

Sundyne **HMD Kontro** Sealless Pumps

HMD Kontro Case Study

Sealless for Schwarz Pharma

HMD Sealless Pumps Determined
Best Option for New Investment Programme

Schwarz Pharma, a member of the UCB Group, have recently undertaken a significant investment programme at their site in Shannon, County Clare, Ireland, which manufactures active pharmaceutical ingredients.

Spending over €70 million, the programme is part of a five to six year upgrade to the company's facilities there, which includes the installation of new technology and automation. In particular, the R&D centre at the site now allows the chemists and chemical engineers based there to not only develop but also scale-up the production of new chemical entities for the group.

The project involved the design and construction of a new API production building and tank farm facility. Working with Jacobs Engineering Consultants in Cork and Schwarz Pharma, HMD Kontro's Irish distributor, CPI Technology, supplied over eighty magnetic drive pumps to the site.

All centrifugal pumps (both Process and Utility) were originally specified for the project as mechanically sealed pumps. However, CPI Technology actively promoted magnetic drive technology with the appointed project team in Jacobs Engineering's office and also with the maintenance team in Schwarz Pharma, outlining the life cycle cost benefit of sealless pumps over mechanical sealed pumps.

As a result Jacobs Engineering decided, prior to formal tender issue, to carry out a capital cost exercise and compare the two technologies. Their findings were that the difference was in the order of 15% to 17% straight capital cost saving on sealless. Total Life cycle cost was not considered any further as Jacobs Engineering and Schwarz Pharma were already aware that magnetic drive pumps would have a significantly lower running cost benefit over mechanically sealed pumps with double cartridge seals and their complex seal support systems.

This was particularly the case because of the need to meet the process requirements (pumping acids / solvents / glycol / caustics etc). Also to comply with the recent introduction of Atex Zone 1 requirements and the need to provide complex and expensive seals and seal support systems for the traditional alternative.

The type of pumps provided to the site in Shannon included both HMD Kontro GT and GSP pumps, the duties including pumping hazardous liquids, thermal transfer fluids and general solvent transfer in the tank farm area.

For further information about Schwarz Pharma, please visit their website www.schwarzpharma.com. Alternatively, for further details about HMD Kontro pumps, please visit www.hmdkontro.com

