

Amarinth replaces Girdlestone pumps for BFS

An **Amarinth** product story

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Amarinth has installed its bespoke U series pumps at Billericay Farm Services (BFS), allowing it to pump liquid fertiliser to and from the mixers.

Billericay Farm Services (BFS) had been using the same Girdlestone URF centrifugal pumps for this purpose for the last 32 years.

The 13 pumps (along with three spares) had given long-term reliable service but had eventually become uneconomic to repair.

The original pumps were no longer being manufactured and so BFS was faced with finding a suitable replacement.

The original Girdlestone design had given such good, long service that BFS was reluctant to compromise on the reliability of the existing pumps by purchasing a lower specification imported pump.

Furthermore, although pumps with a similar hydraulic performance could be purchased, these would necessitate expensive modification to the pipework and a long downtime for the plant, the cost of which far outweighed that of any replacement pumps.

Amarinth had for a number of years been supplying companies using Girdlestone pumps with re-engineered parts that extended the life of pumps and could be used to upgrade performance.

Amarinth had also designed many pumps that were both hydraulically and dimensionally interchangeable with Girdlestone pumps, negating the need to make any expensive pipework or baseplate modifications.

The pump chosen to replace the ageing Girdlestone units was an Amarinth U series.

This pump delivered the same or better hydraulic performance as the Girdlestone pumps and would fit into the existing footprint with no installation problems.

However, it turned out that the delivery position of the existing pumps was non-standard.

Amarinth took specific measurements to ensure the pumps being supplied were modified so that they met the current hydraulic performance envelope, but also mated perfectly with the existing pipework.

The new bespoke U series pumps were commissioned and installed as planned without the need for any expensive and time-consuming pipework or baseplate modifications, allowing continued production with minimal downtime.

The new pumps have operated reliably since their installation.

Unlike the original pumps, which had packed glands, the new pumps have been upgraded to modern mechanical seal technology and so should last for at least another 32 years.

When the existing pumps become uneconomical to repair, BFS now has a programme to replace them with new Amarinth pumps, secure in the knowledge that this will cause little disruption to the production processes.

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