

Mag Drive Chemical Pumps for Mining Applications Offer Heavy-Duty Solution for Mineral Extraction



Nearly all manufactured goods on the market today contain some mineral component. Modern electronic devices typically contain more than 35 minerals. With such high demand, the mining industry has never been more crucial to product development.

To meet market needs, mining professionals must utilize products that can withstand the harsh conditions of the industry. For example, these operations require the use of corrosive liquids for mineral extraction, and many mining processes create hazardous fluids as a byproduct. Due to the nature of the chemicals involved, not all solutions are suitable.

To handle these heavy-duty applications, mine operators are turning to Finish Thompson's powerful chemical pumps. Common fluids encountered in the mining industry include corrosive chemicals such as hydrochloric acid, sulfuric acid, nitric acid, cyanide, and sodium hydroxide. Finish Thompson's mag-drive centrifugal chemical pumps are ideal solutions for conveying these challenging materials and improving the safety and productivity of this industry.

Hazard Reduction

In Chile, managers of a copper mine were using mechanically sealed pumps to transfer concentrated sulfuric acid. The seals developed leaks, and the company was experiencing frequent fluid spills and hazardous environmental situations. Significant resources were diverted to pump repairs and cleaning of the surrounding environment, which meant increased worker safety risk and decreased productivity.

Gilberto Narváez Cardona, Finish Thompson Regional Manager for Latin America, has been working with the mining company to select the best pumps for their harsh conditions. Gilberto reports, "They switched to Finish Thompson's ULTRAChem® pump for this application. Its sealless mag-drive design ensures that there are no leaks, and its ductile iron construction with standardized dimensions make it a robust solution for mining operations."

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Gilberto adds, "The mine operators have been very pleased with the performance of the pump, the low maintenance costs, and the ease of changing spare parts compared to competitors' pumps that they have used in the past."

Reliable Operation

A multi-national chemical manufacturer headquartered in Asia also needed a resilient solution, for the separation and refinement of rare earth elements used in magnet production. This procedure requires managing hydrochloric acid, sodium hypochlorite, sodium hydroxide, and sulfuric acid at various stages of the magnet manufacturing process.

In the past, the company used a competitor's pump for this application. "They then discovered they could get faster delivery and a better value by choosing Finish Thompson's ULTRAChem pumps," explains Sieng Huynh, Finish Thompson Regional Manager. "Plus, the Finish Thompson pumps are ideal for handling the many corrosive substances that are needed for the separation, refinement, and sintering processes involved with their manufacturing."



The pumps have been in place for nine years of successful operation. Huynh notes, "Based on the results of the application and their satisfaction with the products and services, I'd say the pumps are a perfect fit."

Finish Thompson Inc. designs and manufactures pumps for the safe transfer of a wide variety of corrosive fluids. Products include sealless mag-drive centrifugal pumps with run-dry capability, mechanically sealed pumps, drum/barrel pumps, vertical mag-drive pumps, multi-stage pumps and the FTI Air line of air operated double diaphragm (AODD) pumps.



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