After eight years in business, 100% black-owned minerals processing and dust extraction company, MIP Process Technologies is still going strong having embraced the challenges associated with repressed mining market conditions over recent years.

"Our ethos is to supply superior products, speedily and competitively. This company philosophy is assisting mining companies deliver viable and profitable projects," says Philip Hoff, MD.

The current state of the mining industry has affected most companies to some degree. For the first time MIP Process Technologies’ (MIP) year-on-year growth is less than that of previous ones.

The company has a large installed base of equipment worldwide and serves the industry via its own offices combined with its agents located in strategically identified ‘mining-strong’ areas.

25 m diameter bolted thickener

You can’t keep us down, we’ll rise to ANY challenge
MINERALS PROCESSING

forward, we go

NEW DEVELOPMENTS

1. MIP has introduced a number of new technologies within its specialist product areas of expertise aimed at reducing costs, improving erection timeframe and reducing environment-impacting footprints.

“Our thickeners with skid mounted leg design have been well received,” Hoff highlights. “It minimises civil plinth costs, meaning units can easily be relocated. This is especially worthwhile in the coal and diamond industry where modular plants are traditionally employed.”

This thickener design can also be used in conjunction with MIP’s bolted thickener offering, a concept developed in-house and further perfected with each installation.

The bolted design thickener offers the following benefits:

- Shorter erection time on site with subsequent savings;
- Minimum welding is required on site;
- Instalment can be done whilst civils are constructed on site;
- No leaks due to a special method of sealing used.

A large range of bolted thickeners, ranging from 10 m diameters to 38 m diameters has been supplied for chrome, coal, gold, diamond and platinum tailings and concentrate applications. During 2011, MIP manufactured the largest bolted thickener in the world (at the time) for a diamond tailings application.

2. The second major development from MIP is the expansion of its dust extraction offering. Its standard bag filter range now includes bag lengths up to 5 000 mm. This means smaller, but more cost effective units can be utilised while delivering the same resultant air quality.

Further to this, smaller equipment has also been value-engineered to provide a more cost effective-solution.

“Dust extraction offers an additional string to our bow and one that comes at a critical time for major industries such as mining,” says Hoff.

The limits of relief for particulates in the atmosphere are becoming increasingly stringent. According to a World Health Organisation report in 2014, seven million people die annually due to air pollution and in many instances are attributed to coal and wood burning, industrial exhaust gasses, clay brick factories open cast mining and vehicles.

MIP’s dust extraction range ensures all aspects of pollution control are covered – from cleaning toxic gasses to dust particles. In order to show government how companies will meet the new regulations, they need to submit environmental plans.

“We can provide assistance and support with a phased implementation approach if required,” Hoff reveals.

A BIG DEAL

3. One of MIP’s most impressive feats to date is its supply of some of the largest linear screens in the world with units exported to Australia, Mali, Zambia and the Democratic Republic of Congo – designed at home in South Africa. These units remove woodchips or waste which increases reagent usage and subsequent costs.

DID YOU KNOW?

We can save up to eight weeks in on-site erection time with the implementation of our bolted thickener design
We are ‘cautiously’ optimistic for 2016 and expect a variety of new projects to come online early in the year. Our ethos has and remains to supply superior products, speedily and competitively. This company philosophy is assisting mining companies deliver viable and profitable projects.

Philip Hoff – MD

MIP is one of few companies in the mining industry with the highest (Level 1) B-BBEE rating, based on the latest codes. “Although it has stood us in good stead in the South African market, it has not detracted us from producing equipment at the right quality and on time,” Hoff emphasises.

Since new capital projects are less frequent, mining companies are focusing on Brownfield projects. Subsequent to this new market requirement, MIP has been very successful in modernising old thickeners.

Many of South African plants contain outdated equipment which can be replaced at minimal cost to deliver improved throughputs and higher efficiencies. This has proved very successful at a phosphate mine, where the modernisation of the thickeners has resulted in higher underflow densities. Subsequent downstream process efficiencies such as filtration are improved as well. The added benefit is substantial water saving – a scarce commodity.

The refurbishment of two 45.7 m diameter thickeners’ mechanisms for a gold operation has offered similar benefits.

“Thickeners that have been dormant for years can now be put back into operation for minimal investment. This enables mining operations to increase production and stay economically viable.”

Rogan Roulstone joined MIP Process in the latter half of 2015 as general manager. Rogan comes with a wealth of experience having worked at some of the major process design houses in South Africa. He is a chemical engineer and has previously worked in the supply sector of the market.

He is responsible for MIP’s day-to-day operations, which includes; project execution, design and development and finance. “Rogan’s appointment is part of our commitment to our customers to provide the best service delivery underpinned by quality staff,” says Hoff.
Our current product range includes:
- Attrition Scrubbers
- Agitators
- Bag Filters
- Clarifiers
- Cyclones for dust extraction
- Depressant Plants
- Dry Air Scrubbers
- Horizontal Linear Screens
- Mixers
- Reagent Make-up Plants
- Screen-covers for vibrating screens
- Slurry Samplers
- Thickeners
- Wet Scrubbers

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