



Castings and Forgings News

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Country Focus The Netherlands

Making service a specialty



Many businesses in the Netherlands are recognized for their high service level. This definitely applies to SANDERS, located in the East of the country in the town of Goor. Plant Manager Mr. Olivier Stapper explains: "SANDERS is essentially a service foundry. We are relatively

small, but set up to provide top quality cast iron components with fast delivery times. We have highly experienced people at all levels, so we can readily accommodate the production of unique items and small series."

Director Mr. W.G. Stapper gives an outline of the type of clients who come to SANDERS: "We do a lot of work with the pump industry, such as casting one-off specials for projects, prototypes, or parts urgently needed for pump overhauls. As you can imagine,

our ability to fulfill orders in weeks, not months, is vastly appreciated. Another important customer base is the offshore and marine sector. Here clients often need small series of items, which we can again readily accommodate. Other important clients include machine builders and the power transmission industry."

As CFN saw during a plant tour, the foundry is fully equipped to produce quality sand castings. Recent investments, for example, include an ultra-modern metals analyzer, enabling SANDERS to check and modify the precise composition of each melt. "Our attention to quality starts

earlier than that, though," states Mr. Stapper. "For raw materials we select pig iron and scrap from traceable sources. This avoids putting un-



known elements into the melt." Alongside the foundry is a well-equipped machine shop. With a range of new 5-axis CNC machines, CNC and traditional lathes, 3D measuring facilities and test units, SANDERS can provide clients not just with cast parts, but with ready to use machined and finished parts. Says Mr. Stapper: "This is part and parcel of our service capabilities. The advantage for clients is faster deliveries, clear pricing and a single point of contact should any quality issues arise." Established as long ago as 1846, SANDERS has built up vast materials expertise. "Many people imagine cast iron to be an old-fashioned

material, yet nothing could be further from the truth," emphasizes Mr. Stapper. "Cast iron is now available in numerous grades making it suitable for a variety of applications. For example, ADI offers enhanced tensile strength and is extremely useful in say wind turbines and gears and other drive components in power transmissions. Right now, we are working on new alloys with superior wear resistance which could help the dredging and mining industry. You know, people sometimes have a romantic image of this industry. The reality though is that the modern foundry combines hard manual work with an awful lot of technology."



In addition to the foundry and machine shop, SANDERS is also a specialist manufacturer of drive components and gears up to 3 metres.