

Successful commissioning of a modernised maize starch factory

Several years ago, the private Metidji Group acquired the formerly government-owned S.N.I.C. maize starch factory, which **BMA** | STARCOSA had conceived and built in the years 1978/80. BMA subjected the 30-year old factory, now renamed into "Maiserie de la Tafna", to a radical technological and mechanical modernisation programme, and the modernised factory was successfully commissioned as scheduled at the end of the year 2011.

The initial structural obstacles were mastered perfectly by BMA's experienced engineering team. BMA managed to place the entire equipment on only two of the existing +/-0.00 and +4.5 m levels, without impairing the functional requirements. An additional floor, which would normally have to be added to the factory building, was therefore not necessary.

The need to integrate the new equipment into the existing, outdated machinery and piping system represented a major challenge. To meet these special requirements, BMA used a laser scanning method with graphic overlays. Any collision with existing pipelines and equipment could therefore be avoided already at the planning stage. This approach at the same time provided an excellent platform for an integrated pipeline design in a 3-D model and for isometric drawings for assembly and installation.

The excellent collaboration with the Metidji Group during both the planning and implementation phases of this maize starch project deserves special mention. The many years of experience that **BMA** | STARCOSA acquired in starch production continue to be available in the form of technical assistance.

Karl Kremsa



The first starch...



3-D design



Starch factory with water tower