

High-head dewatering saves the day at Lesotho mine

It's business as usual at a mining operation in Lesotho, thanks to the quick delivery of a rapid dewatering solution by Integrated Pump Rental.

A constant flow of water into the Lesotho mine's pit area demanded that water be urgently and reliably pumped out. A fuel-efficient Sykes Xtra High Head pump set was chosen for the job, pumping the water into a 200 mm HDPE line with a head of 127 metres, into a holding dam.

According to Integrated Pump Rental's Andre Strydom, time was of the essence. "We secured this dewatering contract because of our quick and effective response," says Strydom. "The Sykes XH150 unit was on site and commissioned just 24 hours after receiving the call from the customer."

Strydom highlights that as mines and quarries become deeper, conditions require a suitable solution, like the Sykes XH150. With an automatic priming and solids handling capacity, it is designed to dewater more efficiently and effectively.

The pump included a 'snore' feature, which accommodates fluctuating suction levels. In these conditions, the pump will snore until the liquid is available for the pump to fully re-prime itself automatically.

"The unit has one of the best shaft stiffness ratios of any automatic priming pump on the market," he says. "Sykes engineers have ensured that the enormous pressures and heads associated with such performance do not compromise seal integrity through shaft flexing."

All pump models have the ability to operate unattended at high discharge heads. The pumps can be primed with long suction hoses and can manage suction lifts of up to nine metres.

"Designed for robust and reliable performance with high volumes of water, Sykes pumps have an established reputation for the fast and effective control and removal of sub-surface water. The units can even run dry for extended periods owing to the oil bath mechanical seal assembly."

"We strive to go that 'extra mile' for our clients. Our service levels and experience made the whole operation smooth and effortless," Strydom concludes. □



A Sykes Xtra High Head dewatering pump provided reliable dewatering to a mine in Lesotho.



Equipped with automatic priming and solids handling capability, the Sykes Xtra High Head pump is ideal for harsh dewatering applications.



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