



ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNOLOGY

80 million litres of water per year to be saved at Mexican mine

The Grupo Mexico Caridad mine in Mexico was experiencing lengthy downtimes and using high volumes of water for lubricating pump packing. To address these issues, AESSEAL® were called in to give expert advice.

The customer explained that due to the nature of the mine’s environment, the pumps’ impellers have to be regularly replaced due to high erosion. This replacement takes place approximately every 3 months leading to a downtime of 12-15 hours each time.

Following a consultation with AESSEAL® the customer made the change from pump packing to mechanical seals. Although the pump continues to fail every 3 months, downtime has reduced by more than half as impeller replacement is much easier and quicker with an installed mechanical seal instead of gland packing. Following the replacement of the impeller, the same seal continues to work faultlessly.

Packing was costing the customer in excess of \$111,000 per year, but now only spends \$12,000 a year seeing a reduction of 89.2% in their costs. This has enabled them to effectively ‘break even’ within just 2 months. What’s more, further savings are to be achieved through the massive reduction in water usage. Previously through the use of packing, the pumps were consuming around 160 litres of water per minute. Now with the new seal and system installed, there is a potential to save more than 80 million litres of water annually.



‘Breakeven after 74 days’

Industry:	Mining
Product:	CDPH
Application:	Mining
Savings:	\$111,000 per year
ROI:	74 days
Reference N.O:	CH01589



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