



In 2010, the Wales National Pool in Swansea chose EGFM over other filter material, from professional swimmers to mothers and toddlers, water cleanliness and clarity are top of the list.

The **Wales National Pool** in Swansea is a 50 metre competition pool built to FINA standards in 2003. The facility also has a 25m x 9.5m training pool and 1,200 spectator seats. The Sketty Lane facility is one of just five intensive training centres in the UK — the only one in Wales — capable of offering world-class daily training environments to develop the finest swimming talent in the country.

The pool has a great diversity of users including aqua-natal, parent and toddlers, children and adults of all ages including Wales' world class aquatic sports athletes. So water quality in terms of clarity and cleanliness is absolute essential. It is used to train and houses the headquarters of the Wales Amateur Swimming Association. The pool is one of five of British Swimming's Intensive Training Centres, used to train swimmers for the London 2012 Olympics. The facility is built on the site of Swansea University's Sports Centre.



Because of its proximity to Swansea University Wales National Pool was chosen to house the Pool Water Treatment Advisory Group's pool filtration test rig. Swansea University was carrying out research on PWTAG's behalf to find out how effectively filter media removed cryptosporidium (an organism that causes diarrhoea). As part of the research a comparison was made between traditional filter sand, EGFM and another type of glass filter media.



The filter on the small pool needed to be repaired and new filter media fitted. The management of the Wales National Pool were aware of the results of the PWTAG trials and decided to try EGFM glass filter media.

The media in the four filters on the 50 metre competition pool was due to be replaced over the next two years. Because of the good results obtained with EGFM it was decided to replace the sand with EGFM on all the filters over the next two years.

The sand was replaced on the last filter in November 2010.

John Thomas, pool engineer was full of praise for the environmentally friendly media. "Having good water quality and clarity is essential with so many international competitions being held in the Wales National Pool We have always had good water quality on the competition pool however it is better still since we switched to EGFM. We require less water to backwash the filters which certainly clean more easily than when we had sand."

EGFM is not only suitable to commercial pool applications, but can work just as effectively in domestic sand filters.