



Production hall for production of antibiotics.

## Moving calmly

**AGITEC develops and produces agitators for a range of applications. From petrochemicals through to cosmetics, the machines are used in numerous branches of industry. As a result, the drive engineering not only has to operate reliably and smoothly, but must also withstand the wide range of media involved.**





AGITEC is based in Montanay to the north of Lyons, France. It has specialized in stirring fluids. The company manufactures agitators to its customers' specifications with propellers or turbines ranging from a few millimeters in diameter to several meters across. The company was founded in 1991 by Jacques Badey and was taken over two years ago by Laurent Mangeolle, a mechanical engineer. During last year, the workforce of about 15 chalked up a turnover of €2 million. AGITEC's main markets are in Europe, although more and more of its sales are being achieved overseas: from North Africa to Korea.

### From the dairy to the foundry

Agitators play an important role in mixing and homogenizing substances in a wide range of industries. They are used in the chemicals and petrochemicals industries as well as in biotechnology, the food industry and water treatment. "At present, we manufacture agitators for milk, beer and perfume extracts. However, we've also made agitators for foundries operating with the lost-wax process and for manufacturers of nonwoven products," explains CEO Laurent Mangeolle. The most important property of an agitator is that it should not be noticed. As soon as it is mounted on the vessel, it must function smoothly while offering optimum reliability and precision. This explains why AGITEC prefers to use SEW-EURODRIVE gearmotors for driving its equipment. Each agitator calls for an exact analysis of the application, in particular the nature of the product that is to be mixed. In order to define the required dimensions, AGITEC's technicians rely on their many years of experience as well as using various software tools for doing hydraulic calculations. "In this task, we also use the data performance

analyses from SEW that show us what power the gearmotors can transmit," explains Grégory Badey. "These tables save us a lot of time when specifying the individual elements."

### Agitating under harsh conditions

In the pharmaceuticals industry, agitators often need to have drive motors without fans or cooling fins keep the risk of contamination to a minimum. For this purpose, SEW-EURODRIVE has developed the Aseptic concept for gearmotors. It contains aseptic gearmotors of the DAS series and is supplemented by an array of protective measures. The design is a modular one, so that equipment manufacturers can adhere to the precise degree of hygiene that is called for: clean, ultra-clean or aseptic.

Agitec's machines also have to be suitable for use where the new European ATEX directive applies to operation in potentially explosive atmospheres. This is because the agitators might have to be operated in an air/gas or air/dust mixture. For these special applications, SEW-EURODRIVE offers various tried-and-tested drive systems that are certified according to the specifications in the EC-L 94/9/EC (ATEX 95) directive. At SEW-EURODRIVE, the certification covers both the motor and the gear unit. ■

Agitator for reclaiming of solvents.

