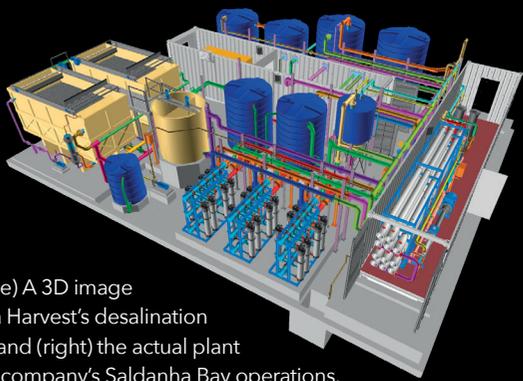


(Above) A 3D image of Sea Harvest's desalination plant and (right) the actual plant at the company's Saldanha Bay operations.



SEA HARVEST'S MULTI-MILLION RAND DESALINATION PLANT WILL BENEFIT THE BUSINESS AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES

SALDANHA BAY: The installation of Sea Harvest's multi-million-rand desalination plant, which includes desalination and reverse osmosis (RO), should ensure that the group can continue to operate and honour its commitment to delivering against stakeholder expectations. Since the Western Cape was declared a drought-stricken region in 2016, Sea Harvest has reduced its fresh water consumption by 35% in an effort to alleviate the pressure on this precious resource.

According to Sea Harvest Operations Director, Terence Brown, the plant has the capacity to supply the company's operations at its Saldanha Bay plant with all the water needed. "The most important deliverable of the plant is 1.15 ML of potable water per day. This will ensure that there is no disruption within our business should we reach 'day zero'. In this way we can remain sustainable and profitable but most importantly protect jobs. Sea Harvest is the single largest employer within the Saldanha Bay Municipality (SBM). Anything that negatively affects our ability to operate will have dire consequences on the communities in and around which we operate. As a responsible corporate citizen, we have to do our best to prevent this from happening."

Brown says that the quality of the water produced by the plant will meet the drinking water specification of

the South African National Standard (SANS 241), which states the minimum requirements for potable water to be considered safe for human consumption. He adds that, "The plant is designed in such a way that the quality of the water will be monitored continuously. In addition, the SBM will provide further quality assurance by testing the water to ensure compliance with the required standard." Sea Harvest does not have a licence to distribute water and can, therefore, only use the water produced by its desalination plant in its operations.

Sea Harvest's operation is both National Regulator for Compulsory Specifications (NRCS) and European Union accredited, and to retain this accreditation stringent food processing requirements include the use of water. This natural resource is, therefore, a key component of Sea Harvest's operations. The company's vessels are loaded with ice to store fish caught at sea. Both the Fresh Fish Processing and Added Value factories, based at the Saldanha Bay Harbour, are also dependent on municipal water to remain operational. It uses the municipal water for factory hygiene, primary and secondary fish processing, human consumption, washing bins and tubs, ice, and water supply to vessels.

Below are some of the measures previously implemented by Sea

Harvest to reduce its consumption of municipal water:

- A sea water supply line was installed to connect to the water pump system to allow its cleaning service provider to do an initial rinse of its facilities using sea water;
- Hygiene water pressure was increased to reduce the volume required;
- Inspections of freshwater lines were increased and the time to perform any repairs was reduced;
- Daily monitoring and reporting of freshwater consumption in factories were conducted;
- Meetings were held with the SBM to discuss the effectiveness of municipal flow meters;
- There was an increased emphasis on employee awareness via presentations and face-to-face engagement, as well as a competition to promote water saving.



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