

Centrifugal pumps

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The pumps will be installed at Artenius's new purified terephthalic acid (PTA) plant, which is being built in Sines, Portugal, and will be used in the pumping of clean fluids and slurry. Aker Kvaerner is providing the engineering, procurement services and construction management for the project.

The plant, dubbed the 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.

East Suffolk-based Amarith will supply A Series API 610 OH2 and C Series ISO 5199 pumps with installed powers ranging from 5.5kW to 315kW. Variable speed control will allow running speeds of between 1,450rpm and 3,850rpm.

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

Oliver Brigginsshaw, managing director of Amarith, said: 'Aker Kvaerner has worked on more than 21 PTA facilities spanning more than 20 years and is currently involved in a number of new PTA plants around the world. Based on our contract performance providing the pumps to meet this demanding application, we are looking forward to providing further pumps to Aker Kvaerner and other contractors of new mega plants around the world.'