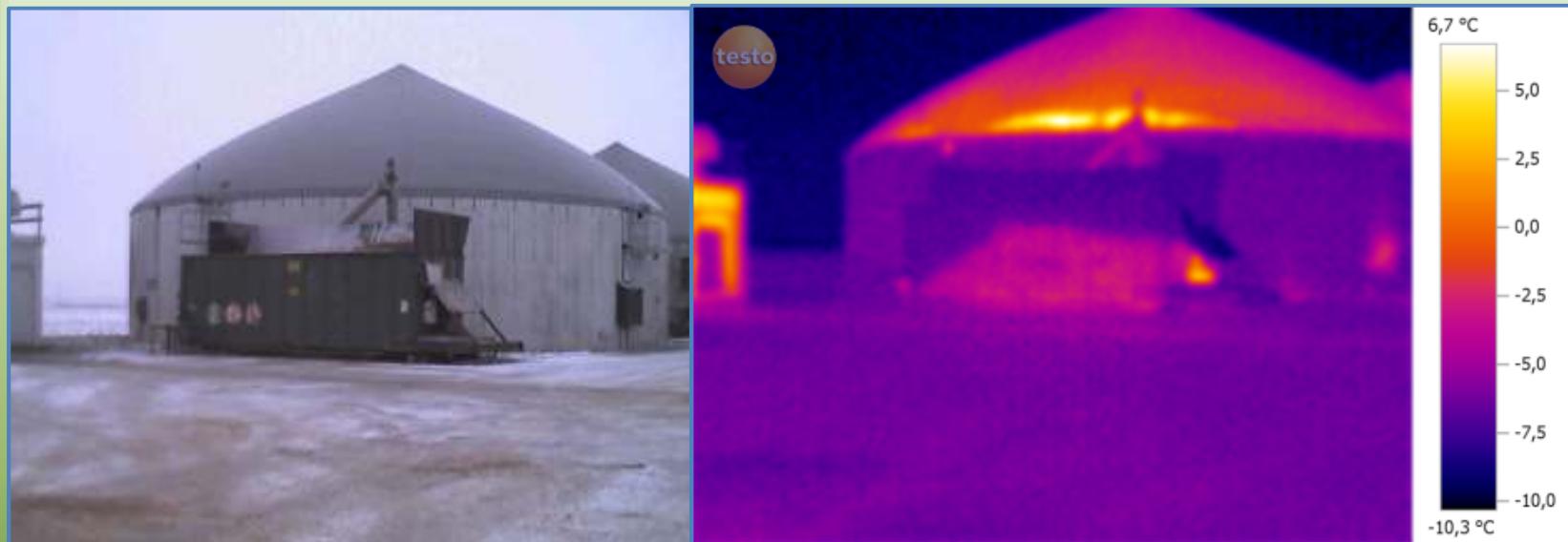


Analysis an optimization of energy flows in existing biogas plants for improved economic performance



Thomas Knauer

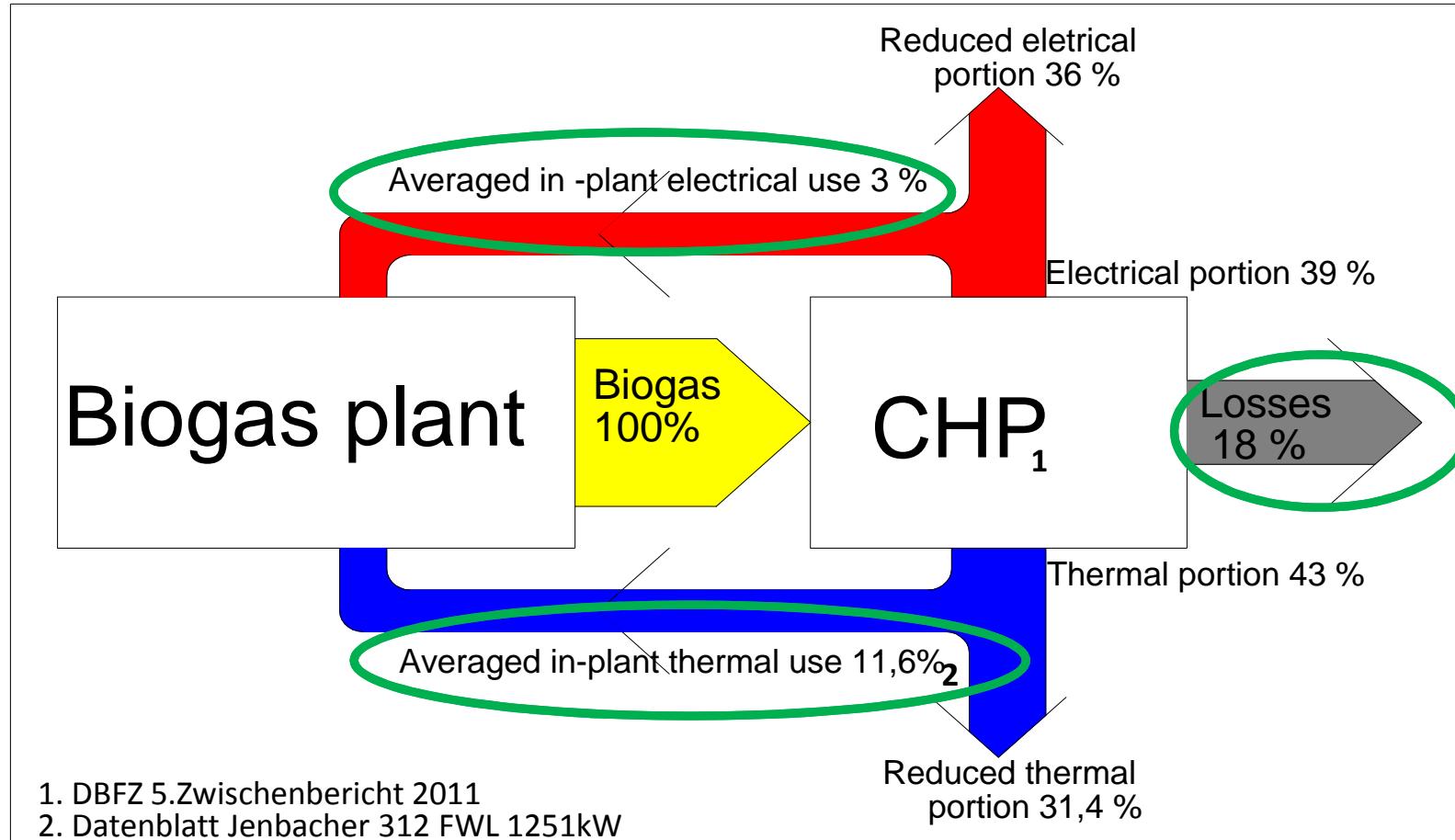
Auftriebsmotor @freenet.de

Frank Scholwin

scholwin@biogasundenergie.de

The biogas plant

- Reduction of thermal and electric energy due to own consumption



Area of biogas plants for analysis

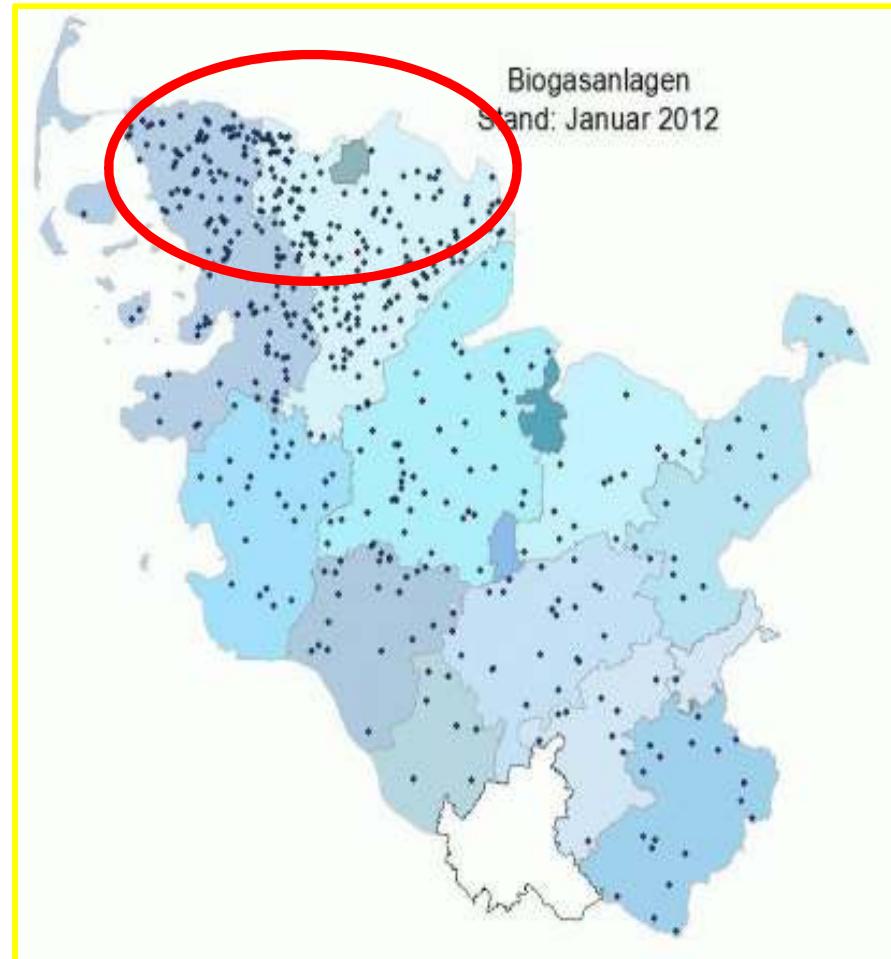
- Own heat consumption
- Daily feeding protocols
- CHP heat content

Own measurements at 6 plants:

- Temperature (manure, corn silage, ambient ...)

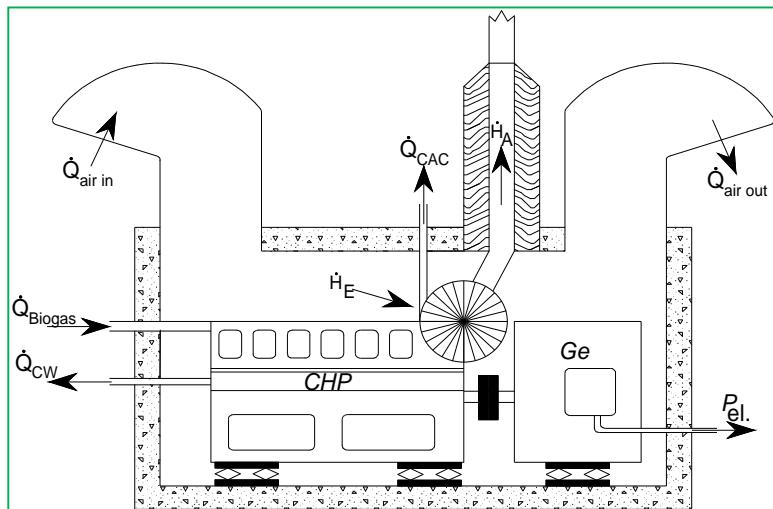
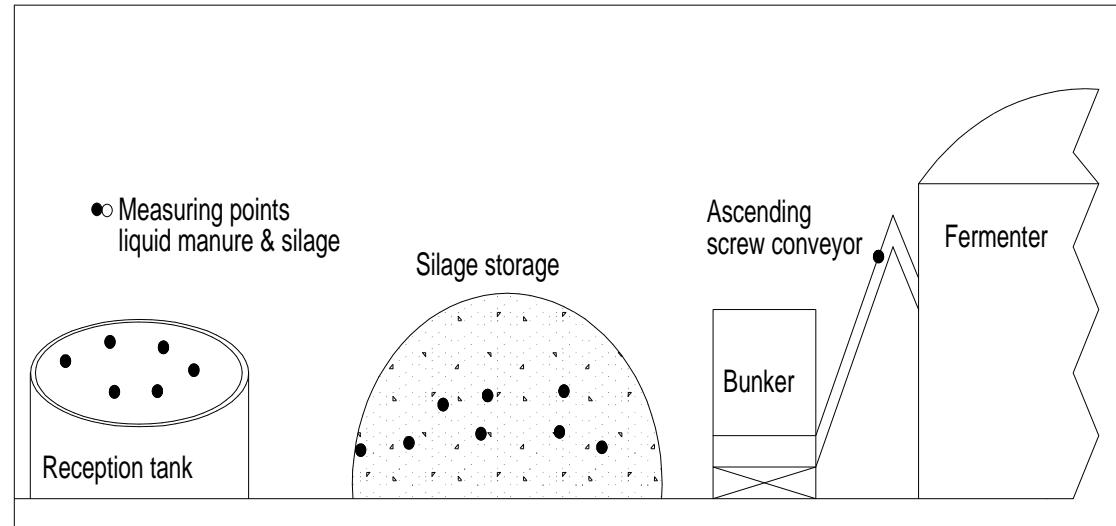
Own measurements at 8 CHP units:

- Cooling water heat, radiant heat, intercooled heat, residual heat (exhaust gas)



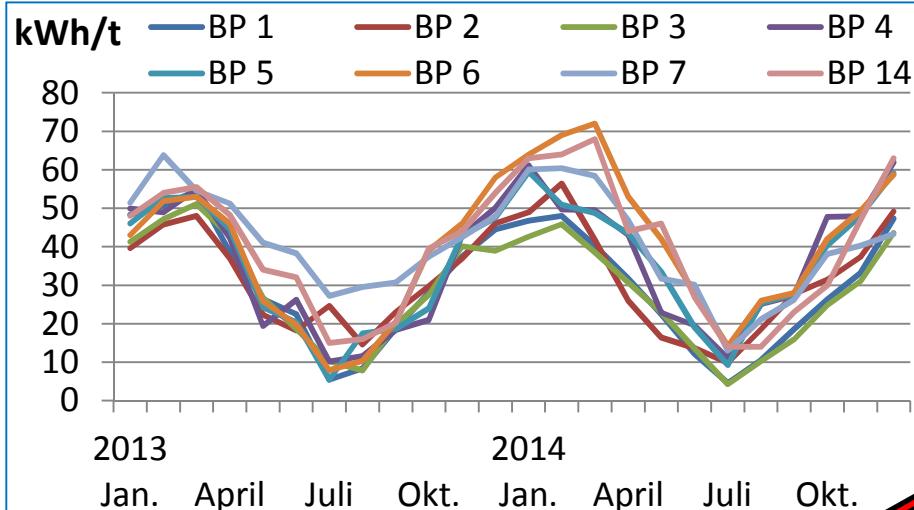
Data acquisition an measurement points

*Measuring points
for liquid manure
and corn silage.
Once a week over
14 months of 5
biogas plants*

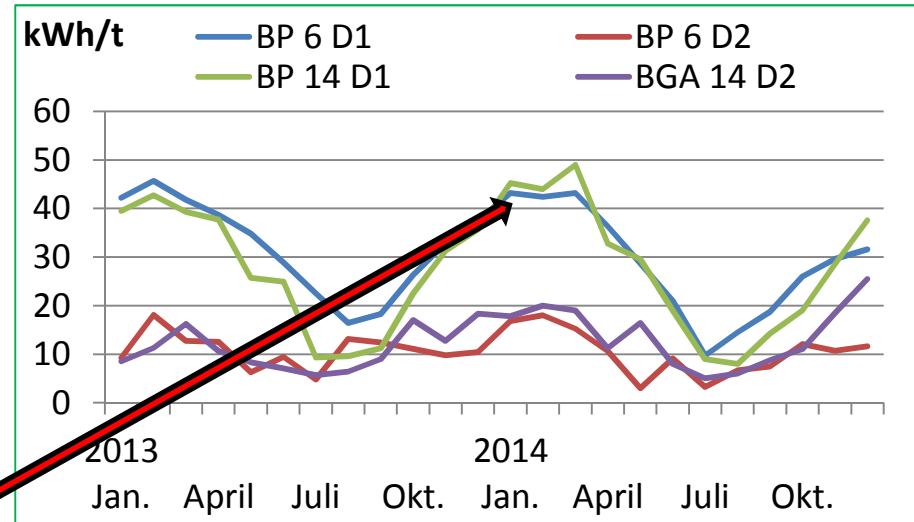


*Measuring points CHP unit
4 times over 1 year on 8
CHP units*

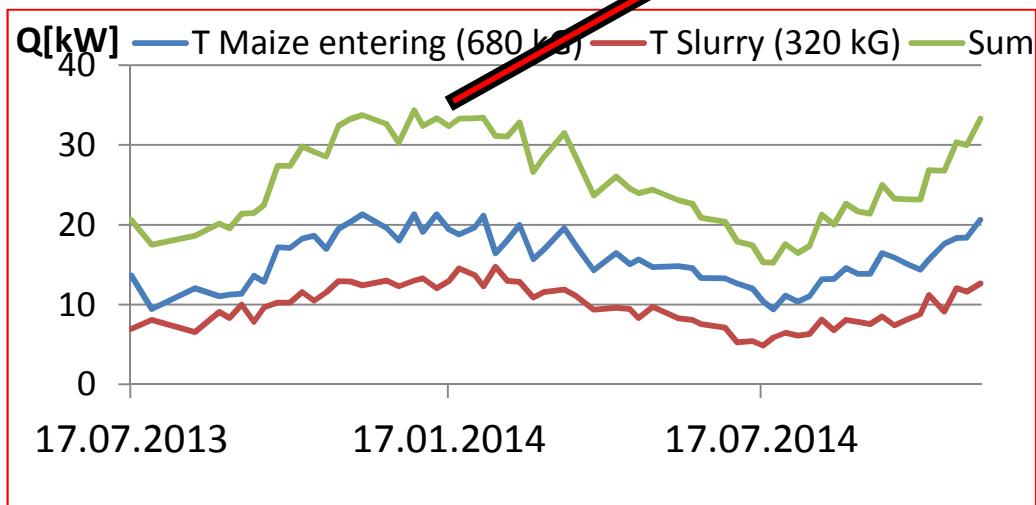
Process heat demand



Heat consumption biogas plant



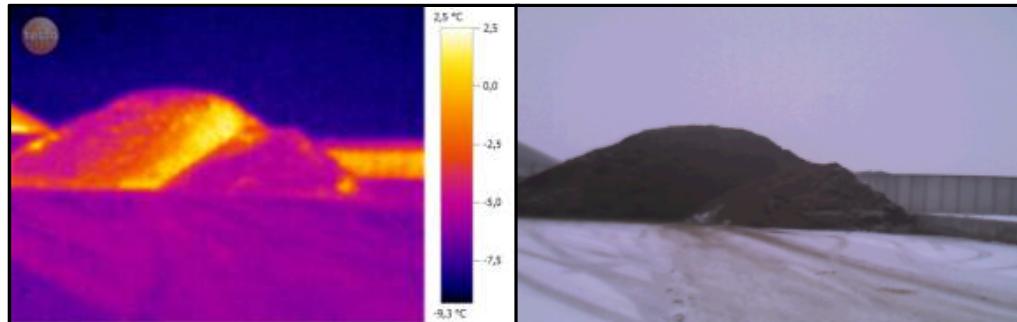
Heat consumption compared first and second digester



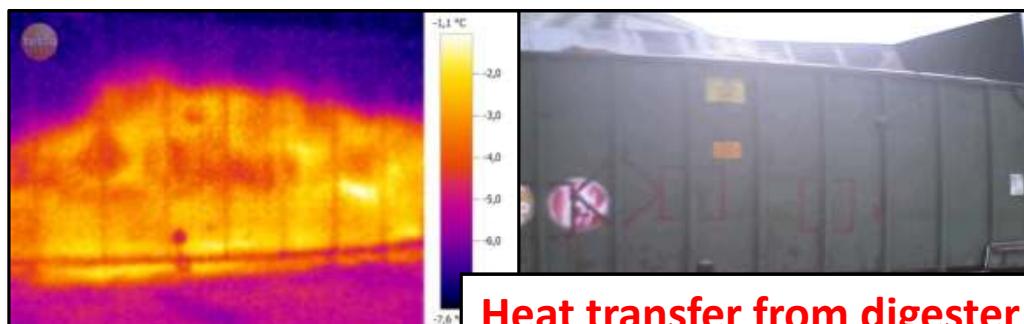
Heat demand for
heating the substrate
BP 6

Cooling of corn silage

– Ambient temperature -7,4 °C **BP 7**

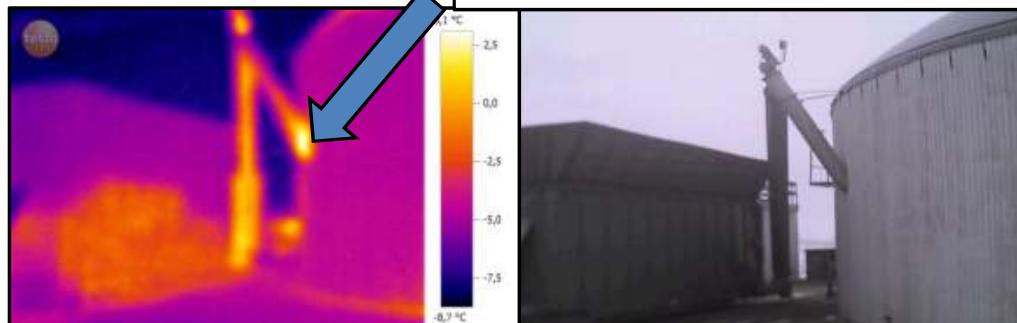


Silage storage 4 hours after feeding
the biogas plant



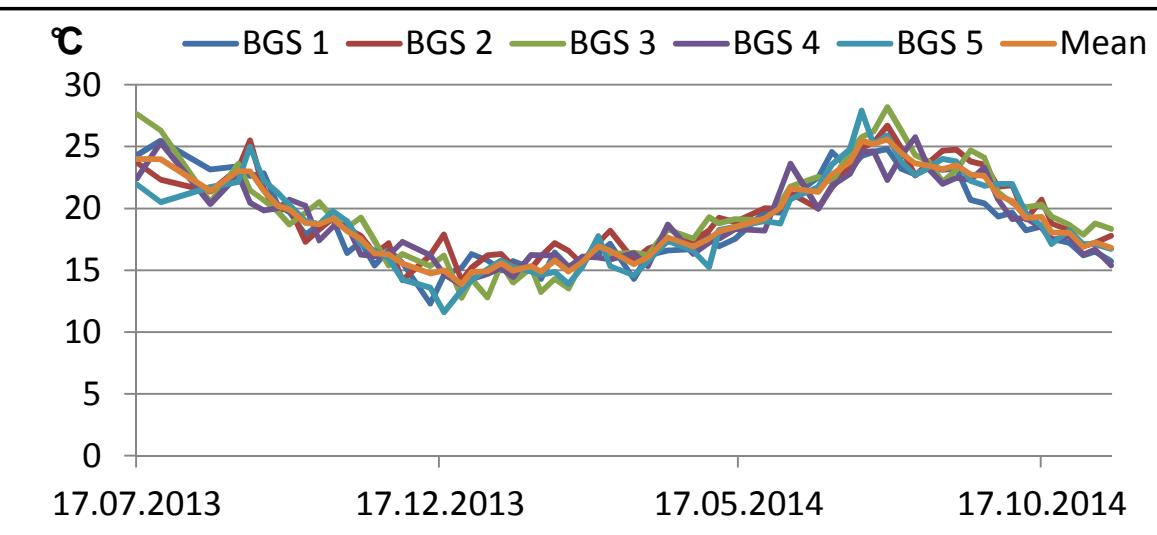
Thermal imaging from the
silage bunker

Heat transfer from digester



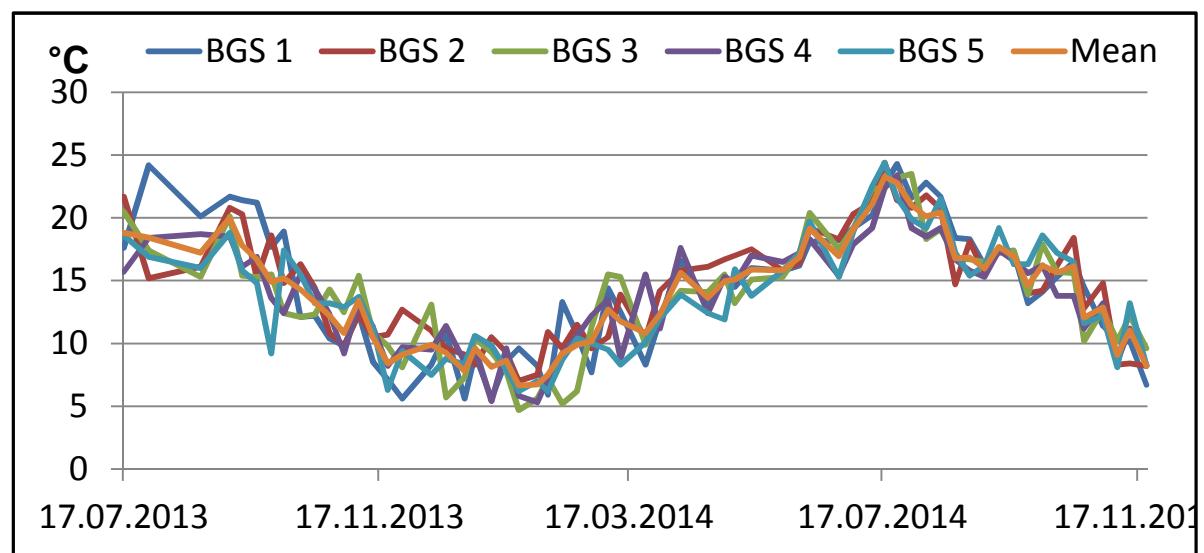
Thermal imaging of screw
conveyors

Temperature curves of the substrates

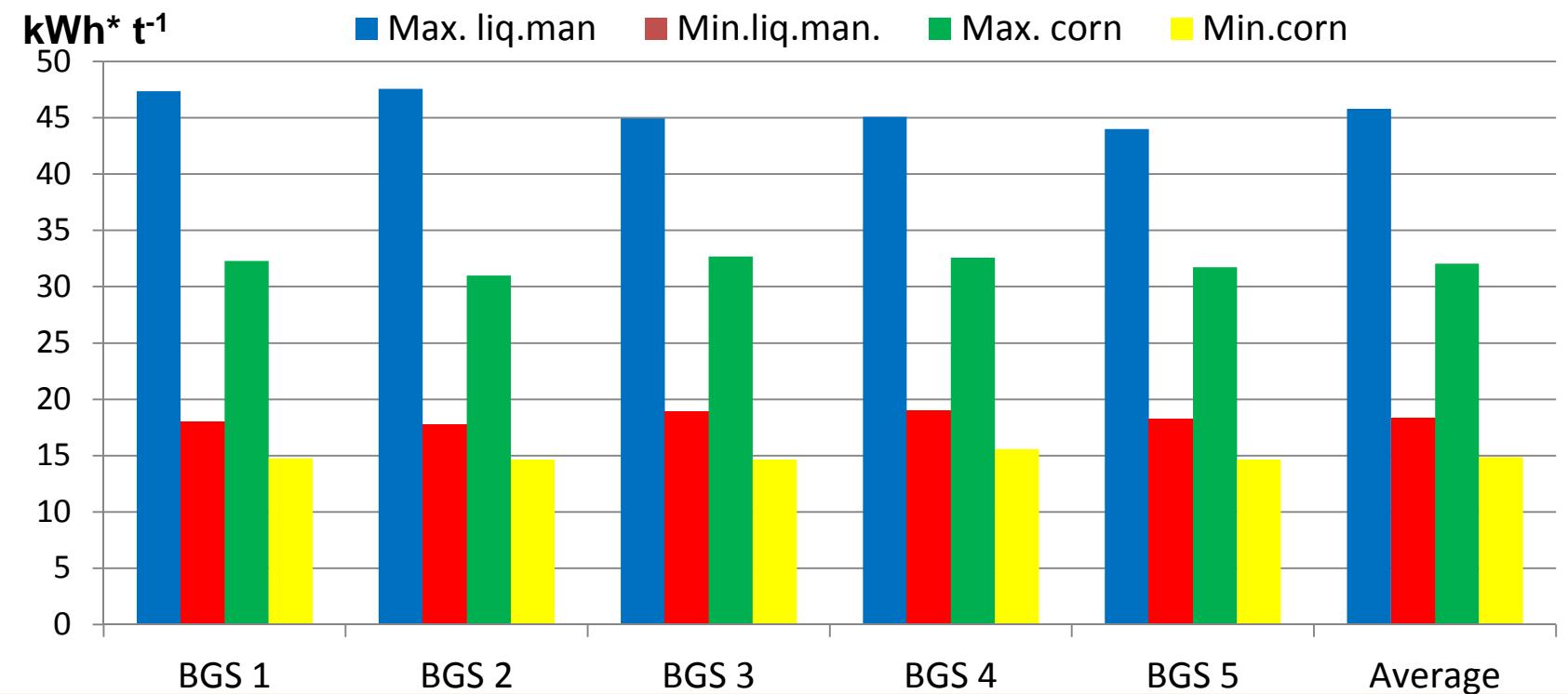


Temperature curve of the corn silage in the silo of five biogas systems with average value

Temperatures of the corn silage in the course of the year before fermenter inlet

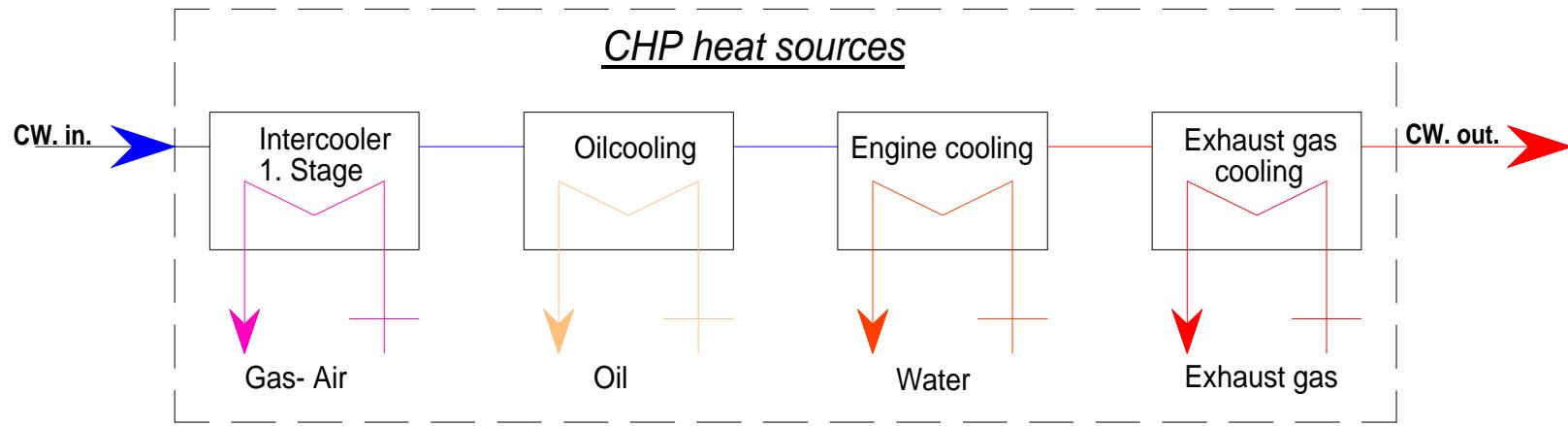


Heat consumption



Max. and min. heat requirement for liquid manure and corn silage

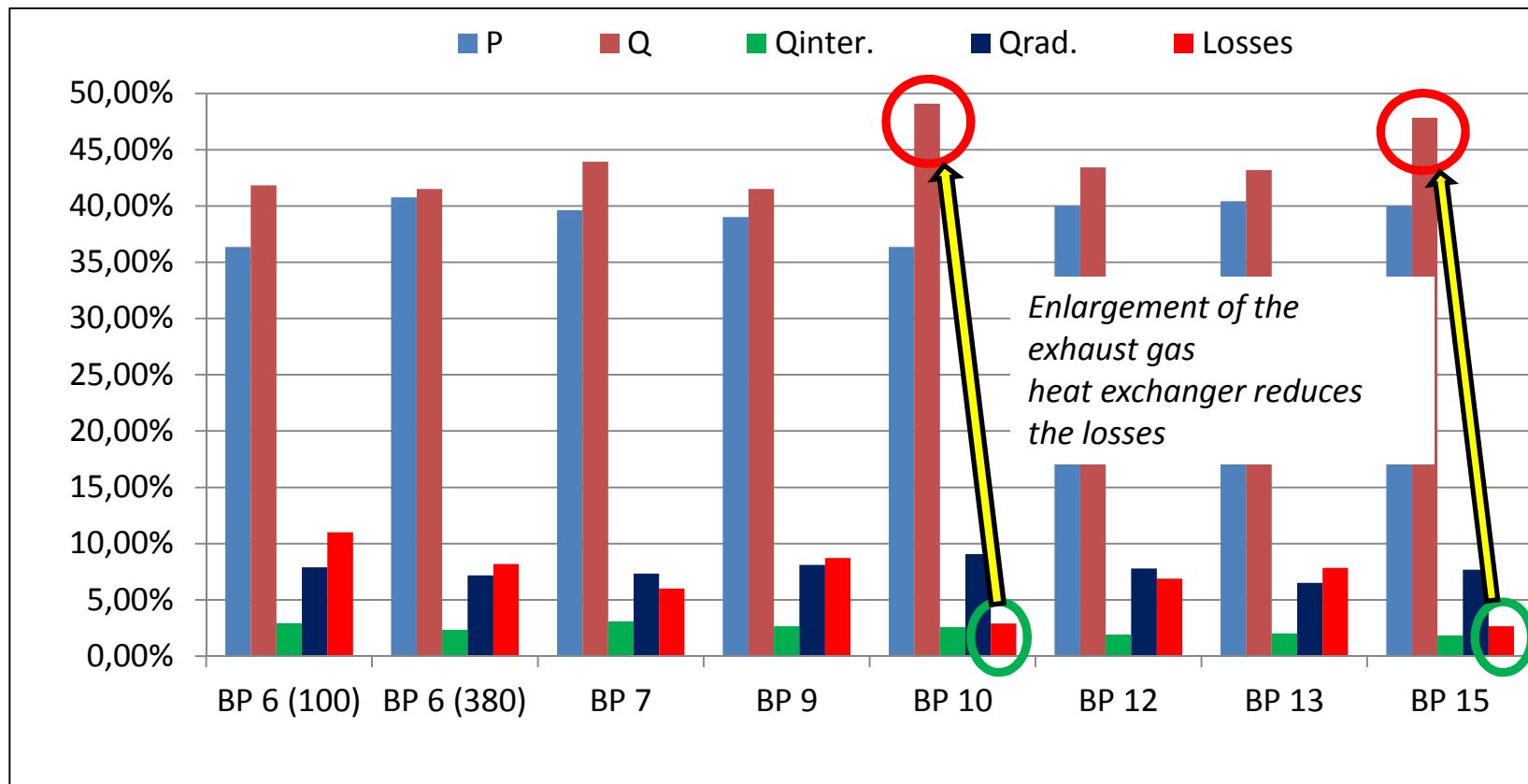
CHP Heat sources



Useful heat from the biogas CHP 90- 70°C or 95- 75°C

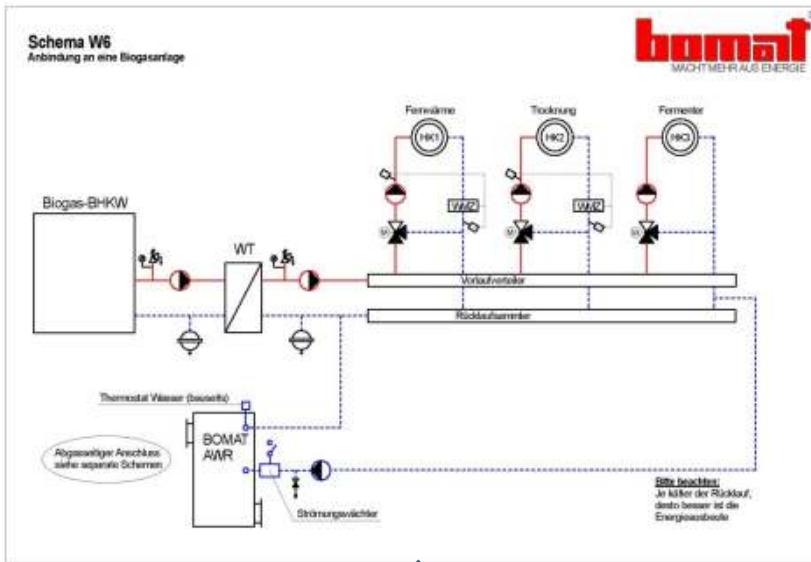
- **Normally not use:**
- Exhaust gas under 180°C
- Intercooling 2. Stage
- Radiation heat

CHP transformation



Energy transformation of 100% Biogas in CHP unit

Exhaust gas exchanger



Example for an additional heat exchanger of corrosion –resistant material. Plants schematic and installation.
(bomat GmbH)

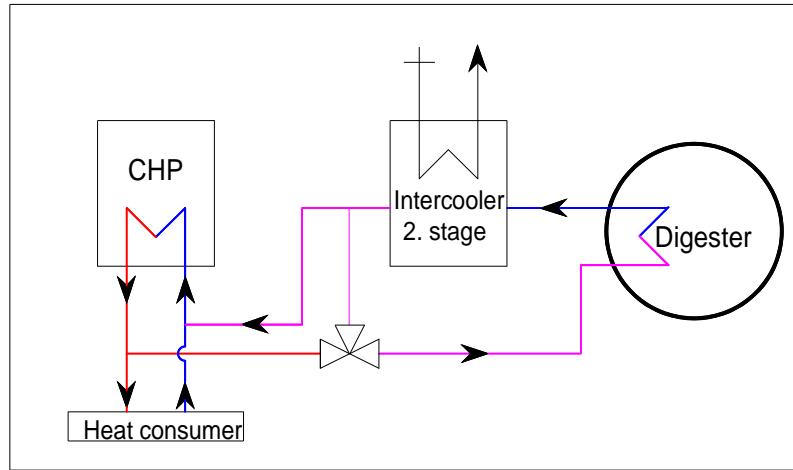


There are two different ways to get a higher efficiency from the exhaust:

- 1) Sulfur content in the biogas should be close to 0 ppm,
- 2) The heat exchanger was made of corrosion –resistant material.

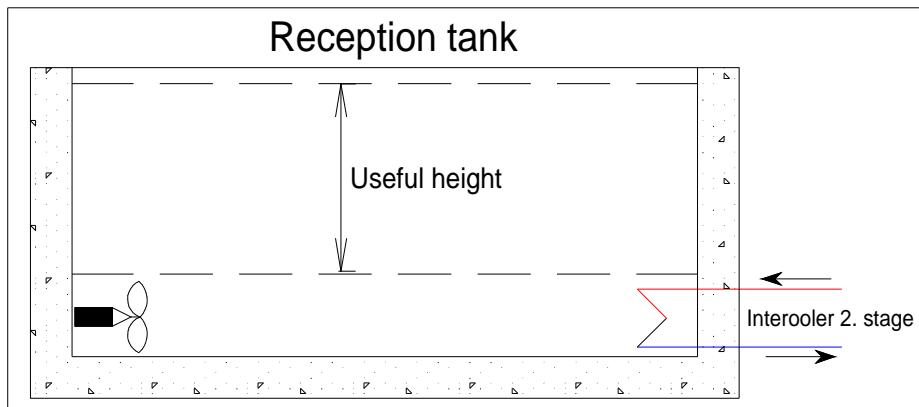


Intercooler 2.stage



- The intercooling 2. stage heat can be used direct in heat system for the digester

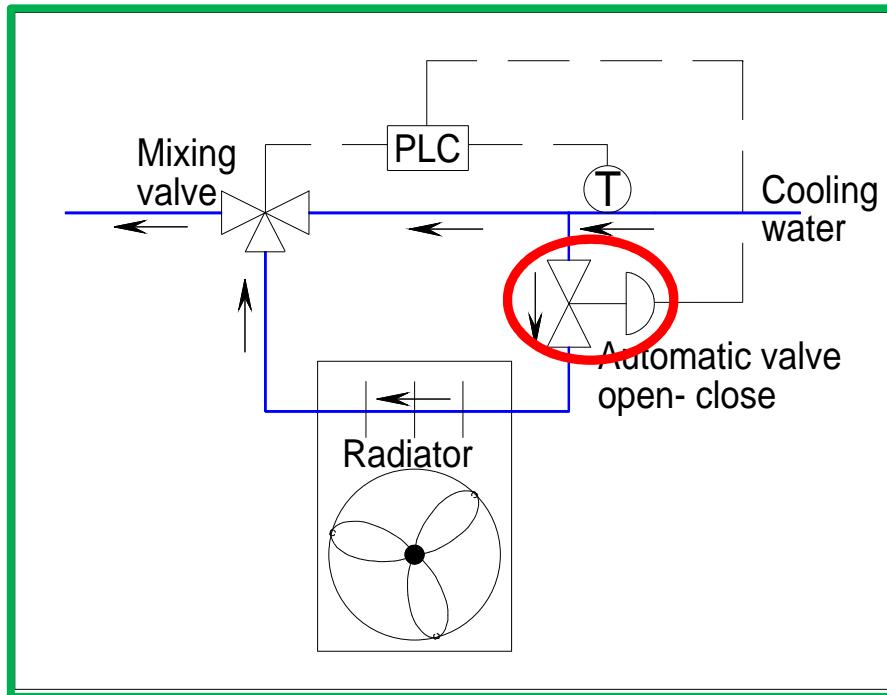
And it can be also used to preheat the slurry in the Reception tank



	BP 6	BP 7
$Q_{\text{Proz.}} [\text{GJ}]$	3.159	5.111
$Q_{\text{Inter.}} [\text{GJ}]$	288 (100)	911(380)
Proportion [%]	23,46	28,18

Proportion of the intercooler heat to the process heat

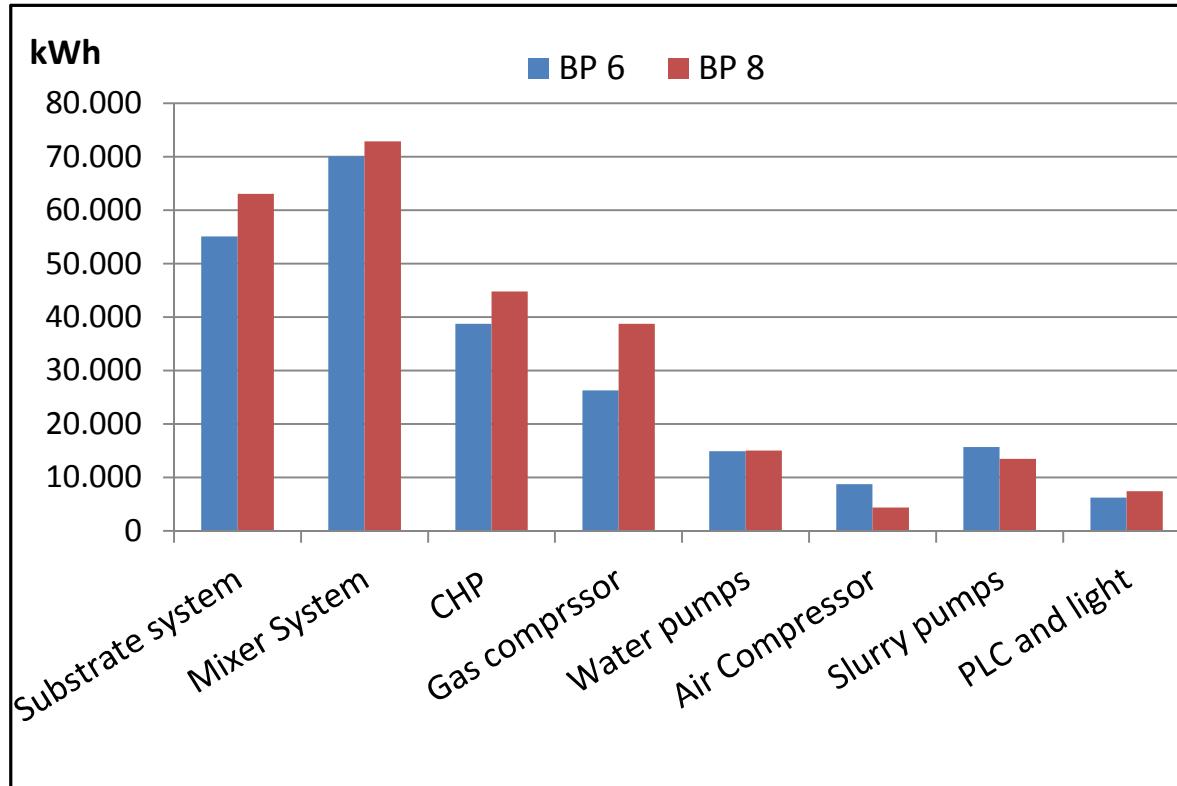
Radiator losses



- Every biogas CHP unit is equipped with a radiator cooling system.
- The control works over a three way mixing valve.
- The min. flow volume to the radiator is 2- 3% of the whole cooling water energy.
- An additional automatic valve in the cooling water pipe can reduce this heat losses up 95%.

Extended radiator system with automatic valve

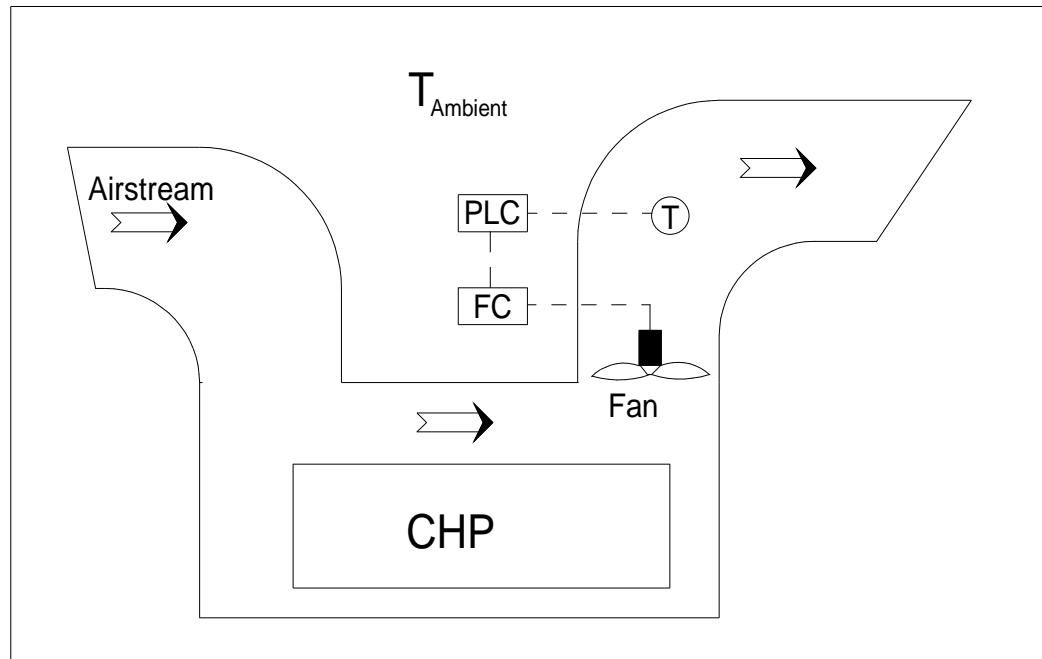
Electrical own consumption



- Comparison of the electric own consumption on two biogas plants 2014.
- Main consumers substrate – Mixer system and CHP

Control over frequency converter

- Over 95% of the electrical consumption are used for motors.
- Some of these drivers do not need the full power over the year.
- Pumps and fans for example with a controlled temperature can save much energy over the year



Fan controlled with frequency converter

Summary

- The optimization of own consumption on biogas plants shows several possibilities.
- On the thermal side, the process heat for the biogas plant can be reduced and the heat output of the CHP can be increased.
- On the electrical side can the own consumption reduced with a higher expenses of control technology.

*Analysis an optimization of energy flows in existing biogas
plants for improved economic performance*

- **Thank you for your attention!**

*Thomas Knauer
Deezbüll Deich 73
D- 25899 Niebüll
Auftriebsmotor@freenet.de*