Why look for the CPB-logo on pump performance curves?

Contractor dewatering pumps come in several types and capacities, with a variety of performance characteristics. Manufacturer methods to measure and report performance vary, which complicates the pump selection process for users.

Manufacturer members of the Contractor Pump Bureau (CPB) have established a Performance Curve Standard for CPB-Rated Pumps. Manufacturers that follow the CPB measurement standard calculate pump performance characteristics alike, providing contractors the capacity and performance information needed to identify the pumps sized right for their job.

Complying with the CPB Performance Curve Standard requires a minimum presentation of data in graph form. This graph, known as the CPB Pump Performance Curve, includes; capacity, head, brake horsepower (efficiency), and net positive suction head (or suction lift) required.

In-test pump performance values, as specified by CPB Pump Testing Standards, for head, brake horsepower, efficiency, and net positive suction head are plotted against capacity, and a smooth curve is drawn through the data points to make that Pump’s Performance Curve.

When a pump user determines the head developed by the system for a given application (system head curve); comparing this system head curve to a Pump Performance Curve will allow the user to determine the pump’s capacity performance, the horsepower that will be required, the suction lift restrictions to be considered, and the pump’s efficiency in that given application. Comparing the system head curve to the Pump Performance Curve may further determine what operating speed or impeller size is best suited for use on the selected pump.

When minimum critical performance data is presented according to the CPB Performance Curve Standard, pumps from several manufacturers may be compared to make an informed decision as to each pump’s suitability for the job at hand. Then other purchase priorities may be considered, such as service, support, and price.

When selecting a pump for your next job, make an informed decision by looking for the CPB logo, your assurance the referenced Pump Performance Curve meets the minimum specifications for data representation, accuracy and formatting as specified by the CPB Performance Curve Standard.