

Tried and trusted Mono turns 60

Denorco's Mono range of industrial pumps celebrates its 60th anniversary in South Africa this year, proving that this tried and trusted range of pumps has conquered the test of time.

The progressing cavity technology that is at the heart of the Mono range of positive displacement pumps has successfully partnered South African agriculture and industry, whether it is for borehole, water transfer or across a wide range industrial applications.

"Mono started back in 1935 in England and by developing the principle of a Frenchman, Dr Rene Moineau, the first seeds were sown for the international growth pattern that the company has achieved today," explains Mono product manager at Denorco, Steven Rose.

"It was in 1948 that a sales agency was set up in SA. During the 1950's the company imported industrial products from the parent company in Manchester, and later developed its own borehole range utilising a flexible shaft drive as Mono UK did not have a borehole pump. Subsequently the basic design was adopted in both the UK and Australia. Today the flexible shaft principal is widely used around the world."

Industrial expansion was such that by 1956 the agency became a SA registered company under the name Mono Pumps (Africa) Pty. Ltd. making British-designed pumps locally. By 1964 the SA company had started manufacturing operations with a small factory at Lakeview Road, Ophirton.

Nine years later – Mono UK had been taken over by Gallager, the tobacco firm and the SA plant moved to Wynberg, Johannesburg. At this time South Africa, with its enormous industrial potential, was experiencing a boom period.

"Local manufacture of the industrial cast-iron range was introduced during 1973 mainly due to the fact that the UK was experiencing labour problems and due to strikes was unable to supply SA.

"This led to greater expansion and in 1974 a new and much larger factory was opened in Sebenza, Edenvale – where we are today. From here, the company produced a vast range of pumps for various commercial purposes, and for marketing reasons, the company was split into four separate groups, namely industrial, agricultural, process engineering and sewage."

By the early 1980's Mono SA had stopped manufacturing the British designed pump range and had introduced the locally designed and developed M-Range of industrial pumps.

The Mono range has proven to be highly popular with the mining, petrochemical, chemical, pulp and paper, sugar, waste water sewage, food and beverage, pharmaceutical, agricultural and irrigation sectors.

“To this day, the Mono range of pumps is the benchmark for progressive cavity pumps in South Africa, where versatility and reliability are essential. Denorco continues to grow the sales of this highly regarded brand and we see a great future for the range in times to come,” concluded Rose.

Company Milestones

Mono has been represented by various organisations through the years:

During 1988 Gallagher left South Africa and the company was sold to Fluid Holdings, a subsidiary of the Malbak group of companies. At this point Mono Pumps (Africa) ceased to exist and the name was changed to Mono Pumps.

1993 saw the sale of the company to Murray and Roberts to form part of Abertech Industries. Launch of the Rotoflo range of locally designed and developed stainless steel rotary lobe pumps.

1996 – Mono Pumps sold to Howden Africa- and absorbed into Howden Fluid Transfer and continued trading under that name.

1997 – The company merged with M & B Pumps and the name changed to Howden Pumps.

1998 – Howden acquired Pumpmaker, a manufacturer of submersible borehole pumps, and merged it into Howden Pumps.

2004 – Howden Pumps and Orbit Pumps merged to form Denorco.

2007 – Denorco bought by Franklin Electric Company Inc.

Product Milestones

Mono has grown up considerably through the years:

1966 – Montjie discharge head superseded the LT head

1971 – Monostroom and Monomeester discharge heads and high pressure, flexshaft drive irrigation pumps e.g. D30/ES10

1973 – The first hand pump was developed

1979 – M Range of industrial pumps introduced

1982 – HD Range of horizontal discharge, high-pressure irrigation pumps developed

1986 – Mono range won the Shell Design Award for the direct hand pump

1991 – Electroflo range of submersible progressing cavity pumps introduced

1992 – Awarded the Cullinan Design Award for the Electroflo pump

1993 - Launch of the Rotoflo range of locally designed and developed stainless steel rotary lobe pumps.

1995 – Indura Range of industrial flexshaft pumps introduced

1997 – Indura Range extended to incorporate coupling rod drive option

2007 – Comprehensive range of industrial pumps launched and consolidated under the Mono brand name

Denorco is South Africa's leading manufacturer of world-class, engineered pumping solutions. Backed by a team of highly experienced engineers, Denorco offers a broad range of locally designed and developed pumps ideal for applications across a wide variety of markets.

Denorco's core focus is on providing the highest quality, most reliable and cost effective products and services. These products are backed by a professional and dynamic network of sales and support experts who are capable of developing and supporting complete pumping solutions tailor-made to specific customer requirements.

Denorco is an ISO 9001:2000 quality certified company.

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