



**43rd Turbomachinery
30th Pump SYMPOSIA**

GEORGE R. BROWN CONVENTION CENTER
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VERTICAL INTEGRAL THRUST BEARING UPGRADE

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**TURBOMACHINERY
LABORATORY**

TEXAS A&M ENGINEERING EXPERIMENT STATION

Outline

- ▶ Pump Background
- ▶ Problem
- ▶ Solution
- ▶ Calculations
- ▶ Benefits
- ▶ Lesson learned
- ▶ Current status



Service

- ▶ Produced Water
- ▶ 2 pump in series
- ▶ Pump 1
 - Suction: 220 PSIG
 - Discharge: 1720 PSIG
- ▶ Pump 2
 - Suction: 1720 PSIG
 - Discharge: 3320 PSIG
- ▶ Temp 130°F



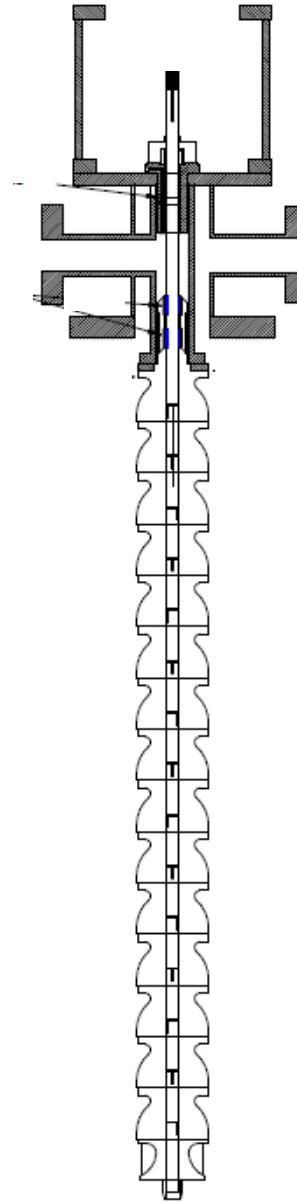
Background

- ▶ Pump originally designed and installed by a reputable OEM.
- ▶ Pump had been repaired and upgraded several times by various repair shops.



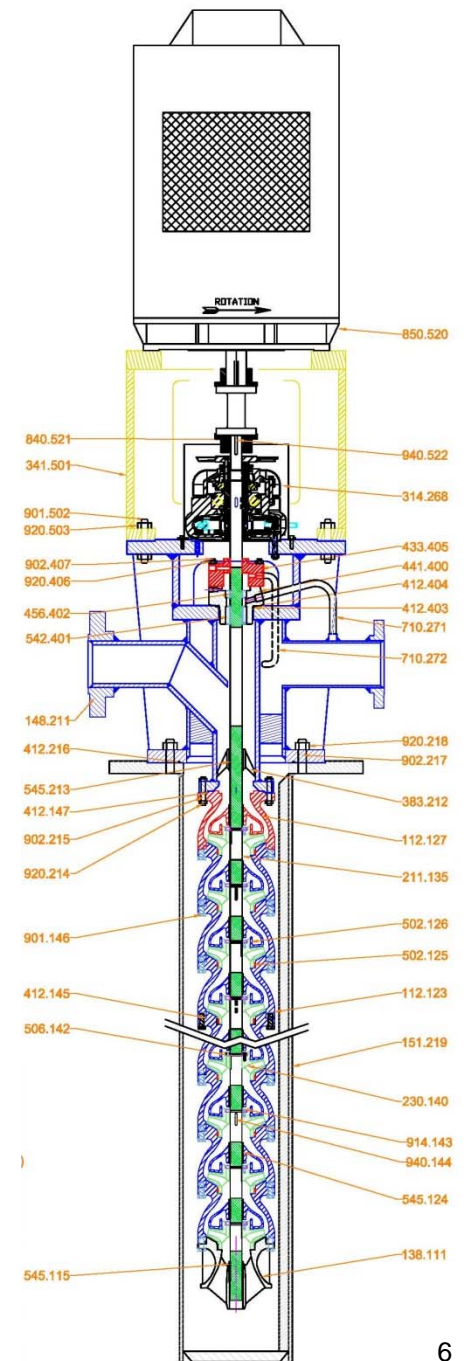
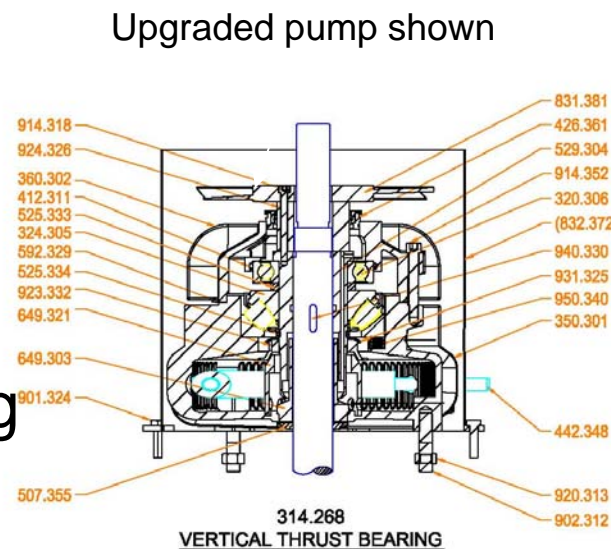
Original Pump design

- ▶ Cast Iron bronze construction
- ▶ 20 + pumps at site
- ▶ Each pump had various upgrades and design changes. Such as the bearing bushing in the housing.



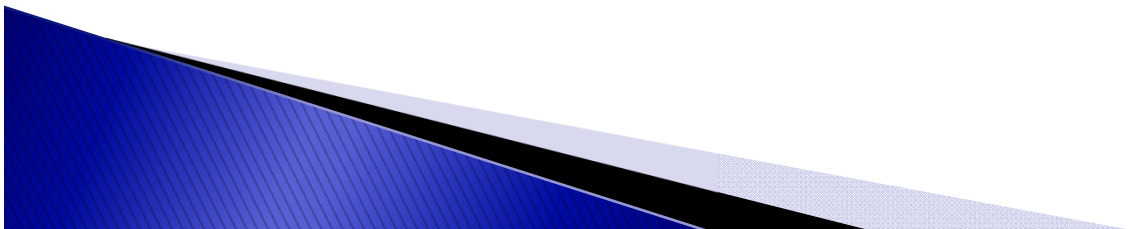
Upgrade

- ▶ Customer wanted to do a complete overhaul on a set of pumps.
- ▶ This included
 - HVOF wear parts
 - Duplex material
 - Mechanical seal. Material and flush plan.
 - Integral thrust bearing (discussed later)



Problem

- ▶ The end user was going to purchase a new motor for these pumps. Due to the thrust load the motor was expensive and had a long lead time. The end user wanted an alternative solution.
- ▶ Customer wanted options when upgrading other pumps in the field.



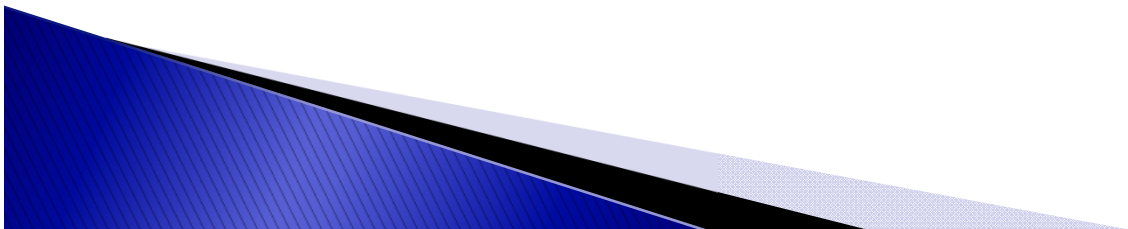
Solution

- ▶ The engineering team offered a vertical thrust bearing as a possible solution.

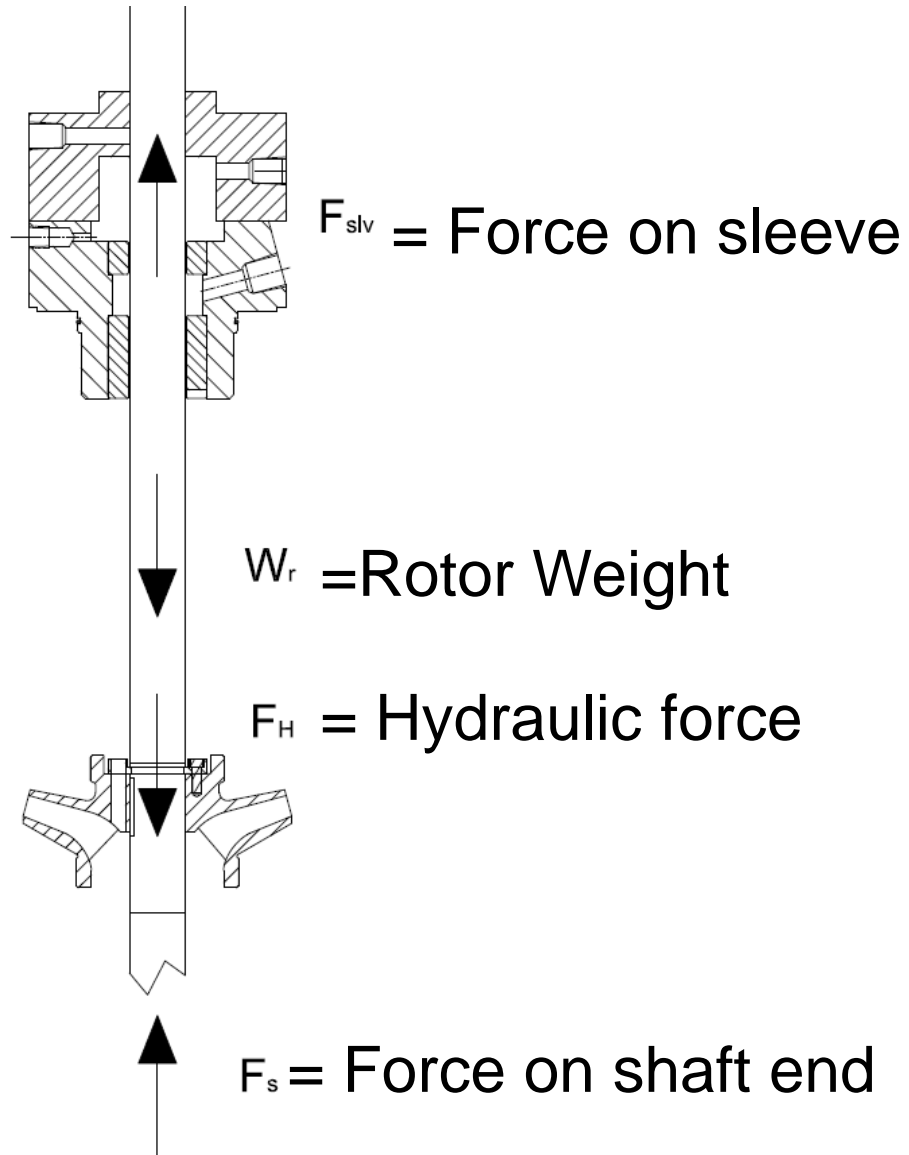


Selection Process

- ▶ Calculate Pump down thrust.
 - Thrust and speed determine bearing thrust pot
- ▶ Select a Bearing to fit housing foot print.
- ▶ Verify Bearing life will meet requirements
- ▶ Verify 2nd pump in series can handle up-thrust from first pump during start up.



Free Body Diagram



Calculations – Thrust

Net Pump assembly axial thrust:

$$F_n = F_H + W_r - F_{slv} - F_s$$

- Net Bowl hydraulic thrust:

$$F_H = k * H_{stg} * N_{stg} * SG$$

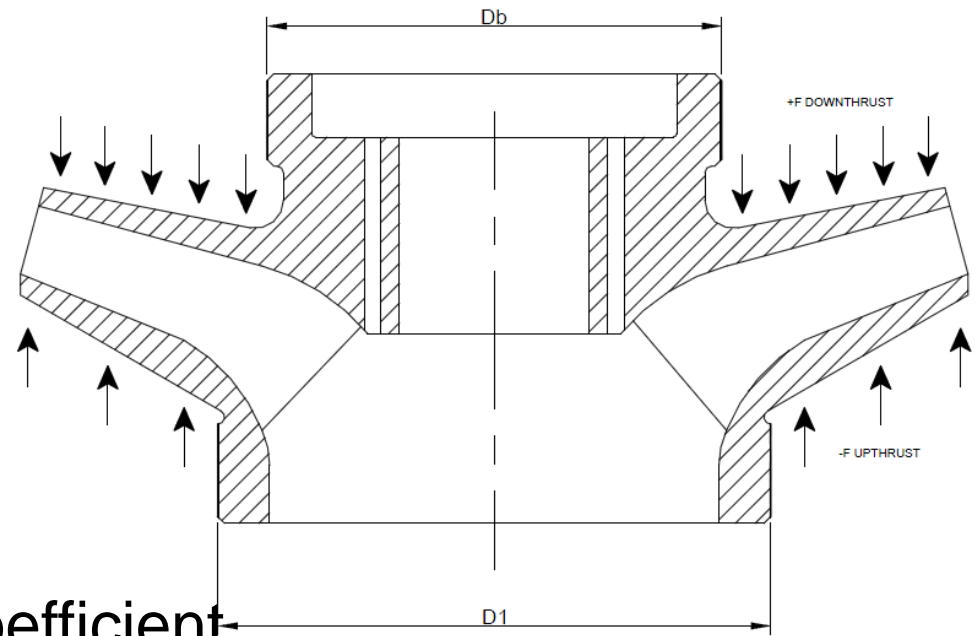
Thrust factor:

$$k = \frac{SG}{2.31} * C * A_b$$

C= experimental thrust coefficient

Unbalanced area:

$$A_b = \frac{\pi}{4} * (D_1^2 - D_b^2)$$



W_r = Rotor weight

F_{slv} = Force shaft sleeve

F_s = Force on end of shaft

Calculation – thrust

	Pump 1 @ Design	Pump 2 @ Design	Pump 1 @ Min. Flow	Pump 2 @ Min. Flow
FH	+6060	+6060	+8333	+8333
Wr	+305	+305	+305	+305
Fslv	-6	-48	-6	-64
Fs	-447	-3379	-447	-4478
Fn (Total)	5912 lbf	2938 lbf	8184 lbf	4095 lbf

+ Down direction
- Up direction

Calculations continue.

The radial bearing is used to take the momentary up-thrust during and before start-up. The bearing selected is a radial deep groove bearing with a static load rating of 14400 lbf. According to the bearing manufacture the allowable axial load is $0.5 * 14400$ lbf.

$$F_{static} = W_r - F_s$$

$$F_{start} = W_r - F_s - 30\% * F_H$$

Up thrust on Second Pump

F(static)	-3495 lbf
F(start)	-5313 lbf

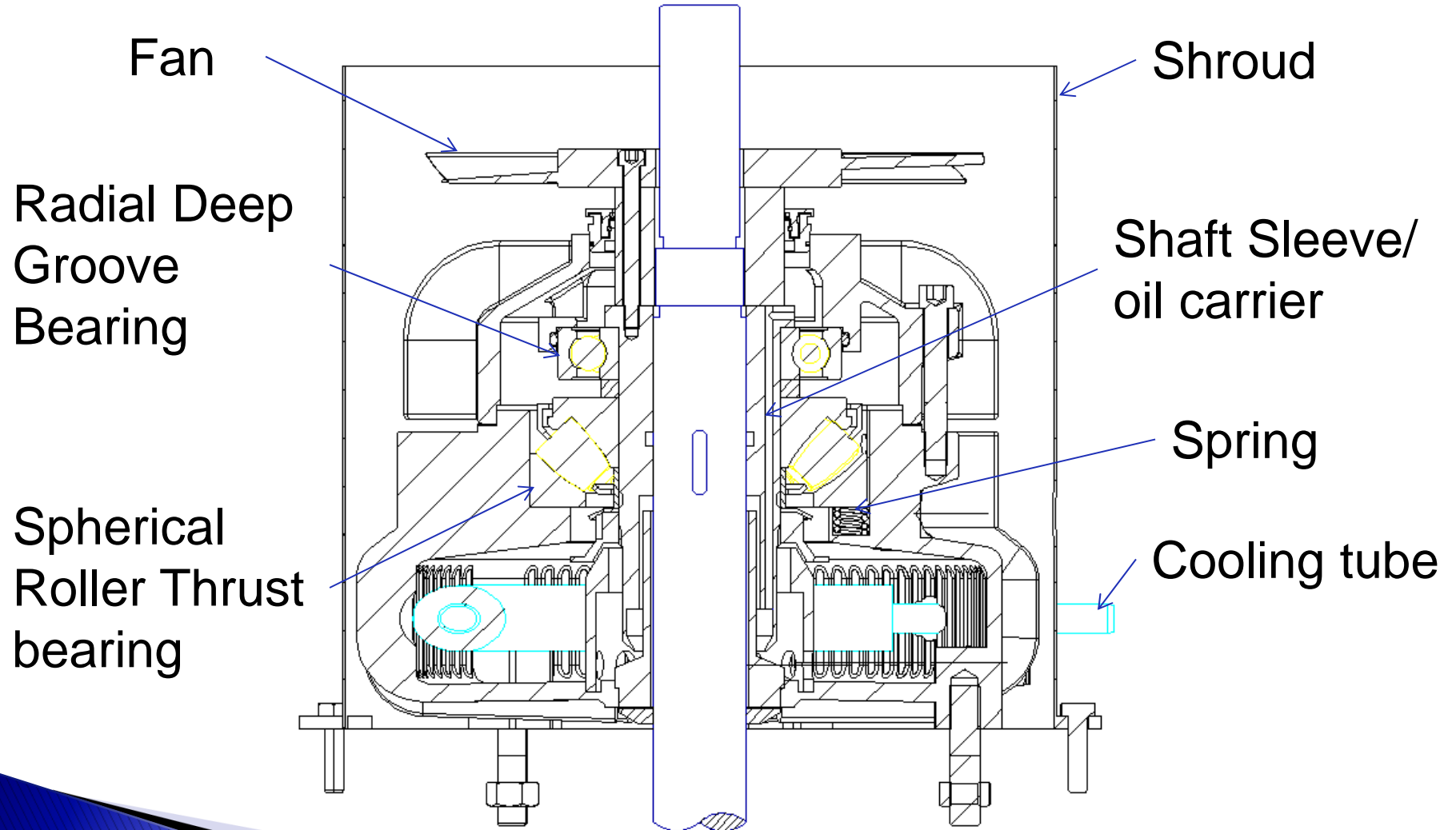
Calculations – Bearing life

$$L_{10mhD} = a_1 \cdot a_{skf} \cdot \frac{1000000}{60 \cdot n} \cdot \left(\frac{C}{.93 \cdot P_d} \right)^{\frac{10}{3}}$$

- ▶ Where:
- ▶ C = 165000 lbf - bearing load rating
- ▶ n = 3560 rpm

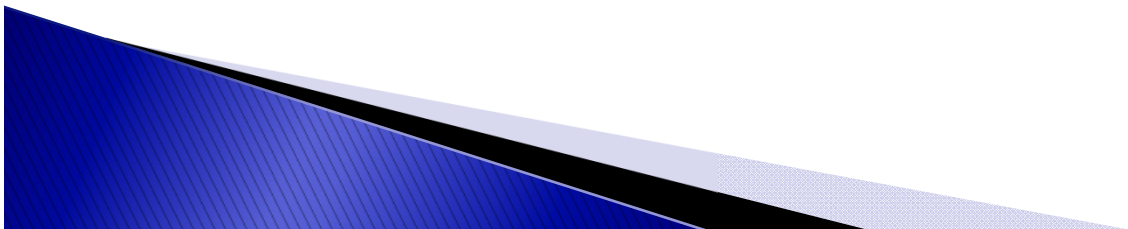
	Pump 1	Pump 2
P @ Design	5912 lbf	2938 lbf
P@ Min Flow	8184 lbf	4095 lbf
L10 @ Design	308,794 hr	3,176,403 hr
L10 @ Min Flow	132,996 hr	1,337,127 hr

X-Section of Bearing



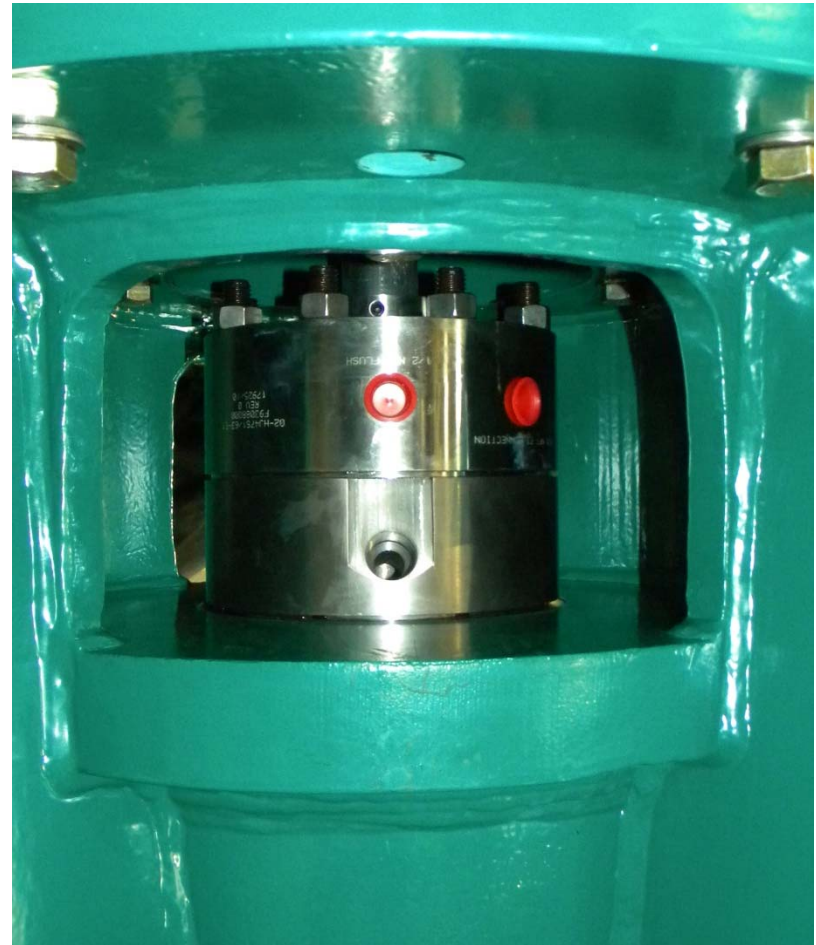
Design changes

- ▶ New shaft Design
- ▶ New Coupling
- ▶ Modifications to the Head and Motor Stand.



Benefits and Disadvantages

- ▶ Lowers motor cost.
- ▶ Easier bearing maintenance.
 - Can leave pump motor in place.
- Bearing housing has to be removed to service Mechanical seal.



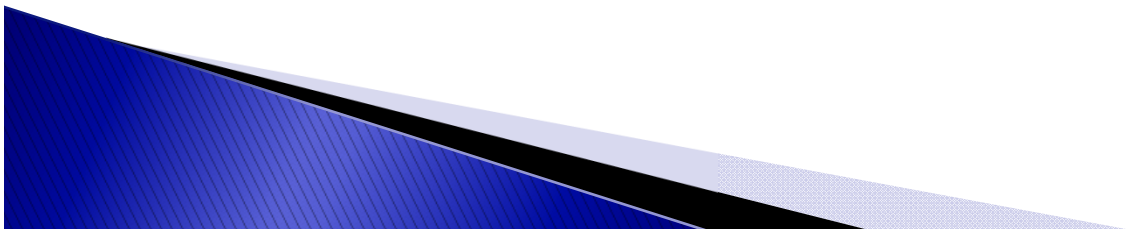
Lessons Learned

- ▶ Allow more room for design changes to accommodate a more maintenance friendly Discharge head. – Mechanics would of like more room for installing the Mechanical seal
- ▶ The large start-up up-thrust was limited by the radial bearing.



Current Status

- ▶ Pumps are running.



Questions?

