



CASE: Valve Cleaning



Mining

Client: Terrafame
Location: Finland
Equipment: Valve

OBJECTIVE

Terrafame uses bioleaching process to extract Nickel and Zinc from the mined ore. Leaching extraction requires many ponds where the extract is stored and circulated back to the heap or to the metals production plant. Circulating the extract requires many pumping stations. These pumping stations suffer from heavy scaling and it causes the valves to leak due to the scaling. Therefore, they were not able to isolate the pumping station for regular cleaning. This results closing off more than one pumping station and emptying the ponds in between. This is really time consuming and causes disturbance to the process.

IMPLEMENTATION

Terrafame and Altum agreed on cleaning service for one of the pumping station valves. The project was performed and the valve cleaning took few hours.

RESULTS

The valve was cleaned. The plant was able to shut the valve and isolate the pumping station for cleaning.

