



## Simonds Machinery's Retrofit Services Add Long-term Value

### 10 Scenic Way Sewage Lift Station San Mateo, CA

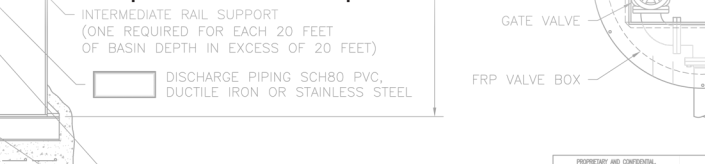
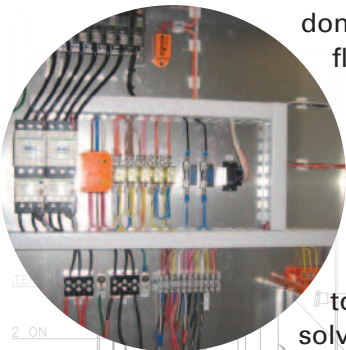
#### Costly Clogging at Condominium Complex

The sewage pumps for a 30 year old condominium complex in San Mateo kept clogging, causing great expense for the property owners and great exasperation to the property manager. Each time the pumps would clog various plumbing/rooter companies were called to pull the pumps, unclog and then reinstall them. Sometimes this would happen three to four times per month.

Simonds Machinery Company was called by the property management company to solve the problem. After a review of the existing installation, the SMC retrofit team had a number of recommendations.

#### Change Habits or Change Pumps

Simonds' team first explained to the property manager that the problems weren't necessarily the pumps' fault. It was the type of items being flushed down the toilets. Most consumers don't realize that the only thing that should be flushed down the toilet is solid or liquid human waste and toilet paper. Paper towels, wet wipes, heavy paper cleaning cloths, condoms, feminine hygiene products, and similar products do not belong in the toilet. If they could educate the homeowners and renters in the complex to avoid flushing the wrong items, they could solve the problem at no expense.



#### Location:

10 Scenic Way  
San Mateo, CA

#### Date Completed:

July 2010

#### Equipment:

- Myers 4RX recessed impeller pumps, duplex control panel

#### Results:

Simonds' solution of recessed impeller pumps with a new control panel eliminated the plumbing problems for the condominium, saving time and money for the property owner, property manager and the residents.



SMC also furnished a full evaluation of the existing system and recommended they budget for a retrofit in the next three to five years. Their 30 year old control panel was temperamental. One of the two pumps was about six years old, and the second pump had been recently rebuilt. Each time the pumps had to be removed from service to unclog or repair them it meant that a service man had to climb into the tank to disconnect the pump. As a sewage tank is a "confined" space, both special safety equipment and training for the service technicians were required, greatly increasing service expenses as well as down time.

### **Recommendation: Retrofit, Efficient and Effective**

We presented a proposal for a retrofit of their existing system, with F.E. Myers 4RX recessed impeller pumps which cut down on the tendency to clog over a typical solids handling pump. We also recommended a quick disconnect slide rail system be installed so that if service was required the pump could be pulled out within a few minutes with no need to enter the wet well. Included was a new duplex control panel to operate the two pumps and signal a high water condition.

As part of the process, Simonds Machinery attended one of the monthly homeowner association meetings to discuss the findings, make recommendations and answer any questions the HOA had. Price and installation costs were provided for future planning.

### **Minimal Downtime Retrofit and No New Clogs**

The problems persisted. The residents continued to flush objects which clogged the pumps. After roughly six months of the same continuing problems, the HOA decided to move forward with the retrofit of their existing lift station. Simonds Machinery performed the retrofit over a four day period with only a few, short periods when water and laundry services were shut off.

The new pumping system has been in service for over a year without a clog.



### **Specifications**

- Myers 4RX50 submersible recessed impeller pumps 5 HP, 1750 RPM, 200 V, 3 PH
- 4" discharge with 3" solids handling capability
- Myers SRA guide rail system
- Myers Custom Duplex Control Panel with alternator, elapsed time meters and high water alarm light and audible buzzer.

### **Main Office**

#### **Simonds Machinery Company**

259 Harbor Way  
South San Francisco, CA 94080

**Phone:** (650) 589-9900

**Fax:** (650) 589-5900

**Toll Free:** (800) 750-4830

[pumps@simondsmachinery.com](mailto:pumps@simondsmachinery.com)

### **Southern California Office**

#### **Simonds Pump Company**

2838 South Fairview Street  
Santa Ana, CA 92704

**Phone:** (714) 751-7117

**Fax:** (714) 751-1454

**Toll Free:** (800) 843-2833

[pumps@simondsmachinery.com](mailto:pumps@simondsmachinery.com)

[www.simondsmachinery.com](http://www.simondsmachinery.com)