

# Multotec's new UX7 spiral for recovering ultra-fines

As a leading designer and manufacturer of spiral concentrators, Multotec has released its UX7 spiral, which will allow customers to recover more of their valuable ultra-fine material so it does not go to waste. In fact, according to Refentse Molehe, process engineer at Multotec, the UX7 opens the door for customers to cost effectively re-treat their tailings dams.

**M**ultotec has taken another innovative step to help customers recover more of their valuable ultra-fine material so it does not get discarded as waste.

As a leading designer and manufacturer of spiral concentrators, Multotec has released its UX7 spiral which focuses on recovering material in the particle size range of 75 µm and smaller. Refentse Molehe, process engineer at Multotec, says the success of the Multotec UX7 is based on extensive in-house test work, which has led to recovery improvements of around 13%.

"Much of the testing was conducted on chrome, manganese and iron ore, but the UX7 spiral can as easily be applied to copper, platinum and other metals," says Molehe. "This is an exciting development for the sector as we have seen growing interest from our customers in gaining financial value from material that has traditionally ended up in tailings storage facilities."

She notes that efforts to improve the recovery of ultra-fines have used a range of technologies, but spirals have always been regarded as a highly reliable and energy efficient solution. Multotec's continuous improvement of its spiral technology to suit customer needs now opens the door for customers to cost effectively re-treat their tailings dams to recover valuable ultra-fine material.

"In addition to its ability to recover ultra-fines, the Multotec UX7 spiral benefits from the various advantages shared by spiral concentrators," she says. "These include the lower environmental risk and cost due to the absence of chemicals, and the low maintenance of this technology, which has no moving parts."

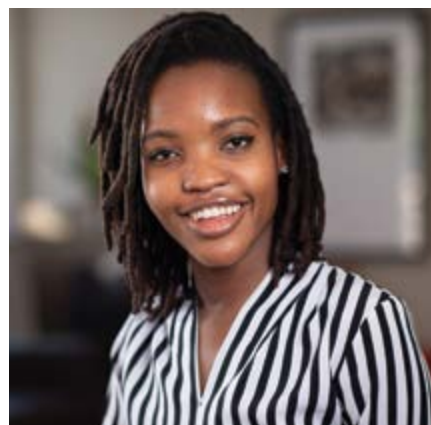
Multotec's decades of on-the-ground experience in mineral processing – and its depth of expertise in a range of related disciplines – equip the company to provide a customised, full flow sheet solution. Molehe emphasises that each application of the Multotec UX7 spiral will be based on an in-depth understanding of the cus-

tomers' operating conditions, fine-tuned by extensive testing of material to ensure the optimal result.

"Once we can confirm that the UX7 spiral is the appropriate solution for the customer's

operation, we then build in the throughput and capacity requirements and accordingly design the flowsheet to accommodate the specifications to be achieved," she concludes.

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Multotec's new UX7 spiral for recovering ultra-fines has been tested on chrome, manganese and iron ore but can also be applied in the recovery of copper, platinum and other metals. Each application of the Multotec UX7 spiral will be based on an in-depth understanding of the customer's operating conditions.



Multotec's versatile spiral test rig in use, upgrading ultra-fine chrome. The full-scale test rig is part of a range of dedicated facilities employed by Multotec's Technology Division to optimise mineral separation and concentration methodologies for customers.