

Hydro Group plc. Case Study

The company:

Hydro Group manufactures hazardous environment cables, connectors and penetrators and offers full project managed solutions. The highly skilled, 75-strong workforce has a 30-year history of providing high quality solutions to sub-sea, defense and other specialist markets from their state of the art facility in Aberdeen.



The Challenge:

- Cabling lay-up machinery had become worn over years of service resulting in more frequent downtime, slower than optimum running speeds and heavy power usage
- This machinery had become the bottleneck operation and was in high demand making preventative maintenance difficult
- Little in the way of OEM drawings, parts lists or documentation was available for the machinery

FirScot Delivery

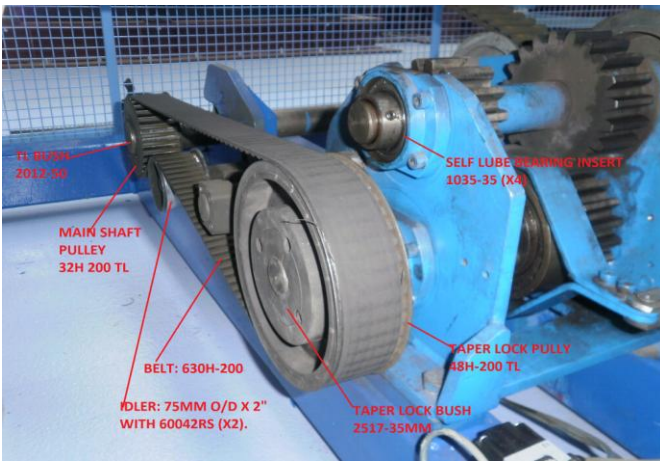
The equipment was surveyed without undue disruption to the production schedule and a detailed report generated so all parties were clear on the scope of works. FirScot managed a third party to support the survey and identify then source bearings etc. required for the rebuild.

All risk assessments were carried out prior to works starting and in full co-operation with on-site procedures and QHSE staff.

The FirScot team worked hand-in-hand with site staff to strip the machine to chassis level, taking photographs and documenting findings as the work progressed.

The rebuild included replacing all bearings, shafts, pulleys, belts and gears. Four gearboxes were refurbished and a DNV tested mobile winch was built to safely lift heavy mechanisms clear of the chassis. This was retained by Hydro Group for future maintenance purposes.

Thorough cleaning and painting of some surfaces completed the project scope.



Tangible Results

- Speeds of up to 3-times pre-reconditioning work are now regularly achieved
- The machine is much smoother and quieter in operation giving confidence to run at higher speeds
- Measured energy consumption is down by over 30%
- Modifications have taken the machine beyond its design capability making it less likely to wear key components in future
- Parts lists, drawings and maintenance schedules were provided within the project scope
- Additional benefits came from training Hydro Group maintenance staff on the job
- The whole project was delivered on-time and on-budget



Hydro Group Quote:

"Upgrading of our 'bread and butter' lay-up machinery was a major factor in achieving our growth plans. The whole project was managed seamlessly by FirScot from the outset with clearly defined objectives, H&S considerations, regular communication, early parts ordering and availability of machining capacity etc. The parts supplier was managed by FirScot as part of the project and modifications were made to the machine to make the design more robust for future maintenance purposes. The whole was delivered on-time and on-budget with nothing too much trouble for the FirScot team. I would readily recommend FirScot to anyone wanting deep equipment refurbishment work"

Gary Caunt
Production Director
Hydro Group PLC