Hydraulic Membrane Pumps.

Pumping large volumes of abrasive fluids against high pressures.
With the HMT and HMQ piston membrane pump series, ABEL introduces the next generation of process pumps for operating pressures up to 25.0 MPa (3,625 psi) and flows up to 800 m³/h (3,522 GPM).

As with the whole HM series, the HMT and HMQ pumps also make use of the advantages of modern membrane technology: Pre-formed, pressure balanced membranes which are adapted to the particular application and hermetically separated hydraulic and product sides.

**ABEL REVERSE VALVES** are a special feature. They are used for aqueous solutions where larger particles could quickly settle out. To keep a particle suspended in a liquid, the particle needs to be propelled at a velocity that is greater than its sedimentation velocity (critical velocity). This is not always possible on the product side of a pump as the cross-sectional area is often several times larger than the cross section of the pipe.

As a result, larger particles may settle in the pump housing or the suction-side valves, which can lead to a loss of function. This can be prevented by using spring-loaded cone valves in a reverse design, that is, by reversing the pumping direction within the pump. This balances the effective direction of the flow and gravity vectors, avoiding the risk of sedimentation inside the pump.
Operation

The piston and membrane move from the center position to rear dead center during the suction stroke. The membrane contacts the backside on the membrane housing before the piston has completed its suction stroke. The piston continues to move towards the rear dead center, creating negative pressure on the hydraulic side. Fluid travels from the hydraulic reservoir tank through the return valve and the replenishing port into the cylinder area until the negative pressure is equalized. Now the piston performs the discharge stroke and moves from the rear dead center to the front dead center position. The membrane performs a discharge stroke and forces the pumping medium out of the pump housing.

If the membrane moves beyond its front limit of stroke, the membrane rod that is connected to the membrane opens a port that leads to the hydraulic reservoir tank. The excess fluid travels through the port back into the hydraulic reservoir tank so that the membrane does not move beyond its limit defined for the discharge stroke.

A full-stroke pressure relief valve on the hydraulic side of each of the pump chambers prevents the allowable pump pressure from being exceeded.

Depending on pump pressure and pumping medium, ABEL series HMT/HMQ pumps can be equipped with ball valves or cone valves. Ball valves are the best choice for low pressure applications and/or fibrous media. For high pressure applications and/or mineral slurries, spring loaded cone valves with an elastomer insert are used.
THE ABEL HMT is a single-acting, slow-running, dry-run secure triplex piston membrane pump and can be used for a performance range up to 25 MPa (3,625 psi) and pump flows up to 600 m³/h (2,640 GPM).

For hydraulic solids transfer, the ABEL HMT provides a clever solution to pumping suspensions that have high dry substance content and a high specific weight. The strong points of the HMT are its quiet operation (low residual pulsation) and its ability to function at pressures above 10 MPa (1,450 psi).

The triplex gearbox can run at high speeds because it has a crankshaft that is especially designed for this duty. The crankshaft has a crank offset of 120° which gives it a steadier volumetric flow than quadruple acting pumps. An external reduction gearbox drives the crankshaft, which is resistant to bending and is guided by two self-aligning roller bearings. The pistons are pressurized on one side.

A triplex piston pump with wear resistant cylinder linings is available by special request. The ABEL HMT makes it easy to assemble and disassemble cylinder linings and pistons.
Pump flow can be regulated using a frequency converter. If required, the gearbox of this series is provided with an external forced oil lubrication system as standard. The flow rate can be regulated automatically using a pressure sensor or other 4-to-20 mA signals. A precision-tuned pulsation dampener (suction side and discharge side) is included in the scope of supply.

Applications and application areas
ABEL HMT pumps can be used to transfer a variety of different types of high-viscosity ash and mine slurries. They offer the chemicals industry an attractive alternative to conventional plunger pumps and piston pumps, particularly for low flow applications.

ABEL pumps have been used around the world for over 50 years for mine dewatering and tailings transfer. A large number of ABEL pumps are currently in operation in the mining industry, power plants and the metal-processing industry.

THE KONKOLA COPPER MINE in Chingola (Zambia) processes copper slurry with thickeners and cyclones and, with the help of ABEL HMT pumps, transfers it 3.5 km to the inside of the mine for backfilling.

Two ABEL HMT-F-160-1000 pumps are used to transfer the slurry. Up to 60% of the slurry is solid matter. The flow rate of the pumps is 90 m³/h (395 GPM), and a pressure of 5.0 MPa (725 psi) is needed to cover the distance of 3.5 km.

Operating costs have remained very low since the first pump was commissioned. Thanks to the HMT’s high efficiency, energy consumption for 90 m³/h and 50 bar has been less than 160 kW. Spare parts for the HMT are only required when replacing the cone valves every 5,000 to 7,000 hours.

The membranes are replaced every 12,000 to 16,000 hours as a precautionary measure. This positive track record led the customer to purchase a second pump of the same type in 2007.
THE ABEL HMQ is a quadruple acting piston membrane pump that is primarily used for high flow applications up to 800 m³/h (3,522 GPM) and a pump pressure of up to 16 MPa (2,300 psi).

The two pistons on a quadruple acting pump are offset relative to one another by a crank angle of 90°. The result is that a different piston surface generates pump flow after each 90° crank angle. Since the front side of the piston is larger than the rear side of the piston (the piston rod diameter reduces its surface area), different volumes develop on the two sides of the piston; this imbalance would reveal itself as high residual pulsation if an appropriately sized pulsation dampener were not used. The HMQ series is equipped with an eccentric shaft and an integrated, double-helical reduction gear section. An external forced oil lubrication system is used for lubrication. This gives the gearbox a very compact, robust design.

These gearboxes have been part of the ABEL line-up for over 30 years. This trusted technology, combined with the modern technology of the HM Series, produced the HMQ Series, which represents a competitive alternative to conventional piston pumps and piston membrane pumps, particularly for the pressure range below 16 MPa (2,300 psi).
Applications and application areas

HMQ series piston membrane pumps are being used successfully around the world for applications as diverse as transferring phosphate slurry, feeding filter presses in the cement industry, backfilling in salt mines, as well as pumping ore slurry, fly ash and bottom ash.

Low pressure HMQ series pumps are a particularly attractive alternative to using single-stage or multistage centrifugal pumps to pump mine slurry and fly ash.

The higher purchase price of a piston membrane pump is offset by lower energy costs that come from greater efficiency and by a reduced need for maintenance.

Since piston membrane pumps easily handle mixtures with high solids concentrations, the amount of water in the medium can also be reduced significantly in some cases. The performance curve of HMQ series pumps is stable with regard to the pressure, which makes it easier to accurately calculate hard-to-find pressure losses.