



Bedford Pumps power slalom for Pinkston

Bedford Pumps, renowned manufacturers of large submersible and conventional pumps to the water and waste water industries, have just extended their market with the contract for an exciting new project to create white-water for kayaking.

Kayaking is currently the UK's fastest growing water sport and the new Pinkston Water Sports Centre will be Glasgow's first competition standard, purpose built, paddle sports centre aiming to attract 25,000 visitors per year.

Bedford Pumps have supplied three of their submersible axial pump sets installed in a cascade canister arrangement in the submersible pumping station within the water sports channel. The pumps will generate total flows of up to 7,000 l/s to create an exhilarating and challenging course. The slalom will include a circular loop with the pumps lifting the water 1.5m to create a static head. Within the loop there will be canoe slalom training and competition, whitewater kayaking and coaching and Swift water Rescue Training for the emergency services.

The pumps are manufactured with a cast iron pump casing and shroud and a gunmetal impeller. Each pump will be supplied with Bedford Pumps unique Pump Condition Monitor, designed to provide local operators with the status of various protection devices and performance indicators fitted into all modern submersible pumps. The pumps have been installed into a Scotchkoted steel canister also designed and supplied by Bedford Pumps. Each pumpset, powered by a 95kW 10 pole motor, will provide a capacity of 2,333 l/s.

Bedford Pumps were delighted to work with Rapid Water Courses Ltd, providers of the whitewater course, and assisting in the Glasgow Canal Regeneration Project by giving Glasgow a white water course of national importance.



Fig 1. Paddle Sports competitor



Fig 2. Bedford Pumps submersible axial pumpsets similar to those used at Pinkston