

Hydra-Arc delivers its largest ever module for Sasol

On Friday the 31st December 2015, Hydra-Arc moved its second largest and most impressive plant module from its Sky-Hill Heavy Engineering Facility to the Sasol, Secunda plant.

The plant module, one of twenty four being manufactured by Hydra-Arc, was for Unit 296, the coal tar filtration (CTF) east filter press plant, a 248 Ton module with a width of 11.5 m, a height of 15.15 m and a total length of 18.2 m.

Hydra-Arc has become a proudly South African specialist in the manufacture these modern plant modules for the petrochemical industry, which introduces a novel approach to plant design and construction. The whole plant is broken into interconnectable modules, which maximises the amount of off-site factory-based fabrication and minimises onsite construction time, thereby enhancing productivity and reducing overall project installation durations.

“The idea is that each module is fabricated to include all of its equipment, vessels, piping, instrumentation and supporting structures. Then, once the site foundations have been prepared, the modules are simply delivered to site, lifted in position and coupled up to form a functional plant,” explains Ewan Huisamen, Hydra-Arc’s Engineering Manager.

The full CTFE plant under construction consists of 24 individual modules, which are all being fabricated in Hydra-Arc’s Sky-Hill Heavy Engineering Facility outside of Secunda. “This is the first time that such a large scale production plant has ever been constructed in this way in South Africa,” Huisamen concludes.

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Pic: Sky-Hill module under construction + Inset: CTF east filter press.jpg

*One of 24 plant modules for Sasol’s CTFE plant in Secunda under construction at Hydra-Arc’s Sky-Hill facility near Secunda. **Inset:** A 3D CAD model of Unit 296, the 248 t coal tar filtration (CTF) east filter press plant, the largest and most impressive module yet delivered.*