



Case Study

Pumping 40% Lime Sludge

City of Boca Raton, Water Treatment Plant, Florida

The Challenge

- Lime sludge solids to 40%
- High repair bills for PC pumps
- Large solids caused plugging

The Discflo Solution

- Discflo pump handles high solids without clogging
- No breakdown or repairs in three years' operation
- No wear due to abrasion, due to disc pump's non-contact action

At Boca Raton WTP in Florida, a Discflo disc pump has successfully replaced two progressive cavity pumps. The pump, a 604-2HHD, is being used to pump 35-40% lime sludge - a byproduct of the water softening process, which is settled out the water in clarifiers. The City experienced yearly repair bills on each of the PC pumps of \$4000-\$6000 due to the abrasive nature of the lime sludge against the rubber stators and steel rotors of the PC pumps. Even though the 12 month run time between major overhauls was twice that of other municipalities in their lime sludge operation, it was not long enough for Ron Diedrich, the chief operator at the Boca Raton plant.

Ron initially installed a mining type slurry pump on a trial basis. The unit failed completely as it was not able to pass the large (2 3/4" diameter) chunks of lime sludge that periodically sloughed off the inside of the lime sludge system. In order to make sure there would be no plugging problem, Bert Gerber, Discflo's distributor in Florida, recommended the City try a Discflo model 604-2HHD, which could pass in excess of 3" diameter solids.

The pump was installed in August 1994 and has been running ever since with no downtime, repairs or plugging. The pump runs at 400 GPM, replacing two pump each at 200 GPM. Bert Gerber and Ron Diedrich took the pump apart last month (June 1997) to inspect it. "We found no signs of wear," says Ron, "and it is still in daily use."

Call Discflo now to find out how our pumps can solve your problems.



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