



Olaf van der Kolk

CEO of Aquaminerals



Olaf van der Kolk is the CEO of Aquaminerals, a non-profit organization representing all drinking water companies and water boards in the Netherlands. The mission of AquaMinerals is to provide services to its participants for the purpose of creating economic and sustainability value from the current and expected future resources that can be recovered from the watercycle. Aquaminerals was founded in 1995 in response to the growing costs of residual management for the Dutch drinking water companies, as well as the ambition of the sector to become more resource efficient. The foundation of the company marked to beginning of a unique concept in which the water companies joint forces aiming to reduces the overall cost of residual management while enabling development of sustainable value-chains to recover and beneficially reuse residuals from the drinking water production process rather than disposal. At the end of 2015 Aquaminerals welcomed their first foreign participant: De Watergroep from Belgium. As of 1 January 2018, Aa and Maas became the first wastewater board as shareholder. These are clear examples of the success of the concept developed over the last year. Currently, Aquaminerals has been successful in commercializing various residuals, recovered substances and even products recovered at drinking water and municipal wastewater treatment plants.