

Somarakis Announces Sale of Large Vacuum System

Vancouver, Washington based Somarakis, Inc. announced this week that they have recently secured the contract to supply a complete new paper machine vacuum system for a major U.S. tissue manufacturer. "We will be supplying six of our largest model vacuum pump, the SV-5986, each having a capacity of up to 27,000 CFM," said company president, John Somarakis. Somarakis said that superior serviceability is built into these pumps. They feature bearing assemblies which can be rebuilt or repaired without pump disassembly; shrouded pump bodies to improve efficiency and allow dual vacuum service; a patented secondary bearing to prevent rotor/cone contact in the event of primary bearing failure; 20-vane rotors to improve efficiency; and a patented seal arrangement utilizing a small amount of vacuum (pump generated) to prevent water leakage around the shaft seal.

Despite its enormous 27,000 CFM (765 m3/min) capacity, the SV-5986 vacuum pump has an extremely low profile. "There's no wasted space", said company president John Somarakis. "This new pump is the same height as the next smaller size down, which is rated for only 2/3 the capacity of the SV-5986, yet far more efficient. Some of the new paper machine vacuum systems we're providing vacuum pumps for are using 6, 8 or even more than 20 vacuum pumps on a single machine. Now we can cut that number of pumps in half, significantly reducing the initial cost of equipment to the customer, saving real estate, and most importantly reducing operating and maintenance expense."

It is features like the new Tri-Point inlet connection, patented water tight Vac-Seals and new maintenance friendly features that add up to significant flexibility and performance advantages for the customer," says Somarakis, whose Vancouver, Washington, based company has been supplying pumps around the world for 29 years.

Asked what makes Somarakis pumps different he says: "Over the years when I was repairing pumps and working with paper industry engineers, they kept asking me to make changes and improvements. I did! And then I patented them. Improving performance and designs which allow for repairs on-site are among the keys to the popularity of the pumps."

Apparently the formula is working. The company which manufactures a full line of liquid ring vacuum pumps compressors, and a new line of centrifugal pumps for customers covering the entire globe is expanding to a new plant in Vancouver, Washington. It will triple the size of their manufacturing facility and add up to 50 employees. "We are also in the midst of acquiring a new facility in the Southeastern United States," said Somarakis, "which will become our East coast repair and distribution center."

