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Locally Manufactured Multotec Trommel Screen For Tronox Brand SE Baai Site

South African Original Equipment Manufacturer, Multotec won a tender from Tronox's Namakwa Sands to replace a trommel at the mine's Primary Concentration Plant East (PCPE) at its Brand se Baai site on the West Coast.

Greta Mantell, technical sales representative at Multotec Manufacturing, says the scope of supply included the trommel screen, screen panels and ancillary equipment which formed part of the installation at the PCPE.

"What was essential on this particular project was that the new Multotec trommel would replicate the exact process functionality of the old unit and provide the same level of operational performance and reliability as the old screen had for the past 12 years," Mantell says.

In this application, the Multotec trommel screen is used to classify East Mine Run-of-Mine (ROM) by size and discharge the oversize to the tailings conveyor. The undersize is processed as normal. Significantly, this screen is the only piece of equipment operating in the ROM processing circuit for which there is no standby or bypass alternative.

Tronox's PCPE uses sea water for its processes and this, together with operating in the harsh West Coast environment, meant that corrosion protection was a priority on the trommel. It has been supplied with replaceable polyurethane shell protectors as well as a high performance corrosion protection paint on all the non-rubberised surfaces. The trommel screen is fitted with Spalto polyurethane panels selected to ensure optimum throughput and wear life.

With a focus on improving total cost of ownership, Multotec implemented its innovative one-side fitting of screen panels on the trommel, and Mantell says this will facilitate quicker panel changeouts saving on costs. As panel maintenance now only needs to be executed from the inside, safety will also be enhanced during this activity.

The new Multotec trommel is 7,2 metres long and has a diameter of 2,5 metres. The total mass of the trommel, including panels, is 12,5 tonnes.

The new trommel was delivered on time and installation was done by the mine with Multotec handling the commissioning. Mantell says that after trouble free installation, the trommel screen immediately operated at 95% of its design capacity and one day later full feed of 1000 tph was maintained.

TROMMEL PIC 01 : From left at the official handover of the locally manufactured trommel are Jacques Kleynhans, T&I project manager at Tronox SA Sands, and Greta Mantell, technical sales representative at Multotec.

TROMMEL PIC 02 : The new locally manufactured Multotec trommel installed with the old trommel still visible in the background.

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