Pumps primed for growth at Hayward Tyler

High-integrity pump specialist Hayward Tyler is growing its global footprint with support from the Nuclear AMRC.

Based in Luton, with facilities in Scotland, China, India and the US, the 200-year-old company is a leading supplier of electric motors and pumps for the most demanding applications.

"Nuclear is absolutely a sweet spot for Hayward Tyler," says Ewan Lloyd-Baker, chief executive officer. "We provided the first pumps to Calder Hall in 1956, and recently won civil nuclear contracts in South Korea and Sweden, so we have a long pedigree of installed equipment. However, we should be developing our presence more in the sector."

The company has undergone a major turnaround over the past three years, and is now targeting global opportunities in new nuclear with the support of the Nuclear AMRC's Civil Nuclear Sharing in Growth (CNSIG) programme.

The group currently generates around 15 per cent of revenues from nuclear, but sees significant scope for growth.

To help prepare for CNSIG, Hayward Tyler first entered the Fit For Nuclear (F4N) programme to identify and address any gaps in the business’s performance.

"We did F4N so we could benchmark ourselves," says special projects director Larry Redmond. "It made us ask the questions that we had tended to avoid, and gave us a checklist for everything we need to do. We keep coming back to it and saying: what is the gold standard?"

Alongside the CNSIG development work, Hayward Tyler’s Luton factory is undergoing a major expansion and upgrade, supported by a separate £3.5 million grant from the Regional Growth Fund.

"We’re looking at investment now, supported by CNSIG and Fit For Nuclear, not just for the UK supply chain but for us globally,” Lloyd-Baker says.

The redevelopment, which will complete in July 2016, will extend the workshop by over 40 per cent and create five focused zones based on lean manufacturing methods.

“We’ve done a lot with methods like 5S to make things good, but it hasn’t yet taken it world-class,” says Redmond.

“What we’re doing now is combining the support we’re getting from RGF with what we’re learning through CNSIG — that’s started to give us world-class facilities, world-class processes, world-class people and world-class products.”
The factory development is led by manufacturing systems director Martin Clocherty. "The biggest value I’m getting from CNSIG is how to design and implement a nuclear-compliant facility," Clocherty says. "There was a knowledge gap there, but the guys have absolutely filled that for me. If I have any doubt about anything, I can go to them and get an answer." CNSIG is also helping Hayward Tyler train its workforce to nuclear standards.

"Historically, there were limited opportunities for people development activities," says Sue Henshaw, learning and development manager. "Funding was part of that problem, which is where CNSIG has massively supported us. The CNSIG team is also supporting with specific development interventions, where their expertise is invaluable in preparing ourselves for nuclear bids."

Hayward Tyler is also pushing its technical capabilities by investing in new tools and facilities, including a new R&D workshop to investigate advanced engineering materials.

"This area of research will continue as we develop high-temperature motor applications for the new nuclear market," says James McNamara, key account manager for nuclear.

Working with the Nuclear AMRC has brought the team other benefits, such as the opportunity to meet EDF Energy’s top-tier suppliers for Hinkley Point C.

"One thing that we couldn’t get from outside is the access to the market," says Redmond. "The networking is a bit of an intangible, but being able to get into a room with Areva and EDF is not something you can do easily."

"The great thing about CNSIG is it’s enabled us to look at what’s happening in the wider world and feel we’re part of something that is big and very exciting," Lloyd-Baker concludes.

"When you work hard on a day-to-day basis to be part of the development of the next generation of civil nuclear new build, there’s a real sense of pride in being able to do that."

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The Civil Nuclear Sharing in Growth (CNSIG) programme aims to develop the UK manufacturing supply chain for civil nuclear new build, operations and decommissioning. It includes a four-year programme of high-intensity support for 10 key suppliers.

The programme is part-funded by government through the Regional Growth Fund, and supported by industry leaders including Rolls-Royce.

Find out more: namrc.co.uk/services/sig

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