

Aker Solutions

Aker Solutions has been awarded an EPC contract to modify and develop the gas plant at Kollsnes on the west coast of Norway. This plant is processing natural gas from the Troll, Kvitebjørn and Visund fields in the North Sea. Engineering and procurement will start immediately, and the work will be completed by the end of December 2011. Estimated value of the contract is NOK1.5 billion.

"We are very pleased by this contract award. We see this as strong recognition of our competence in this area. During the last few years we have also gained strong experience from the installation of the large gas processing plants Snøhvit LNG at Melkøya, and Ormen Lange in Aukra," said Simen Lieungh, President and CEO of Aker Solutions.

The fabrication work will be carried out at Aker Solutions yard at Stord, while the engineering and procurement will take place in Oslo. Most of the fabrication work at Stord and all the installation work at Kollsnes will be performed in 2010 and 2011.

Aker Solutions will have approximately 650 persons working on the project at its peak next summer and aims to recruit both specialists within engineering and skilled workers during the next few months. The Kollsnes gas plant is owned by the Gassled Joint Venture and operated by Gassco, with StatoilHydro as technical service provider.

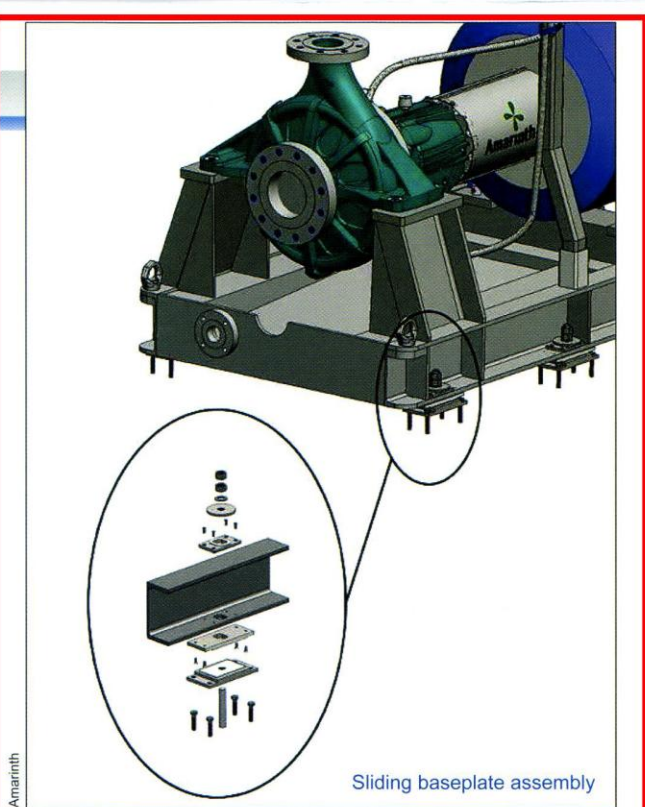
Amarinth

Amarinth, a leading company specialising in the design, application and manufacture of pumps and associated equipment in the industrial, chemical and petrochemical industries, has secured an order in excess of €2m from Aker Kvaerner for 40 centrifugal industrial process pumps to be used in the new mega PTA plant in Portugal.

The pumps will be installed at Artenius' new Purified Terephthalic Acid (PTA) plant which is being built in Sines, Portugal and will be used in the pumping of both clean fluids and slurry. Aker Kvaerner is providing the engineering, procurement services and construction management to the project.

This new plant, known as a mega PTA plant for its potential to produce one million tonnes of PTA per annum, will be one of the largest of its kind in Europe. It is due to be online in the first quarter of 2010. The PTA produced will be used for the production of polyester, PET resin for packaging, PET films, powder coating resins and synthetic fibres.

Amarinth are supplying a selection of A Series API 610 OH2 and C Series ISO 5199 pumps with installed powers ranging from 5.5KW to 315KW that will meet the stringent hydraulic requirements for the project. Variable speed control will allow running speeds of between 1,450 to 3,850rpm.



Sliding baseplate assembly

Manufactured from a mix of carbon steel and high-alloy duplex stainless steel, the pumps incorporate an innovative sliding baseplate to alleviate some of the piping loads. This baseplate enables the pumps to cope with rapidly changing volumes which would otherwise inject damaging jolts into the plant's pipework.



BEL VALVES

BEL Valves has appointed Michael Ridley as its new Sales and Marketing Director. Michael's remit is to develop new global markets for BEL Valves, with an initial focus on BEL Valves' activities in the Eastern Hemisphere and the Americas. Michael has worked for BEL Valves previously. In 2000, Michael left BEL Valves to start his own business – RB Valvetech Ltd – a valve trading company also based in the north east of England. However, he was attracted back to the dynamic manufacturing environment, in particular with a subsea products and product development focus.

Michael first joined BEL Valves as an apprentice in 1984, and as a sign of things to come, he won the BEL Valves Apprentice of the Year Award in 1988. His career then took him through the BEL Valves Engineering Department, seeing him move from Apprentice Engineer to Design Engineer in 1988. In 1990 he moved into internal sales, taking up the post of Internal Sales Engineer.

Various sales posts followed, including an Internal Sales Manager role in 1992, before Michael was relocated to Aberdeen in 1993/94 for his first external sales post, increasing turnover in this key market from £700k to £7m. Finally, Michael was promoted to UK and Scandinavia Sales Manager before being promoted to Sales Director for BEL Valves.