

Industry: Minerals Processing

- Water Solutions

CiDRA[®]
Minerals Processing
Application Note

SONARtrac[®] SOLUTIONS



CiDRA has exceptional field experience with water applications, particularly where scale build up is an issue. The SONARtrac clamp-on system provides a non-intrusive, reliable measurement of the volumetric flow in water applications, and does not require any process shutdown or interruption, as would conventional flow meters. SONARtrac Process Monitoring Systems have been installed in mining facilities around the world.

SONARtrac[®] Technology – Process Applications

- Raw Water
- Reclaimed Water
- Process Water
- Dewatering
- Raw Water Pipeline
- Reclaimed Water Pipeline
- Sea Water Pipeline
- Regulatory Compliance
- Concentrator Process Water
- Water Feed to Ball Mill
- Water Feed to SAG Mill
- Flotation Feed Water
- Leaching: Scrubber Water
- Steel: Dust Collector Water
- Desalination Plants

SONARtrac[®] Technology

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Raw water:

The use of raw water from deep wells causes excessive scale buildup on pipe walls, a common and well-known problem in mining. In such applications electromagnetic flowmeters require a high level of maintenance to provide reliable readings due to problems with scale buildup, which can isolate the electrodes and prevent them from making a measurement.

- *SONARtrac* technology optimizes the control of water consumption by providing accurate tracking and reporting. Moreover, *SONARtrac* systems do not require any need to stop, drain, cut and flange the lines as would an electromagnetic flowmeter.

Water feed lines to SAG and ball mills:

In concentrator plants, availability of the mill is critical to meeting production goals. Good automated control is achieved by having the right instrumentation in the field, and therefore, flow measurement is indispensable for balancing mill loads.

- *SONARtrac* systems increase mill uptime and the reliability of flow measurements as they eliminate the need for any unplanned shutdowns for maintenance due to scale buildup.
- *SONARtrac* systems are maintenance free, thus freeing up extra time spent during plant shutdowns or on unscheduled maintenance.



Process water feed lines:

Large mines, especially those that operate using water from deep wells, are confronted with the challenge of having high mineral and salt content in the water, causing increased scale buildup in process pipes.

- Process water consisting of raw and recovered water increases even more this harmful scale buildup, which damages conventional flowmeters' ability to measure flow.
- *SONARtrac* clamp-on technology eliminates the difficulty involved with installing an electromagnetic flowmeter as there is no need to stop the line, cut it and install a flange.



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