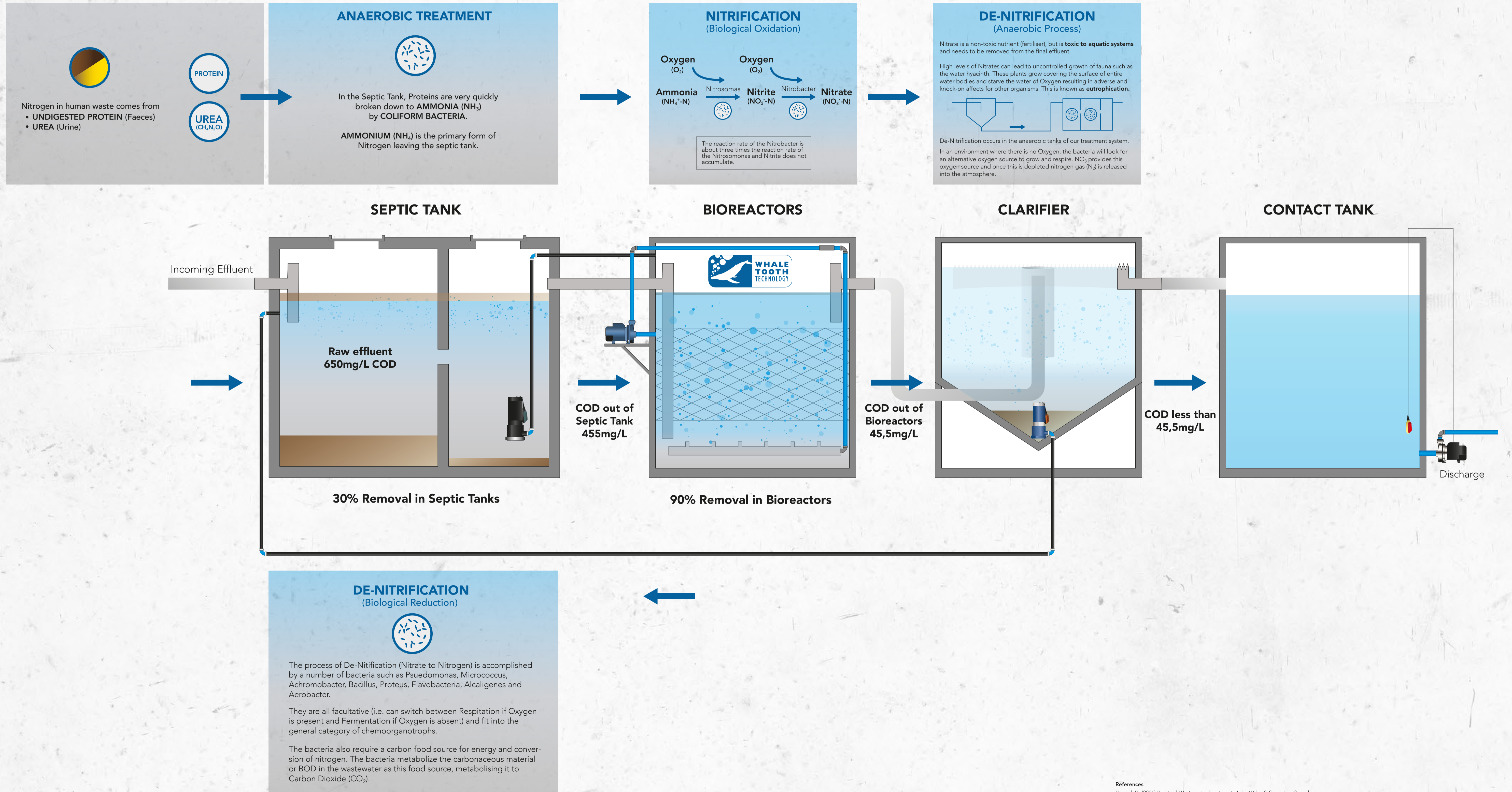


AMMONIA TOXICITY

The principle forms of Nitrogen are Ammonia (NH_4/NH_3), Nitrite (NO_2) and Nitrate (NO_3). In aquatic systems the presence of Ammonia, especially in its un-ionised form NH_3 , can be highly toxic to stream life. Furthermore Ammonia complexes with other heavy metals such as Nickel and Cadmium further increasing toxicity levels. It is for this reason that a major function of effluent treatment plants is dedicated to the removal of Ammonia through Nitrification and Denitrification.



References
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