

## SEW Eurodrive makes a splash in the Western Cape

SEW Eurodrive recently saw the installation of 10 of its class-leading Modular Compact (MC) Industrial Gear (IG) units. This installation was completed by Inenzo Water on the municipal water treatment plant in the picturesque Stellenbosch Winelands.

In water treatment plants one of the initial and most critical stages of the process is to aerate large volumes of water. Aeration is the process whereby water is enriched with oxygen through a continuous rotation and churning process. This enables the release of harmful gases from the water and kills certain bacteria in the water. It also hastens the breakdown of organic matter in the water.

Aeration is usually achieved by rotating a huge propeller through the water volume and thus mixing air into the water. This propeller is exposed to huge forces, both radial and axial, and should the drive gear be incorrectly installed or selected it can lead to failure and damage to the propeller as well as the gearbox driving it. Many a water treatment engineering manager can attest to the headaches in managing an incorrectly installed aerator system.

With SEW Eurodrive's Compact range of IG units many additional assembly options are available and the Extended Bearing Distance (EBD) configuration coupled to SEW Eurodrive's Drywell Bearing Housing was ideally suited for the aeration process. The EBD configuration allows for much higher radial and axial forces to be absorbed by the gearbox. The Drywell bearing housing ensures no oil can leak into the sensitive water treatment process.

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“In our industry we have to ensure that we are offering our clients the best solutions at competitive prices,” comments Chris Erasmus, Projects Manager at Inenzo Water. “Over the years we have found that the pricing, quality and service offered by SEW, played a decisive role in our procurement for this project.”

SEW Eurodrive has extensive application knowledge with regards to gearboxes driving aeration equipment. By listening to the client’s requirement and understanding the unique problems faced on this project SEW Eurodrive was able to marry its own extensive product range and knowledge with the expectations of the client. SEW Eurodrive strives to ensure that every application requirement is fully understood and that each product delivered meets with the high standard of service and quality that its clients have come to expect over the last 82 years.

"The Compact range of IG units are really becoming popular in South Africa," says Byron Griffiths, Manager of the SEW Cape Town Branch. "These units have excellent configuration options, such as the EBD and drywell bearing housing we used on this project. These compact units are also relatively small for the torque that they can handle which makes them easier to install and commission, which cuts down on start-up costs and time."

One of the key advantages in selecting the MC series of IG units is that the units are produced in Nelspruit. Having the assembly locally cuts down on international shipping costs which results in a saving for the client. The units can also be produced faster and that can help bring down project lead times. Availability of spares and turnaround time on repairs can also be kept short to further ensure high levels of availability. Due to SEW Eurodrive having the

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expertise to assemble these units in South Africa, some degree of customizing and order flexibility can also be offered to the client.

The Modular Compact series of gearboxes can handle 6 – 65 kNm and operate with high levels of availability. As with all SEW Eurodrive's IG units the gearbox can be universally mounted and full service, maintenance and conditioning monitoring is offered with a 24/7/365 availability by SEW Eurodrive's highly trained technical and engineering staff.

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