



Case Study

Problem-Free Pumping for 10 Years

Village Creek TP, Fort Worth, Texas

The Challenge

Viscous, abrasive sludge with rags and large solids

High spare parts bill for existing centrifugal pumps

Pumps cavitated under 300 GPM

The Discflo Solution

Discflo pump design ideal for viscous sludge and large solids

Pump overhauled only once in 10 years' service

Varying flow rates possible without cavitation at 100 GPM



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A Discflo pump installed at the Village Creek Treatment Plant in Fort Worth, Texas, is still running well after 10 years' service. Says Ken Collingsworth, Senior Water Systems Mechanic for the plant: "I can only think of one time we've overhauled it in 10 years. It's been very minimal maintenance."

The Discflo pump, an in-line Model 403-2D, is installed in the return pump station and is used to remove waste from the bottom of the final clarifier to the incineration plant. It is a tough fluid to pump - viscous, abrasive, containing rags and other solids. The Discflo pump was originally purchased for a hot water application, but because of the product's low viscosity, it was not successful.

"I had read about the disc pump's operation," says Ken Collingsworth, "and realized it would be much better suited to the waste sludge pumping area, where we were having problems with the existing centrifugal pumps." Ken persuaded the Plant Manager to try the Discflo pump in the return pump station and the rest is history.

"We have used one disc pump to replace two centrifugal pumps. The centrifugals required quite a bit of repair and constantly needed new parts. But in ten years, I have only had to replace the shaft sleeve on the disc pump two or three times and overhaul it once."

Another benefit of using the Discflo pump has been better control of flow rate. The pump can pump as low as 100 GPM and up to several 100s GPM. The previous centrifugal pumps, on the other hand, suffered from cavitation below 300 GPM.

The disc pump has also proved easy to maintain and very reliable. This is especially important for passing solids. Comments Ken: "I've never had any rags plug it up, even though they plug up the other centrifugals at the plant. The disc pump allows solids to pass freely."

"I've been a maintenance mechanic for 27 years and from a mechanical standpoint, I've been very pleased with the disc pump."

This story was written in 1999. The pump was installed in 1989.

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