

SSOW

Clinical Waste Acceptance, Processing and Disposal as SRF – Including Waste Acceptance Criteria (Advetec Only)



Why	To ensure compliance with Section 6 of the Biological Waste Treatment: Appropriate Measures guidance. To guarantee that only suitable, pre-assessed waste is accepted for the Advetec XO22 system, preventing process failure, shredder damage, or permit breaches.
Who	Operations Director, COTC Holder, Commercial Manager, Weighbridge Staff, Yard Supervisors.
PPE	Hi-Viz Vest, Safety Footwear, Gloves (Cut/Puncture Resistant), Eye Protection (during inspection).
Forms and Systems Used	JobWatch (Waste Transfer Notes), Pre-Acceptance Audit Forms, Non-Conforming Waste Action Form, Weighbridge Tickets.
Key Hazards	Handling offensive waste (biological hazard), sharps (physical injury), machinery (shredder/compactor), manual handling.

1. Permitted Waste Types

Only the following waste streams are permitted for the Advetec system. No other wastes may be processed.

EWG Code	Description	Permitted Material
18 01 04	Healthcare Offensive Waste	Nappies only. Non-infectious hygiene waste
20 01 99	Municipal Offensive Waste	Hygiene waste & sanitary protection (nappies, pads)

2. Detailed Acceptance Criteria

To ensure the safety of the biological process and the mechanical integrity of the shredder (Untha RS40-1000), all incoming waste must meet the following physical and chemical criteria:

- Physical Form: Solid waste contained in securely tied bags (typically "Tiger Bags" - yellow with a black stripe, or yellow bags indicating offensive/non-infectious).
- Organic Content: Waste must contain sufficient organic matter and moisture to sustain the exothermic aerobic respiration process (as validated by site trials/sampling).
- Segregation: Waste must be segregated at the source (the producer) to ensure no cross-contamination with infectious (hazardous) clinical waste.
- Packaging Integrity: Bags must be intact, with no evidence of leakage or tears upon arrival.

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3. Prohibited Wastes (Strictly Forbidden)

The following must **NEVER** enter the shredder or digester:

- **Infectious Waste (18 01 03)*:** Orange/Yellow bags denoting infection risk.
- **Chemical/Cytotoxic Waste:** Wastes classified as 18 01 06* or 18 01 08* (cytotoxic and cytostatic medicines)
- **Anatomical Waste:** Body parts, organs, blood bags.
- **Sharps:** Needles, syringes, scalpels, glass.
- **Hazardous items:** Batteries, aerosols, pressurised gas cylinders, WEEE.
- **Rigid Items:** Stones, metal, hard plastics (will damage Untha shredder).

4. Stage 1: Waste Pre-Acceptance (Before Booking)

Responsibility: Commercial Manager / COTC Holder

1. Enquiry: Customer requests disposal of offensive waste.
2. Characterisation: Obtain full details: source (e.g., nursery, care home), nature of waste, and confirmed EWC code.
3. Producer Audit: For regular contracts, verify the producer segregates waste correctly (e.g., "Tiger Bags" only).
4. Technical Approval: The COTC Holder must confirm the Advetec system has capacity (max 8 tonnes/day) and the waste is biologically suitable.
5. Authorisation: Only once approved can the job be booked on.

5. Stage 2: On-Site Waste Acceptance (Arrival)

Responsibility: Weighbridge / Yard Staff

1. **Documentation Check:**
 - Driver reports to Weighbridge.
 - Check Transfer Note: Must match pre-booked "Advetec Feedstock" codes (18 01 04 or 20 01 99).
 - If paperwork says "Infectious" or different EWC: REJECT LOAD immediately.
2. **Weighing:** Vehicle weighed in; weight recorded against the specific job.
3. **Visual Check (In-Vehicle):**
 - Inspect load before unloading.
 - Bag Colour Check: Bags must be Yellow with Black Stripe (Tiger Bags) or standard offensive hygiene bags.
 - Red/Orange/Purple Bags? STOP. Do not unload. Quarantine vehicle or reject specific items.

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6. Stage 3: Offloading & Processing

Responsibility: Yard Operatives

1. **Offload:** Waste directed to Clinical Waste Transfer Station.
2. **Detailed Inspection:**
 - Operatives visually scan bags for integrity (leaks/tears) and rigid objects.
 - Non-Conformance Found? (e.g., a metal object or orange bag hidden inside).
 - Segregate: Move immediately to Non-Conforming Waste Bay (or quarantine bin).
 - Report: Raise a Non-Conforming Waste Action Form.
 - Action: Contact customer. Remove from site within 7 days to a permitted facility.
3. **Processing:**
 - Only compliant waste is fed into the hopper for the Untha Shredder.
 - Monitor shredder output for blockages or prohibited items.

7. Tracking & Mass Balance

- **Input:** Daily tonnage of offensive waste recorded.
- **Output:** Tonnage of Floc (SRF) removed from the compactor is weighed out and checked with disposal site weights.
- **Records:** Maintain records to demonstrate mass reduction (approx. 50-60%) for EA reporting.