure
- Chicken Litter
- Hog Manure
- Dairy Manure

Processes Commonly Tested:
- Granulation
- Drying
- Nutrient Fortification
THE INNOVATION CENTER ADVANTAGE

Testing in the FEECO Innovation Center provides an invaluable opportunity to test in a controlled environment, allowing you to gain a familiarity with your material, while reducing the chance for unforeseen problems after process scale-up. Some of the many advantages to testing in the FEECO Innovation Center include:

Material Experience:
FEECO has been a pioneer in material processing since the 1950s, and has extensive knowledge around hundreds of materials and processing methods.

Customers gain a valuable familiarity with their material and its unique characteristics through testing in the Innovation Center.

Complete Process Knowledge:
FEECO is familiar with each aspect of a process, from agglomeration and kiln processing, to drying and cooling, allowing us to look at how the process will function as a whole, instead of each individual portion.

Process Scale-up:
Once the process configuration has been defined, FEECO can aid in process scale-up, as well as manufacturing the equipment needed to get the job done.

Automation & Data Collection:
FEECO is a Rockwell Automation partner, providing integrated process control solutions for our customers, both as a service in the Innovation Center, and as part of a system purchase. This provides customers with state-of-the-art data collection and reporting capabilities.

A variety of data points can be monitored, trended, and adjusted in real time, all from a single interface or mobile device.

Historical data is also available for returning customers, allowing you to pick up exactly where you left off.

Commonly Targeted Material Characteristics:
- Crush Strength/Hardness
- Abrasion/Attrition
- Material Composition
- Bulk Density
- Flowability
- Moisture Content
- Green/Wet Strength
- Sieve Analysis
- Solubility