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Amarinth Works through Covid-19 Challenges to Achieve Delivery of Pumps

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Amarinth, a leading company specialising in the design, application and manufacture of centrifugal pumps and associated equipment to the Oil & Gas, petrochemical, LNG, chemical, industrial, power and desalination markets, has succeeded against the many challenges posed by Covid-19 to achieve an on time delivery of four high-capacity pumps to a producing oil field, Equatorial Guinea.

The offshore oil field is in the Gulf of Guinea, with water depths ranging from 45m to 500m. Amarith was tasked by the contractor of the oil field operator to supply four high capacity horizontal pumps, two API 610 OH2 pumps for produced water treatment and two central process transfer injection pumps. The large pumps contain between five and ten impellers each and are manufactured from duplex stainless steel with 3.1 material certification. They are Zone 2 Hazardous Area compliant and comprehensive NDT/NDE was required.

Early in the Covid-19 outbreak, Amarith took decisive steps in how it would manage its commercial and engineering teams and allocation of factory space in order to remain operational whilst adhering strictly to the UK government recommendations and ensuring the safety of all its employees. In fact, 90% of the global Amarith workforce was able to continue working remotely, with full network connectivity to Amarith's software platforms, video conferencing and secure servers.

The result of this proactive planning was that for the contractor, technical evaluation meetings and contract progress meetings could continue uninterrupted using Amarith's comprehensive video conferencing capabilities. Amarith was able to leverage its strong and positive sub-supplier relationships developed over the years to ensure critical component delivery milestones could be met, with many of its suppliers also accommodating safe ways of working whilst meeting the UK Government's distancing and sanitising measures. With an advance screening protocol for pre-booked deliveries, carried out in partnership with its suppliers, goods were placed in a quarantine hold area on delivery to Amarith before being booked into the business and used on the project. Along with priority slots in its UK foundry partners, Amarith was able to bring all the components together into its assembly bays with the minimum of delay.

Once the pumps had been assembled, with engineers adhering strictly to the Government's social distancing guidelines and working practices, live witness hydro testing was carried out remotely using an array of HD webcams and Amarith's integrated data software platform. This allowed personnel from the contractor, third-party inspectors, and the oil field operator to access 'real-time' data and view the live test results as they were produced. Finally, Amarith was able to draw on its engineering and manufacturing agility to accommodate a split delivery as the pumps were needed at different times.

Oliver Briggins Shaw, Managing Director of Amarith, commented: "As we saw the scale and potential impact of the Covid-19 pandemic we quickly leveraged our engineering and commercial agility and investment in remote working technologies to make the necessary changes to our business model ensuring we could work with our customers and suppliers to maintain critical on time delivery of pump orders. Our staff have embraced the changes and our customers have shown great flexibility and understanding in working with our revised processes, ensuring everything has run smoothly. Following Government guidelines and World Health Organisation best practices to protect our staff, customers, and suppliers alike, we have not only been able to continue designing and manufacturing pumps and delivering them on time to our customers but have actually seen year-on-year growth in new orders too."

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