

Ongoing Hinkley Point C project requires Sykes Pumps hire solutions

The sheer scale of Hinkley Point presents its fair share of challenges, necessitating that the experts at Sykes Pumps oversee the site's far-reaching dewatering requirements.

One of the difficulties of managing a site of this size and scope, particularly given its coastal location, and proximity to natural water courses, is taking rainfall and tidal surges into consideration. To help achieve this, the lead contractor has divided the vast site into six water managements zones (WMZ) and enlisted the help of Sykes Pumps, to provide the varied pumping solutions required.

One of the first tasks for Sykes was to provide a solution to manage the huge surges in flow caused by the tide during construction of the sea wall. A spokesperson for the contractor explains: "At high tide we needed to be able to pump 350 litres of water per second away from the site. The best approach for this was a submersible pump designed for high flow rates and high heads, which is exactly what Sykes Pumps provided.

The water pump experts provided 3 x PX30 heavy duty electric submersible pumps capable of pumping 350 litres per second and heads of up to 70 metres. These low-maintenance pumps are simple to install and extremely robust, making them ideal for such a busy site.

The contractor has also hired super silenced Super Wispaset 100 4" diesel pumps and super silenced Super Wispaset 150 6" pumps from Sykes Pumps, for various locations around the site to pump groundwater and rainwater into 'dirty' water storage lagoons.

Additionally, Sykes Pumps supplied a number of specially modified surface mounted electric pumps to manage the ground water in each of the WMZ. These will be used in combination with specialist filtration units, which have been specifically designed to separate suspended solids and sediment from water before it is released back into natural water courses. The cleaned water can then be tested for impurities before being discharged.

A total of 14 modified electric surface mounted pumps for deployment across the six WMZ have subsequently been ordered; seven 22kW units and seven 55kW units. These have been modified to include an automated priming system, converting the units to automatic self-priming pumps.

A spokesperson for the project explains: "This is much more than a pump hire agreement because of the size and complexity of the site. In addition to the right equipment, Sykes Pumps has provided us with a consultancy-based service that ensures we have the right solutions in place for different areas of the site and the varying pumping needs of different elements of the construction programme."



- Model** PX30 N Medium Head
- Motor type (V)** 415 (3-Phase) 50Hz
- Motor rating (kW)** 56
- Max power input (kW)** 61
- Running current (Amps)** 110
- Discharge port (inch)** 6 or 8
- Dimensions (mm)** 1130 x 935
- Weight (kg)** 525

