



Over 80 Grundfos SP submersible pumps powered the fountains in 22 pools at the Maroussi sports complex in Athens.

Sparkling performance for Grundfos SP pumps in Athens

Hundreds of thousands of square metres of meticulously covered Olympic grounds play out in front of you. A handful of enormous competition facilities lie arranged on the grounds of the Olympic area at Maroussi, seemingly placed there with the utmost delicacy by the powerful deities of ancient Greece.

Dominating the area, the Olympic Stadium rises above all others, its distinguished arched roof soaring into the Athenian skyline. Just beside it, a majestic fountain spouts skyward, serving as a focal point and central gathering place. Underneath it all, Grundfos pumps are hard at work.

Grundfos provided

- › Reliable pumping
- › Personalised advice
- › Corrosion resistant pump solutions

The situation

A multitude of ponds and fountains, whose placement was envisioned by Spanish architect Santiago Calatrava, ring the Maroussi area. Calatrava wished to produce a 50 m high fountain to serve as one half of the uniting elements of the pedestrian plaza. Normally, a 50 m high fountain requires a 50 m wide pool surrounding it. This is to catch the majority of the water, when it falls back to earth. Fountain builders Terna S.A. only had a 30 m wide pool to work with.

Furthermore, Calatrava wished for a “clean” water column, absent of spray and an umbrella effect at the peak.

The Grundfos solution

A Grundfos SP 215-5 submersible pump was quickly calculated as the proper solution. Capable of delivering up to 80 m head, the all-stainless steel pump also fit in perfectly with the tight spatial constrictions imposed on the building site.

Innovative piping, created by Grundfos Greece, Terna SA and Fontana Fountains also allowed the architect’s desire for a “clean” water column to come true. Several metres under the surface, turbulence in the pipe work is created by a series of bends and joints, ultimately producing the elegant result.

Over 80 Grundfos SP pumps furthermore are located in the thousands of square meters of Maroussi, powering 661 fountains in a total of 22 pools.

The outcome

The Games themselves lasted for a brief 16 days, but the Maroussi fountains will remain for years to come. The clear water will continue to flow skyward, thanks to the corrosion resistance provided by the AISI 316 stainless steel employed in the SP pumps

“We needed to use a complex mix of chemicals to keep the water clear in all the pools, where the pH value was very aggressive. We therefore needed pumps capable of withstanding these demanding requirements, not only during the Games, but also in the years to come. The Grundfos SP range in AISI 316 stainless steel offers the perfect solution for us. Their reliability is unquestioned.”

Ilias Chasapakis, Site manager, Terna S.A.

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The main fountain aside the Olympic Stadium could produce a 50 m high water column.



The SP submersible pump in AISI 316 stainless steel met the challenges posed by the heavily chlorinated water in Athens.

Grundfos delivered

> 80 SP submersible pumps