

Designing better bearings

SUMMARY

The launch of a new range of industrial bearings is becoming a reality for *GB Bearings (Pty) Ltd.* This was achieved through a joint partnership with the Durban University of Technology in the design and development of the new bearing range. A test rig was used to gather empirical data for the development and validation of a simulation model that can be used to facilitate decision making.

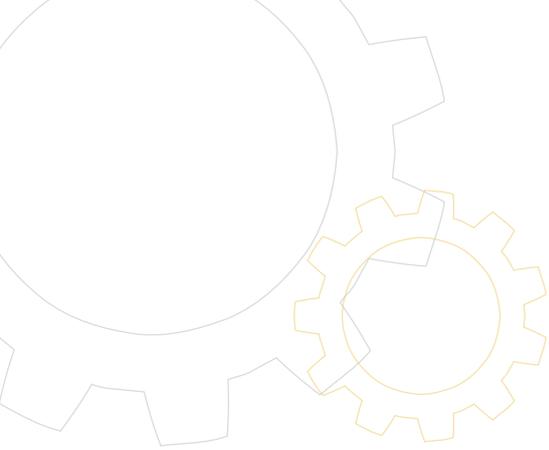


GB Bearings (Pty) Ltd

GB Bearings is a manufacturer, distributor and refurbisher of industrial and white metal bearings for both the South African and export market. The company has its head office in Pinetown, KwaZulu-Natal, and two factories in Elandsfontein, Gauteng, and Cape Town.

The company's technological capabilities enable it to design and manufacture plain bearings and bearing materials for a wide variety of industrial applications. Production facilities cater for the manufacture and repair of bearings up to bore diameters of 5.5 m.

www.gbbearings.co.za



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Niche offering

GB Bearings offers customised design and bearing manufacture supported by a customised interface and service.

Technology Assistance Package (TAP)

GB Bearings has been assisted to develop a new range of industrial bearings for use by state-owned companies, Eskom and Transnet, as well as for the export market.

The TAP covers support for design, development and testing of the new bearing range in partnership with the Durban University of Technology's Department of Mechanical Engineering. A simulation model to facilitate decision making was developed based on empirical data gathered from a bearing test rig.

GB Bearings has also been assisted in developing patterns for the bearing housing that is required for casting of bearings.

Outcomes and impact

Through the TAP, GB Bearings is able to utilise opportunities in the local and export market.



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