

## UT Digester

By: Matthew Palmer

Much like death and taxes, corrosion is a guarantee in life. A general rule in the wastewater field is to replace mechanical equipment every 20-25 years. But what if the asset had a more functional life and was able to stay in service past 25 years? The ability to evaluate remaining life for in-service equipment would allow Waste Water Treatment Plants to allocate capital funds to critical purchases, instead of following a general practice for replacement.

Storti Asset Integrity Management (**AIM**) group recently performed thickness testing on two Anaerobic Sludge Digesters' floating roofs, located in Vineland, New Jersey. The digesters have been in service since 1989, the owner is concerned about internal corrosion and metal loss. **AIM** employees were able to verify roof thickness, corrosion rate, and remaining life of the two Digesters by performing an Ultrasonic Thickness Survey. In one day, the survey found both the digester lids have a remaining service life of more than 20 years. By utilizing AIM's Non-Destructive Testing (NDT) the owner avoided a costly shutdown, clean out, and internal visual inspection. This has allowed the owner to operate the Digesters with a piece of mind that the roof can remain in service and funds can be allocated to more critical equipment.

**AIM** is proud to host lunch and learn sessions for current and potential clients. During this time, we demonstrate to owners how the ultrasonic equipment works and how to optimize Condition Monitoring Locations. We also educate clients to understand the benefits of using ultrasonic equipment, mechanical integrity inspections, and other Storti services.

