

# Multi-stage pumps go local

**A**PE Pumps has refocused its manufacture and is to again actively target the local market for multi-stage high pressure pumps, with a special emphasis on mine de-watering applications.

This was the announcement made recently by technical and sales director Alan Sternsdorf, who said that increased production of the multi-stage range and a drive for local market share were logical developments following naturally from the company's acquisition by AIX-listed PSV Holdings in November last year.

"We have been manufacturing multi-stage pumps for de-watering applications in mines outside South Africa for some years now," Sternsdorf said. "These pumps have performed to

specification and with great reliability.

"With the PSV group providing the financial support that we need to responsibly expand our order book, the time has arrived to expand production and establish a local footprint within South African mines," said Sternsdorf.

Wadeville-based APE Pumps is a major contributor to South Africa's premium pump engineering industry, and widely acknowledged as a leader in vertical turbine pump manufacture.

It is also an established exporter of petrochemical pumps to API 610 standard, and an active participant in the markets for split-casing, axial-flow, end-suction and vertical sump pumps.

The BEE-accredited company has not previously emphasised its multi-stage range in local marketing cam-

paigns.

Sternsdorf said that the reorganisation and expansion of APE's Wadeville works would now provide the additional capacity needed to support an increase in sales of multi-stage high pressure de-watering pumps.

The range delivers capacities up to 900m<sup>3</sup>/h at heads of up to 1200 metres.

An enlarged shaft section in all models ensures vibration-free running, with a balancing disc accommodating the additional axial-thrust balancing required for the high output pressures.

Shaft sealing is either by stuffing box packing or by mechanical seal, and bearing housings are protected against the ingress of spray water by means of lip seals.

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