Optimised pump impeller R&D to continue with Amarinth

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Centrifugal pumps manufacturer Amarinth is to continue R&D on optimising impellers for best efficiency point, despite the Carbon Trust pulling the plug on funding.

The project, to develop a cost effective and rapid process for designing and manufacturing bespoke best efficiency point (BEP) impellers, was already well advanced when the Carbon Trust had to pull funding.

Phase 1 had proved that optimised impellers would reduce energy consumption by up to 25%, compared to fit-to-curve pumps, reducing annual CO2 emissions in Amarinth's market by 17,000 tonnes by 2020 and 110,000 tonnes by 2050.



Phase 2 had developed efficient vanes and commercially viable pattern equipment and Phase 3, the production of prototype impellers and production testing in Amarinth's test bay facility, was well under way.

Oliver Oliver Brigginshaw, managing director or Amarinth, managing director of Amarinth, says that, with so much achieved, a healthy order book and a strong belief in the achievable carbon savings, the firm will continue the project to completion, using its own resources.

"We are all very disappointed with this action," states Brigginshaw, pointing to the fact that the government has clearly stated it wants to invest in UK business and develop export opportunities, particularly in manufacturing.

"This project will result in companies in the consortium becoming world leaders in reducing energy use and carbon emissions in pumps, opening up many new business opportunities. Despite this, one of the first things the government has pulled the plug on is important projects, such as this, which will take the country forward by developing highly technical solutions, generating employment and increasing UK exports."

## Author Brian Tinham