

BOUCHE CATHERINE, ITECA SOCADEI, 445 Rue Denis Papin, 13592 Aix-en-Provence, France. **Optimization of White Sugar color management through the utilisation of on-line color cameras**

Ensuring a factory can produce white sugar that meets the solution color demands of its customers' is a key focus for any sugar factory operation. Managing the process to minimise the financial impact of those demands is always challenging and the default position tends to be to over wash the sugar, thus allowing for variations within the process as a consequence of reacting to laboratory generated data.

The paper describes how on-line ITECA color cameras are used to reduce process variability around a pre-defined color set point to guarantee that the final product always remains within specification. It also presents financial savings achieved by optimizing the wash water volumes, detecting out of specification production and reducing the amount of remelted sugar.