



press release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2006**

**Amarinth delivers innovative variable speed pumps  
into Axsia Nutshell Filters for Sonatrach**

**Algerian fuel manufacturing company, Sonatrach, has commissioned two new Axsia Nutshell Filters at its Birbirquine site in Algeria. These are the first Axsia filters to incorporate an ingenious new variable speed pump designed by Amarith.**

Axsia, a subsidiary of the NATCO Group, supplies the European market with the NATCO PowerClean system. Nutshell filters are an extremely efficient way of treating oily water produced during the processing of oil and gas. The success of the filter however relies heavily on the design and operation of the pump to circulate the nutshell fibrous media without damaging it during the backwash process.

In order to support its European market, Axsia required a local pump partner and selected Amarith to produce a pump system for this challenging task. Amarith designed an elegant, compact and reliable variable speed pump system by modifying one of its proven heavy duty pumps to suit the specific operating conditions. Materials were chosen that could survive in a sour service environment containing hydrogen sulphide.

-- MORE --

Pump speed is crucial to the process of releasing the oil effectively. A change of just 100rpm makes a significant difference. Amarith chose to use its innovative variable speed control system to govern the pump speed. This produced a compact and uncomplicated system where the optimum speed can be easily selected. The result is a significant decrease in overall commissioning and process optimisation time over traditional complex belt drive systems.

Mr Andrew Hamilton, Proposals Manager at Axsia commented: "Finding a reliable and supportive supplier for the recirculator pumps was the key to producing the Nutshell Filters here in the UK. Amarith listened to our requirements and came up with some great ideas. They worked closely with us to create a very elegant solution."

Oliver Briggshaw, Managing Director of Amarith, added: "We are delighted that the new pump system has delivered the benefits Axsia were seeking. We pride ourselves on delivering innovative solutions to challenging design problems. For the Nutshell Filters we brought together a number of our proven technologies to deliver an improved, cost effective and reliable solution."

The ongoing partnership between Axsia and Amarith will see a range of material options being offered and a standardised range of pumps of each size of filter. Customised installations have already been designed and supplied, such as horizontal pumps for the Prirazlomnoye offshore oilfield located in northern Russia.

-- END --

### OPTIONAL PANEL or BOX ITEMS



Amarinth pump in-situ



Axsia nutshell filters in-situ



The Sonatrac site at Birbirkine, Algeria

## **NOTES TO EDITORS:**

Founded in 2002, Amarith has harnessed the skills, creativity and passion of people who have worked in the pump industry for many years. Amarith delivers world-leading expertise in the design, application and manufacture of pumps and associated equipment to create innovative solutions that help organisations operate more efficiently and effectively. These include Ci-Nergy, the industry-leading intelligent variable speed control system; high quality seal systems from its Protect System division that incorporate fully compliant Zone I vessels with inbuilt condition monitoring; and state-of-the-art e-commerce technologies delivering 24/7 support allowing customers to place orders on-line through the internet and then track every stage of manufacture through to delivery, any time, anywhere in the world.

Amarinth designs and manufactures a broad range of centrifugal pumps and ancillary equipment to ISO, ANSI & API standards, primarily for the industrial, chemical & petrochemical markets. Working with their customers and specialist partners, the company also designs total pumping solutions and packaged systems that can include receivers and interceptor vessels, condensate recovery units, filtration modules, instrumentation and control, valves and pipe work. Many Amarith pumps are directly interchangeable with those from the Girdlestone range, eliminating the need for expensive modifications when replacements are required.

The company operates globally from its base in Rendlesham Suffolk, United Kingdom and has a customer base of world-leading companies, including BP, Shell, ExxonMobil, GlaxoSmithKline, Pfizer, Spirax Sarco, Diageo, AMEC, and Halliburton.

### **For further information, electronic copy or photos contact:**

#### **Comment:**

Steve Buckley  
Sales & Marketing Director  
Amarinth Limited  
Bentwaters Park  
Rendlesham  
Woodbridge IP12 2TW  
United Kingdom

Tel: +44 (0)1394 462122  
Mobile: +44 (0)7971 506 994  
Steve.Buckley@Amarinth.com

#### **Media Relations:**

Phil Harland  
B6 Solutions Limited  
29 Swan Drive  
The Wharf  
Aldermaston  
Reading RG7 4UZ  
United Kingdom

Tel: +44 (0)118 971 3790  
Mobile: +44 (0)7880 748380  
Phil.Harland@B6solutions.com

Amarinth can also be reached on its website: [www.amarith.com](http://www.amarith.com)

Go to our “Downloads” page at [www.amarith.com](http://www.amarith.com) to see all our press releases and find out more about us.