

Case Study

Unique Package Testing Capability



Bare pump undergoing performance testing

The Sulzer Difference

As one of Sulzer Pumps core business segments, the oil and gas industry runs sophisticated production and pipeline transportation processes requiring reliable pumping solutions that meet stringent industry specifications.

Our continuous investment in state-of-the-art test facilities provides a unique opportunity for operators to fully test their pump and compressor packages in our plant before shipping to site.

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Applicable Markets

O&G

Applicable Products

HPcp, CP, GSG, MSD, HSB, HPDM

The Project

Modern oil production processes rely on sophisticated pumping systems for water injection and crude oil transportation. Pumps are often installed in remote land-based or offshore locations the present considerable challenges for commissioning and servicing activities. Before delivering pump systems, Sulzer Pumps performs complete string testing of the full pump package, including the gas turbine driver, to help ensure smooth commissioning and start up.

The Challenge

In a complex pump package, the pump, gas turbine driver, lubrication system and control instrumentation are routinely tested and proven by their manufacturers. However, testing alone does not guarantee that the various pieces of equipment will operate as expected when assembled together on the project skid. Unforeseen problems can make commissioning the package time-consuming as corrective actions are much more difficult on site than when done at the manufacturing plant.

The Solution

Sulzer Pumps has built a test facility in Leeds, UK with capabilities to run gas turbine-driven pump or compressor packages up to 30MW. The fully-enclosed and acoustically-sealed building has a lift capacity of 160 tons allowing complete performance testing of even the largest sets. In addition to in-house instrumentation, the pump package control systems can be used during the test to prove the performance of the entire system. The facility's silenced exhaust system ensures no noise pollution leaves the site. Sulzer is the only pump manufacturer in the world with this dedicated testing capability in Leeds, UK.

Customer Benefits

Any issues that come to light during the string test can be quickly and economically addressed before the pump package is shipped to the customer. In addition, tests can demonstrate real-world conditions, such as performance with fully-worn internal clearances.

Our customers' engineers can attend the testing and gain valuable experience operating the unit under the guidance of Sulzer Pumps' test engineers. This first-hand understanding coupled with the proven performance of the package ensures smooth and trouble-free commissioning on site, and minimizes the risk of unforeseen problems.



The same pump being fully string tested with gas turbine driver