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British Valve & Actuator Association



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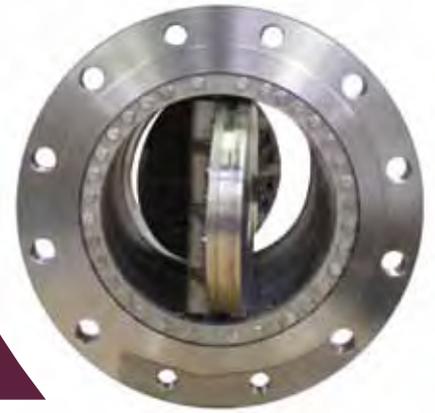


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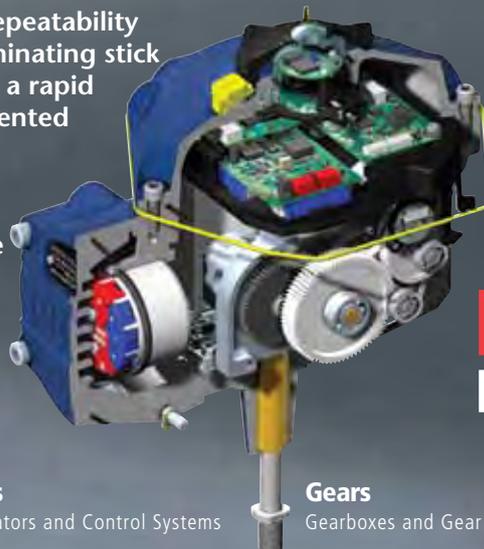
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www.rotork.com/cva

*For details on how **CVA's** performance can benefit your process email us at cvainfo@rotork.com*



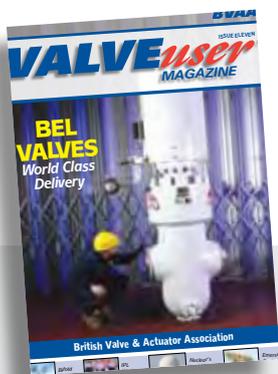
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VALVEuser® is a controlled circulation magazine, free of charge to genuine users of valves, actuators and related products and at the discretion of BVAA Ltd.

Cover: 12" CL2500 ESD Valve delivered by BEL Valves in just five weeks.

BVAA at 70 - Stronger than ever!



Hello and welcome to the eleventh issue of Valve User magazine!

Is it really autumn already? Time is certainly marching on this year, but 2009 is also a celebratory year for the BVAA, as it marks our 70th anniversary. The association was borne out of adversity, and through the decades has seen, and adapted to, many changes in the structure of our industry, as well as in the end-user industries we serve. I am delighted to report that in a time of contraction and recession elsewhere, the UK valve and actuator industry continues to thrive. The association also continues to grow both in terms of membership, and also in staff, and we are delighted to welcome marketer Sam Ingarfield to the BVAA.



by BVAA Director, Rob Bartlett

This issue of Valve User is one of the biggest yet, and contains a wide diversity of news, articles and comment. Finally, a reminder that we always welcome comments from our readers. Enjoy!

Mad Hatters



In this issue, Abi Collins and friends – plus the hat – have travelled to the Caribbean. In this photo, the girls are pictured with a unique 'Co Co' taxi, but where was it taken? There's £50 to the charity of your choice if you are the first to supply the correct answer, email rob@bvaa.org.uk



Our congratulations to Graham Lomax of Polyflor, who correctly answered that the hat was photographed last time in Gothenburg, Sweden. £50 goes to the Springhill Hospice, Rochdale.



'Barmy Brollies'

Neil Kirkbride (BEL Valves) is photographed sporting a BVAA brolly at the Le Mans 24 hour race. There's a similar prize if you're the first to identify this year's winning Le Mans team!

Did You Know?

As well a printed copy, VALVE user magazine is also available as an email attachment, and as a download from BVAA's website, www.bvaa.org.uk

Yet More New Members!

The membership of the BVAA continues to grow at an impressive rate...
this month's new recruits include:-



Steve Long, EBRO Valves



Steve Bishop, Schischek Ltd



Mark Howard, Zettlex Printed Technologies Ltd



Simon Howell and Andrew Woodward, Ron Hague Ltd



David Melrose, Shuck Valves UK Ltd



Ian Sully of Auma Actuators Ltd receives his membership plaque from BVAA Director, Rob Bartlett

Let's salute the 'Truflo Marines'

Keswick to Barrow Walk 2009

On the 9th May, 8 Truflo Marine employees rose at 3.30am to face a huge challenge, the 43rd annual 40 mile walk from Keswick to Barrow in the Lake District.

The Truflo Marines braved some of the worst conditions in the event's history; howling gales, driving rain and hailstones. Hundreds of forlorn participants both young and old were exposed to blizzard conditions on the top of Kirby Moor shortly after lunchtime only to emerge blinking into the bright sunshine that greeted them at Hawcoat Park later in the afternoon.

Five brave members of the Truflo Marines crossed the finishing line in the early evening to receive their well earned medals.

Despite the weather, the event produced the most finishers in its history - 1907 of the 2295 people who commenced the walk from 285 teams. Organisers predict that some £230,000 has been raised for charity.

The colleagues, friends and families of the Truflo Marines have donated generously to assist the organisations chosen charity 'Acorn's Children's Hospice'.

The Truflo Marines comprised: Christine Anson, Bruce Davidson, Simon Garcha, Rob Herbert, Tony Maxwell, Andy Neal, Dave Roberts, Alun Thomas.

Truflo Marine, Tel: 0121 327 4789
Website: www.truflomarine.com



From left to right – Simon Garcha, Dave Roberts, Andy Neal, Tony Maxwell, Christine Anson, Rob Herbert – wearing the hat



Achema Success!

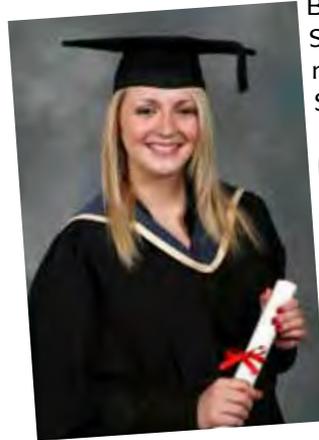
BVAA's impressive new stand

BVAA had a very successful exhibition at Achema in May, where we took the opportunity to 'debut' our brand new exhibition stand. Most members seem to have had a very busy show we hear, and BVAA ourselves managed to distribute over 1000 copies of the new issues of Valve User magazine and the famous BVAA DVD! The stand was constantly busy with customers and of course many visitors from the membership and friends. There was even an ad-hoc debate on the merits of RFID tagging, more of which on page 9. Our special thanks to Weir Power & Industrial for all their help at Achema.

Best Ever Training

BVAA are delighted to report our most successful 'Training Week' yet, held recently at the BVAA's HQ in Banbury, England. Nearly ninety students signed up for the courses in late April, which covered introductions to valves, actuators, control valves and safety valves, as well as introductions to relevant European Directives. Such was the interest in the basic Valves course; we even had to run two courses in the same week! Dates and a booking form for the autumn sessions appear on page 51 of this issue. Contact BVAA if you would like a course to be held at you premises, Tel: +44 (0)1295 221270, or alternatively see http://www.bvaa.org.uk/training_courses.asp

BVAA welcomes Sam Ingarfield



BVAA are delighted to welcome Samantha Ingarfield as the newest member of the team. Sam recently completed a BA (Hons) degree in Marketing Management at Oxford Brookes University. Sam has also completed a two-year Business Studies course. Sam will be taking all aspects of marketing the BVAA and its members, including the day-to-day management of Valve User magazine.

Email: sam@bvaa.org.uk
Tel: (0)1295 221273

Desktop Exhibition at Snamprogetti

On 21st April 2009, BVAA members were delighted to accept an invitation to exhibit once again at Snamprogetti in Basingstoke. A total of thirty companies exhibited, including on this occasion a number of Pumps companies, and we received 60 visitors from the various departments within 'Snam'. BVAA were also delighted to run a short PED Training course for 'Snam' staff the following day.

BVAA arrange all aspects of these events ensuring that hosts incur no costs whatsoever. If you would like to know how a Desktop Exhibition could help your purchasing function, contact rob@bvaa.org.uk



Still Mystified by SILs?



SILs lecturers Bob Smith and Roger Stillman

For several years now BVAA has been providing a one day introductory course to the subject, delivered by Bob Smith and Roger Stillman. The next course is on Friday, 9th October at BVAA HQ, contact sarah@bvaa.org.uk for further details.

sc@nuclear



Keith Parker of the NIA

Thanks to our friends at the Nuclear Industries Association, twenty-four BVAA members attended the recent sc@nuclear supply chain events held at the Royal Armouries in Leeds. Attendees received presentations from Keith Parker of NIA, Areva, Westinghouse, high-tier suppliers, quality experts, market analysts and Government bodies, on what is expected to be a £30b spend in the coming years! It is hoped to roll out the sc@nuclear events programme nationally in due course. Areva and EDF are also holding their own separate supply chain events in the UK.

BVAA at AMRC



BVAA held its most recent Executive Committee meeting at the Advanced Manufacturing Research Centre with Boeing, in Rotherham, UK. The facility also hosts the 'Rolls Royce Factory of the Future'. The venue had several interesting facets – for those thinking of building new facilities it was enlightening to see how the building had been constructed to be carbon neutral with innovative heat, power and air conditioning systems. Also of interest was the very sophisticated GPS positioning system that could eventually lead to totally automated assembly systems. BVAA's Director Rob Bartlett was even allowed to disassemble a Rolls Royce Trent engine without any previous experience. Mercifully this was in a Virtual Reality room - frequent flyers should have no fear of travelling in the near future!

MICK BURKE

It is our very sad duty to report the recent passing of Mick Burke, Valve Actuation Sales Manager for Davis Pneumatic Systems.



Mick was one of the most cheerful people one could hope to meet, had a tremendous attitude towards life and work, and was always someone you actively sought out to spend time with, such was his warm and generous nature. He was a much-loved member of the UK valve and actuator community and will be sorely missed by all who knew him.

Seals WG Continues



23rd June 2009 saw the second meeting of the BVAA's new Seals Working Group at the Association's Banbury HQ.

The working group continues to try and resolve the many problems associated with the various fugitive emissions testing regimes - particularly the ISO 15848 international standards, which many people now believe are in urgent need of revision.

Interested in Participating?
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Tel: 01295 221270

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The impromptu discussion at the BVAA's Achema stand

Technical Groups visit RAL & ISIS



The new ISIS TS2 at RAL

On 21st May, the combined Valve and Actuator WGs visited the Rutherford Appleton Laboratory (Didcot, Oxon), at the kind invitation of former BVAA Chairman Mr John Vandore. After a technical and standards meeting, the group undertook a tour of the world famous ISIS Neutron Source, the UK Government's largest single investment in science research for 30 years. What's a neutron source? Well think of it as a world centre for science with neutrons and muons, some of the most difficult sub-atomic particles to generate, yet vital for studies from atomic energy research right down to developing washing powders – amazing!

RFID Tagging is Here to Stay

By *Barrie Kirkman*

During the recent Achema exhibition, while visiting the BVAA stand, I became involved in an impromptu discussion on the merits of RFID tagging of valves and associated equipment. This debate involved myself, the BVAA team, dedicated user Grant Harris of Heaton Valves Africa, and Hiten Kantelia, MD of 4hSolutions Ltd, who market a solution called Assettagz. The discussions even drew in other visitors to the stand!

Hiten explained that Assettagz is a smart asset management solution that can identify and give full visibility of valve status, including inspection history and pre-planned maintenance schedules. This can not only reduce paperwork but it can also help with meeting legislative requirements, such as the relief valve protocols and Health and Safety Executive (HSE) regulations.

A listener on the stand was impressed in the paperless environment, where it is possible to view the status and location of every valve. It uses the very latest auto-ID methods including RFID (Radio Frequency Identification) tags and mobile computers, which potentially outshine any bar code system.

I believe that inspection managers will breathe a huge sigh of relief as potentially gone are the days of trawling through endless paperwork for valve inspection sheets. As well as the obvious benefits of an automated system at the inspection and maintenance stage, it also means faster initial valve deployment, as the same smart tag and one central database can be used throughout the entire supply chain by all parties (manufacturers, distributors and end-users).

4hSolutions focuses purely on the specific issue of managing different types of assets and are experts in handheld, RFID and web technology. Their asset management product is in use with many companies helping stores and inventory management, hire systems, workshop inspectors and field based maintenance engineers.

As one customer puts it: *"The tagging system has cut our post-inspection administration down from 3 or 4 days to 1 day, with absolutely no paperwork."* I firmly believe such systems are here to stay.

Appointments



UK manufacturer Midland-ACS continues to invest in its people

Sticking with their ideology to that continuing to invent, innovate and invest is the best way forward and produce the best results in the future, UK based manufacturer Midland-ACS (a division of ITT) has increased its sales capacity at a time when others want to cut back on theirs.

UK MD Peter Evans comments, *"Manufacturing companies have to evolve constantly in order to stay competitive, and we're no different. Over the last 6 years our business has doubled in size and we fully aim to more than double in size again. We'll achieve this by continuing to invest in our plant, materials, research, technology and of course our people - arguably our most valuable resource."*

With the aim of increasing channels of communication for customers, opening and exploring new territories and bringing on new distributors/partner, Steve Mullen has joined the company in the capacity of European Sales Manager representing the Midland-ACS product brand. With over 20 years industry experience with Parker Hannifin and a vast knowledge of the European Oil and Gas Industry, Steve will be a much valued addition to the team, and in helping ITT to maintain their sales growth plans. Other changes to the sales team include Derek Clure taking up the role of UK Sales Manager. Derek will be focussed on growing the UK Oil and Gas sales, as well as maintaining key accounts and relationships and creating new ones within other key industries.

Midland-ACS, Tel: 01902 305678

Website: www.midland-acs.com



Safety Engineering Company Smith Flow Control has promoted Mike Fynes to Sales and Marketing Director

Mike joined SFC in 2002 as Sales and Marketing Manager and has been instrumental in driving the company's strong sales performance, particularly in China and USA. Mike is also responsible for promoting SFC's latest valve operating products into new markets.

Mike has over 26 years' experience within the interlock industry and within the Halma group of companies, previously holding senior sales and marketing positions for Fortress Interlocks, Castell Safety and Ellis Interlocks in the UK and Castell Inc in the USA.

Commenting on his promotion, Mike said: *"SFC is the acknowledged world leader in valve key-exchange interlocking technology. My aim for the future is the same; to ensure the continued growth of the company by focusing on new markets as well as consolidating our position in areas where we are already strong."*

Smith Flow Control, Tel: +44 (0) 1376 517901

Website: www.smithflowcontrol.com

Blackhall uses Armoloy

Valve specialists Blackhall Engineering are now using Armoloy surface coating on their recently developed range of large bore "anti-seize" diverter valves (350mm to 600mm) that are being used on offshore oil platforms. The coating is an integral part of the high performance properties of the new valves, which have a product life requirement of 25 years.

Both the valve plug and internal surfaces of the main body are treated with the Armoloy process which creates a unique thin dense coating which permeates and bonds with the host metal to create a surface that is smooth, hard and extremely resilient. This provided Blackhall with the surface assurance properties that they were looking for in the highly corrosive and abrasive environments in which the valves operate.

"We began trialling Armoloy on small components," commented Paul Taylor, Engineering Development Manager at Blackhall, "and we quickly found that it was delivering the friction and corrosion resistance we were looking for – it has become the natural choice for us." The diverter valves have to carry a mixture of oil, sea water, sand and abrasive debris under pressure, and they are normally positioned just under the main rig platform.

Blackhall specialise in bespoke, high-performance valves that have often been designed to operate in a variety of challenging environments. Their diverter valves are based on a unique anti-seize design that was originally developed by the company over 40 years ago and has now been evolved to operate in the oil and gas sector.

At around 3 tonnes each, the valves are much lighter than existing designs that are traditionally used on platforms and the company sees considerable potential for future growth. It is also in discussion with Armoloy about further advanced applications.

Blackhall, Tel: 01484 713 717
Website: www.blackhall.co.uk



Paul Taylor from Blackhall (right) and Martin Belcher, Field Surveyor with The American Bureau of Shipping, with one of Blackhall's DN400 Diverter Valves, complete with Rotork actuator.

Turn it on now!

VALVE WORLD



EXPO

Valve World 2010 conference

7th Biennial Valve World Conference & Expo

Düsseldorf, Germany 30 Nov - 02 Dec 2010

The Valve World Expo presents continual growth, outstanding innovations and the highest level of technology at the new Düsseldorf location as of 2010. Valves and the entire palette of accessories, as well as the preceding and succeeding technologies take centre stage. The Valve World Conference, as the most important event of the industry, analyses the future of the markets against the background of fascinating developments and scientific evaluations.

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Messe
Düsseldorf

Adanac's 1000th low temperature test

Adanac have recently completed their 1000th low temperature test since they officially began offering cryogenic testing as an in house service in 2003.

Formed in 1987, Adanac have become leaders in the modification and preparation of valves for cryogenic service and for many years made the lonely journey up the A1 to Leeds to the valve testing centre that used to be attached to the university. If you've not experienced it, there's no worse feeling for a valve manufacturer than having to make the return journey with your valve having failed the test. Fortunately that didn't happen very often.

The move to the current premises at Woolpit, Suffolk in 1997 gave the opportunity to introduce purpose built pneumatic testing equipment, mainly for Adanac's clean room facility. In 2002 this equipment was extended with the addition of cold boxes and mass spectrometer leak detection equipment allowing Adanac to perform in-house pretesting. The first full blown, 3rd party witnessed cryogenic low temperature test at Adanac followed shortly afterwards in 2003.

In 2006 facilities were further extended with the introduction of ATACS (Adanac cryogenic and testing services), a purpose built pneumatic test area incorporating a 2 tonne overhead crane, centralised test operating station with CCTV monitoring of the test bay. Four test stations, two fixed cold boxes, numerous other mobile cold boxes, one of the largest of which allows for immersion of a 24" class 150 gate valve. The ATACS facility allows Adanac to perform a wide range of pneumatic testing in a safe, professional environment.

In addition to cryogenic and low temperature testing, Adanac offer fugitive emissions testing, multi-operation performance testing, stem and gland packing performance evaluation and other such testing both at ambient and low temperatures.

In traditional fashion, Adanac celebrated the 1000th low temperature test with fish'n'chips all round. With the number of fugitive emissions tests current standing at just a little over 400, it won't be long before there's another trip to the chippy to celebrate another significant milestone.

Adanac Valve Specialists, Tel: 01359 240 404

Website: www.adanac.co.uk



10" 300RF BS6364 cold box extended bonnet gate valve following test at -196°C



Tee body basket strainer following emissions test at -140°C



BVAA welcomes users' views and articles.

Submissions to rob@bvaa.org.uk

New Norgren Herion Ventilation Protector

Norgren Herion Protect Valves and Systems with their New Ventilation Protector

In outdoor installations, pilot air may not be directed into the environment without a protective system for the control units. Aggressive ambient air or moisture, which can lead to corrosion or ice build-up, may not reach the interior of the system; dirt and dust must also be prevented from penetrating and insects from nesting in the exhaust air channels. Traditional mufflers can prevent influences like the entry of insects, but they can only keep aggressive ambient air out under certain conditions. Their use outdoors is also hindered by their porous structure, which allows water to enter and even freeze in the muffler material (sintered plastic or steel).



The new ventilation protector from Norgren allows exhaust air to escape with minimal restriction, it reduces the noise during ventilation, and it reliably eliminates the influences listed above. Its efficient working principle corresponds to that of a check valve. When the valve is not ventilating, silicone rings seal the ventilation openings in the protective system. During ventilation, the escaping air forces the silicone rings away from the openings; they then seal tight again after the air has escaped.

The compact ventilation protector is screwed directly into the exhaust ports of the valves. It is available in two designs: For switching valves with nominal sizes up to 6mm and for switching valves with nominal sizes up to 12mm. The connecting threads are designed to fit NPT and G threads.

Additional features at a glance:

- low weight
- mechanically stable
- broad range of temperatures: -55° C to +80° C
- operating pressure of 0 to 10 bar
- materials are POM (plastic body) and silicone (O-ring), resulting in a broad compatibility range
- UV-stable, i.e. high resistance to aging from intensive sunlight

Norgren Limited, Tel: 01543 265000
Website: www.norgren.com

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ASCO's New Compact Stopper Cylinders



ASCO Numatics has introduced a range of pneumatic stopper cylinders designed for light and medium work holding and conveyor applications in the packaging, logistics and automotive industries. The CSC Series has been specially designed to resist the forces associated with radial loads which can cause seal leakage and, in extreme cases, even bent shafts.

The compact CSC Series is available with trunnion or roller type rod end with integrated anti rotation device. Available as 20, 32, 50 & 80 mm bore sizes and with strokes of 15, 20, 30 and 40 mm, the cylinder features self lubricating side bearings and has an operating pressure range of 1.5 to 10 bar and a temperature range of -20°C to +70°C. The mountings are compatible with ISO 21287/15552 and options include ATEX approval for gas and dust zone 1-21, and front plate fixing.



The compact and rugged design features an oversized piston rod and bearing diameter which maximises the effective bearing area for impact resistance. There are also T slot grooves on three sides for magnetic position detectors and in the event of pressure failure, the piston rod spring return stops the load and ensures safety of the installation.

The units are designed to stop objects at various points of a conveyor for machining or processing. They are ideal for applications such as assembly belts, high-bay racking in automatic warehouses and interlinked production plants.

The CSC Series is part of a much wider range of products for industrial automation (pneumatic components) as well as fluid control components (solenoid and pressure operated valves).

Pneumatic products include linear, rotatable and slide actuators, proportional valves, spool valves, fieldbus systems, micro-pneumatics, air service equipment such as filters and filter regulators, as well as turnkey systems and cabinets.

Whether you need a simple pneumatic cylinder, a sophisticated proportional valve, actuator or a fieldbus system, ASCO Numatics has the technology and the expertise to meet your automation needs.

Asco Numatics, Tel: 01695 713 600
Website: www.asconumatics.co.uk

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Comid Engineering Ltd

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email: sales@comid.co.uk web: www.comid.co.uk



Truflo Marine retain IIP Accreditation

Following our recent post recognition review, Truflo Marine is pleased to announce that it has for the third time met the standard required to retain recognition as an 'Investor in People'.

The assessor interviewed a random sample of 22 employees, chosen by him, whose responses led to him forming the following opinion:

The company places great emphasis on continuous improvement in all of its operations by making good use of EFQM and Talent Development.

Many areas of strength and good practice were identified including:

- Robust business planning and dissemination of the plan at all levels of the organisation
- Staff feeling valued and empowered in their roles
- An embedded culture of continuous improvement and suggestions for innovation encouraged at all levels
- All staff display a high regard to Health & Safety

Truflo Marine will continue to work both internally and with the assessing body during the recognition period to ensure that we continually improve in this area and maintain our own People Value – *"we value our people; we invest in them to enable them to deliver their best"*.

Truflo Marine, Tel: 0121 327 4789
Website: www.truflomarine.com



INVESTORS
IN PEOPLE



BEL VALVES

BEL Valves is a leading supplier of Gate, Ball, Globe and Check valves in sizes up to 42" and pressures up to 15,000 psi for Subsea, Topside and Onshore oil and gas applications. The products are supplemented by a range of actuators and controls.

A recent addition to this product portfolio is the E-Ball Valve, a double block and bleed all metal sealing eccentric ball valve.

BEL has a vast experience in design of products for Deepwater, High Pressure and HIPPS applications, working with all leading Contractors and Oil & Gas Companies. BEL currently have subsea valves hyperbarically tested to 3000 meters and in service at depths up to 2200 meters.

BEL Valves

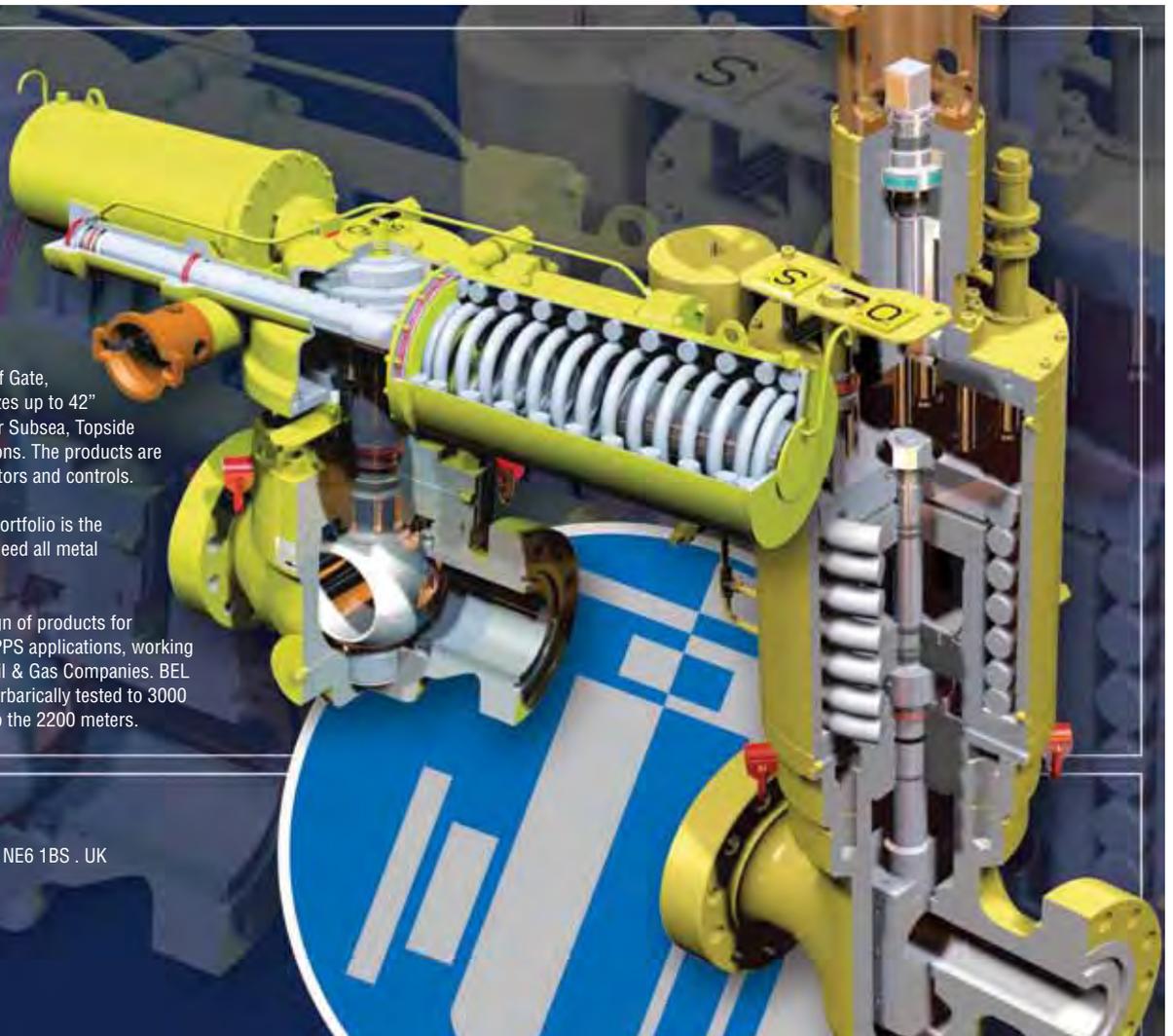
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www.belvalves.co.uk



AUMA secures major water project

AUMA actuators have supported a major refurbishment of Boughton Water Treatment Works in Chester. The scheme illustrates AUMA's comprehensive product portfolio, the benefits of its modular technology and its capabilities in providing a retrofit service.

Selection of actuation technology was managed by Enpure and over 80 AUMA actuators have been supplied including quarter-turn and multi-turn products. Remote-mounted electric actuator control systems have been installed for valves with restricted access and AUMA has provided actuation for penstocks.

The focus of this project centred on upgrading a treatment plant. Suppliers needed to work within the constraints of available space between existing structures and it was essential that the water supply was maintained while new technology was installed. This was where AUMA's modular approach to actuation was particularly beneficial as the new valve control technology was installed on site without a break in the water flow.

The Enpure-Morrison Consortium was appointed contractor for the project by Dee Valley Water. Commenting on the adoption of AUMA's actuation technology, Gordon Entwistle, Capital Programme Manager for Dee Valley Water said:

"Previously, the works had been largely operator controlled and therefore manually operated. As part of the upgrade we have introduced increased automation: this has meant that all valves on inlets and outlets need to be capable of being remotely controlled and effective at controlling flow / sealing as required. The complete process needs to be reliable and is managed centrally by an intelligent control system that communicates to all the field actuators."



Images show AUMA actuators installed at Boughton WTW filter gallery. Photographs courtesy of Enpure Limited

Located just one mile from the historic City of Chester and supplying a population of 100,000 meant that communication with local residents during the refurbishment was essential. Absolute reliability was required and guarantees had to be given of meeting the agreed completion dates. AUMA's forty year track record in the actuation industry, and established credentials supplying Dee Valley Water and its predecessor companies, meant the necessary reliability in meeting project deadlines could be assured.

Auma Actuators Ltd, Tel: 01275 871141
Website: www.auma.com



PPE Expands

PPE Completes Research, Manufacturing and Training Facilities Expansion

£5m factory expansion completed ahead of time

High performance elastomer seals specialist, Precision Polymer Engineering (PPE) has completed the three year, £5m, expansion of its manufacturing, sales administration, materials research and training facilities in Blackburn.

The expansion doubles the size of PPE's factory to 6,000sq meters (64,580 sq ft), which also includes a class 10,000 clean-room facility, and one of the UK's largest O-ring moulding presses. A separate office block has been built to provide sales offices and purpose-built training and professional development facilities for employees and customers.

The new PPE building and factory expansion was officially opened by Wayne Hemingway, co-founder of the highly successful 'Red or Dead' which won the British Fashion Council's "Street Style Designer of the Year" award three times in a row in the late 90's. In 1999, having sold Red or Dead, Mr Hemingway set up Hemingway Design specialising in affordable and social design.

As part of the factory expansion, PPE has increased the size and capability of its Materials Characterisation Centre. This advanced materials testing and research laboratory provides an array of physical and chemical testing facilities for elastomers. It also includes a greatly enhanced explosive decompression test rig, enabling more in-depth, industry-leading analytical work on material development with customers.

"Material development is critical to our continued growth. Our customers look to us to provide elastomer



seals that give them a competitive and performance edge. By increasing our elastomer research and test facilities, we are able to not only meet, but also exceed their expectations," said PPE managing director Peter Cloney.

PPE's global customers are pumps and valve makers, manufacturers of large diesel and gas turbines for marine propulsion and power generation, chemical, food and pharmaceutical equipment makers, and increasingly suppliers to the offshore, defence and aerospace sectors.

The Materials Characterisation Centre also offers an independent testing service for elastomers. It enables companies to assess the suitability of their equipment's seals in the event of a change in processing conditions.

PPE is committed to investing in its customers. "The more knowledgeable our customers, the more they are able to get the very best from their PPE elastomer seals. A key facet of our new offices is the PPE seals training centre," Peter Cloney noted.

Drawing on a range of practical and multimedia resources, PPE offers courses ranging from an introduction to elastomer materials and how O-rings are made through to elastomer technology and seal design for critical sealing applications, diesel engines, semiconductor industry, and pharmaceutical processing. Courses are typically 1 or 2 days and can be tailored to customers' needs.

Multiple Queen's Award winner for Innovation and International Trade, PPE employs 185 people and has a sales turnover of around £20m. Exports account for more than 80% of sales.

PPE has a direct subsidiary company in Aberdeen serving the oil and gas sector and sales operations in Europe and Asia serving a wide range of industries, California serving the semiconductor industry and the East Coast for oil and gas, chemical and life-science industries.

PPE was assisted in its factory expansion by support from the North West Development Agency.

Precision Polymer Engineering, Tel: 01254 295400
Website: www.prepol.com

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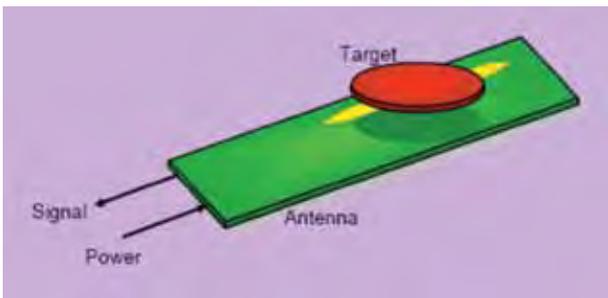
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New Technology for Non-Contact Position Sensing

Cambridge based Zettlex is a new BVAA member. They have developed a new technology for position measurement - already used by several other BVAA members for controlling valves, actuators, flow monitors as well as condition monitoring of seals. Zettlex's motto is 'Precision in the Extreme' and their technology offers precise, non-contact position measurement over millions of cycles even in the very harshest environments.

How does it work?



The technology's fundamental principles are similar to those used by inductive proximity switches. In other words, a target's position is detected using an inductive field without physical contact.

Rather than using traditional, wire coils, Zettlex's technology uses printed circuits to generate absolute, analogue position measurement in rotary, linear, curvilinear, 2D or even 3D geometries.

The sensor's antenna emits a low power field. The target object produces a characteristic electronic signature which is decoded to produce high accuracy position measurement. The result is output to the host control system in a variety of formats including 4-20mA (2 or 3 wire), 0-5V, SPI, RS485 etc.

Operation in Harsh Environments

The sensors are unaffected by the presence of liquids, moisture or dirt and can be coated in varnish or epoxy to enable long term immersion. Similarly, the sensors do not need precise alignment to measure accurately. Each sensor requires a small amount of electronics which can be displaced away from the sensing area - allowing sensor operation from -55° to 200° Celsius.

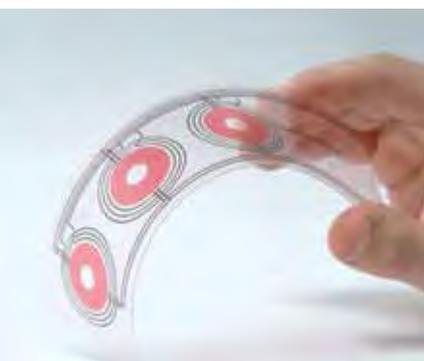
Typically, each sensor is just a few mm thick - although some examples have been produced which are less than the thickness of a piece of paper. The components within each sensor are low weight - making them ideally suited to high vibration environments. Once housed, the sensors can have been successfully tested to withstand shocks of up to 1000g. The printed forms can be positioned around a valve or actuator shaft in whatever format suits the host product.

The technology's compact form and light weight have proved attractive to a number of manufacturers who use the technology to replace the more traditional, problematic potentiometers or bulky wire wound transducers. Several units have been produced for potentially explosive environments and carry ATEX approval.

The future

Many of the sensors already produced by Zettlex can be programmed using on-board switches or a PC to provide position measurement with resolution of up to 24 bits (16 million points over full scale). Zettlex is a UK company, founded by engineers following a long and proud tradition of British innovation. The company has achieved an impressive range of design wins in the UK and are expanding their business to keep up with a growing list of customers who are realising the benefits of this exciting new technology.

Zettlex, Tel: 01223 874444
Website: www.zettlex.com



Example of a flexible sensor just 100microns thick



Example of an annular sensor for a shaft angle measurement



Example of a Zettlex sensor used to turn a mechanical gauge in to an electronic transmitter.



Example of a linear sensor used for valve stem position measurement



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AUMA become BVAA Members

AUMA have become members of the British Valve and Actuator Association (BVAA). As part of the association, AUMA supports the BVAA's objectives to provide collective representation and facilitate growth for the industry.

As a subsidiary of the AUMA group of companies with manufacturing headquarters in Germany, AUMA's UK division met the requirements of the association as it is a distributor of actuators that provides service and support for its products.

Commenting, BVAA Director Rob Bartlett said:

"We are delighted to welcome AUMA into the BVAA. The Association has continued to grow rapidly in recent years, and much of this growth has come about due to our policy of representing the wider industry in the UK. We very much look forward to working with the AUMA team."



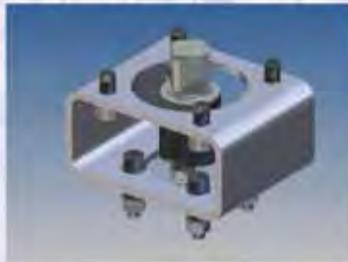
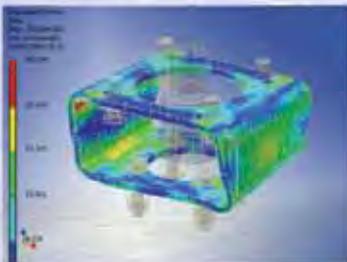
BVAA Director Rob Bartlett (right) presents a membership plaque to Ian Sully, MD of AUMA Actuators Ltd

Benefits to AUMA of BVAA membership will include representation by the association locally in the UK and internationally to the global valve and actuator market.



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The only source of knowledge is experience

AUMA Actuators Ltd

Leading modular actuation technology for over 40 years

Over forty years in flow control

AUMA, the manufacturer and global distributor of electric actuator solutions, has established a niche in modular actuation technology.

Since producing its first actuator in 1964, the company has continued to expand its product portfolio, international support network and customer base. AUMA actuators are widely adopted around the world providing essential automation functionality in a range of water, energy, chemical and oil/gas applications.

The adaptable advantage

AUMA recognises that, to provide a fit-and forget solution, true modularity is achieved through complete adaptability of the actuation system. AUMA actuator components dove-tail together to provide a 'mix and match' solution: this ensures that the company's products can be expanded, enhanced and refined on-site without removing the system for a factory upgrade.

The ability to combine a diverse range of modules in the AUMA product portfolio is a key advantage to those using the company's actuators. Whether the application is for a ball valve or lock gate and whether this is operated electrically/manually or conventionally/via fieldbus, AUMA provides the user with an adaptable advantage.

AUMA's comprehensive product range includes multi-turn, part-turn, linear or lever actuators and gearboxes. Product features include:

- open-close or modulating duty
- enclosure protection IP 67 or IP 68
- explosion-proof variants
- micro-processor control
- fieldbus interface

State-of-the-art facilities

AUMA has two world class manufacturing and assembly factories in Muellheim, Germany covering 20,000 sq metres. The company's state-of-the-art manufacturing equipment, backed by advanced research & development, ensure that AUMA stays at the leading edge of actuation technology.

auma®
Solutions for a world in motion



AUMA has supplied modular actuation solutions around the globe for over 40 years

Expert service around the globe

AUMA provides expert support for its actuation solutions around the globe via an extensive network of group companies and distributors. The company's impressive international presence extends to 35 countries where fully trained personnel are on hand to support the AUMA solution. With representation throughout Europe, Asia and the Far East, local support is assured from AUMA.

AUMA is represented in the UK by AUMA Actuators Ltd where a dedicated and experienced team of actuation engineering and technology experts provide the highest level of service and support.

AUMA Actuators, Tel: 01275 871141,
Email: mail@auma.co.uk
Website: www.auma.co.uk

Rotork Intelligent valve actuation for solar power plants



A section of the parabolic mirrors at one of the Andasol sites

The Andasol 1 plant in the Spanish province of Granada is Europe's first parabolic trough power plant and the world's largest solar power plant. The plant's 510,000m² collector surface area provides a generating capacity of 50MW, enough to meet the annual electricity demand of 50,000 households or 200,000 people. The success of Andasol 1 and sister plant Andasol 2 has reinforced the argument for the construction of similar renewable energy plants, many of which are now in progress throughout the world.

The parabolic trough is constructed as a long parabolic mirror with a Dewar tube running its length at the focal point. Sunlight is reflected by the mirror and concentrated on the tube, where it is absorbed by heat transfer oil flowing through it. The oil is used to heat steam in a conventional turbine generator.

At both of the Andasol sites Rotork IQ intelligent electric actuators with Pakscan 2-wire digital control have been specified for valve control in all areas of the generating process.

Pakscan digital control

Rotork Iberia worked closely with the plants' engineering company, Sener, to integrate an economical and efficient actuation and control system into the overall plant design.

The decision to use Rotork's Pakscan 2-wire digital control was assisted by the system's extremely long range bus capabilities. Designed specifically for the spacious environments associated with the majority of valve actuator installations, Pakscan can operate a loop of up to 20 kilometres in length without any deterioration in communication performance or the need for repeaters. This has enabled over one hundred actuators at each Andasol site to be controlled and monitored with a single bus loop. Each loop is supervised by a Pakscan P3 120 channel master station,

which provides the communication interface with the plant's control centre.

Control, monitoring, interrogation and configuration of each actuator is also available at the master station, offering increased flexibility to the operator. In addition, thanks to the web server installed as standard in the P3 master station, the operator in the main control centre will always have a clear picture of the condition of all the actuators on the loop at all times, even in the event of a failure of the main plant control system.

Isolating and modulating actuators

The main pipework circuits on a parabolic trough power plant comprise of the HTF (Heat Transfer Fluid) thermal oil pipes that carry the heat transfer oil around the mirrors, the steam plant and the power generation circuits. In addition, a liquid salt heat storage circuit is installed to enable electricity to be generated for up to 7½ hours after the sun has set.

In all plant areas, on-off valve control has been achieved using IQ multi-turn and IQT quarter-turn electric actuators. For the ten control valves on each of the networks, IQM modulating actuators were selected, equipped with Rotork Folomatic proportional controllers and CPT current position transmitters, operating from a 4-20mA control signal.

For the long term

By working in detail with the plant designer on all aspects of valve control, Rotork has provided a reliable and successful IQ actuator and Pakscan package for Andasol 1 and 2. The Pakscan digital control system offers economical installation costs allied to reliable and comprehensive real-time communication with the IQ intelligent actuators. Data loggers within each actuator facilitate diagnostics by recording historical operating data and valve torque trends. This data can be downloaded either through the actuator's 'non-intrusive'

infra-red link to the hand held setting tool or laptop, or via the Pakscan bus loop. Using Rotork's IQ-Insight software, this data can be analysed in the office to predict any potential operating issues. Maintenance can therefore be planned in advance of any unplanned interruption to normal operations, optimising the overall performance of the plant.

As a result of the reliability and benefits of the Rotork IQ and Pakscan package, a second contract has since been awarded for Extresol 1 and Extresol 2, two similar plants which will be operational in 2010.

Rotork Controls, Tel: 01225 733 220

Website: www.rotork.com

rotork®

Rotork IQ electric valve actuators installed on the steam plant at Andasol 1



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www.bvaa.org.uk

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The AUMA UK field team celebrate British Energy's extended framework agreement

AUMA - British Energy extends actuator agreement

Having successfully fulfilled a three year framework agreement supplying actuators to British-Energy (now part of EDF Energy) AUMA's contract has been extended by a further three years. A track record supplying Hinkley, Hunterston and Dungeness supported British Energy's selection of AUMA electric actuators.

AUMA products have been adopted to support valve technology at British Energy's plants. Additionally, as part of the extended agreement, AUMA will support the energy supplier's obsolescence strategy replacing first generation actuators with its modular actuators.

Commenting, Jonathan Vincent from British Energy's Supply Chain division said:

"AUMA's modular approach to actuator design has been a key factor in British Energy's decision to extend the framework agreement. There are particular advantages with regard to our obsolescence programme as old equipment can be replaced without impact on the plants' existing control system infrastructure."

AUMA's British division, which is part of an international group of companies, will continue to supply multi/quarter turn actuators and gearboxes. The company will also provide service and training support.

AUMA electric actuators support British Energy's obsolescence strategy



AUMA achieves second United Utilities award



Photograph shows Steve Williams, Category Manager, Capital Supply Chain – United Utilities (left) with Ian Sully, AUMA UK Managing Director

second time. The presentation to AUMA was given for best supplier in the utility's Electrical, Controls and Automation (ECA) category for third quarter 2008/2009.

Measures used by United Utilities to assess AUMA included time to complete design, quotation turnaround period, ability to deliver to programme, product quality, health/safety/environment and early warning notices.

The UK division of AUMA actuators has achieved the 'best supplier' award from United Utilities for a

Anglian Water adopts pioneering AUMA training programme

Over 100 engineers at Anglian Water in the UK have benefited from a pioneering training programme developed and hosted by AUMA actuators.

Designed to reduce down-time and improve efficiency, the courses give engineers the confidence, knowledge and practical skills to assess on-site maintenance requirements. As a result, the utility's staff are equipped

AUMA actuators has been a framework supplier of modular electric actuation solutions to United Utilities since 2002. The company achieved its first award for best supplier in its category in 2007.

Actuation technology supplied and supported by AUMA is adopted in a range of valve flow control applications for United Utilities, the UK's largest listed water company.

with the necessary skills to address and action, as appropriate, situations including the re-setting, repairing and commissioning of valves and actuators.

AUMA emphasises that the training is designed to provide front-line education, however, its field engineers are on hand to provide a highly responsive service if required.

All courses are assessed and AUMA is delighted to report that, from a maximum score of six, it has received average figures from Anglian Water of 5.6 for presentation, 5.7 for instructor qualities and 5.7 for presentation materials.

Anglian Water reports the benefits of the practical training programme and confirms that AUMA is the first actuator supplier to take the initiative to educate its engineers.



Actuation specialist training staff at Anglian Water



AUMA Actuators Ltd's mobile training unit

AUMA Actuators Ltd.,
Tel: 01275 871141
Website: www.auma.co.uk

Single Source HIPPS from BEL Valves and Hima-Sella

BEL Valves manufactures high integrity valves for the Oil and Gas Industry. It is part of the British Engines Group and has a reputation for investing heavily in the latest capital equipment, partnerships and people skills.

As a result, BEL Valves offers a complete Safety Instrumented Solution to a technology innovation known as HIPPS (High Integrity Pressure Protection System). This incorporates system design, engineering and supply and the partnership with Hima-Sella will be demonstrated by exhibiting a single source HIPPS at this year's Offshore Europe Exhibition 8-11 Sept 2009, AECC Aberdeen. HIPPS is a Safety Instrumented System (SIS) that is an Economic Enabler to facilitate HP/HT and Deepwater Production developments.

By combining their specialisations in Systems Integration and High Integrity Valve Manufacturing, BEL Valves and Hima-Sella are able to supply a complete SIS that is flexible, reliable and easy to install and commission. The complete HIPPS loop, including the sensors, logic solver and the final elements under control, fully meets Safety Integrity Level 3 (SIL3) and the requirements of IEC 61508 and IEC 61511. It offers the ultimate in asset and personnel protection where pressure relief valves and bursting discs are impractical because of safety and environmental constraints. HIPPS are the only systems to protect against over pressure scenarios and the loss of containment simultaneously.

The decision to include HIPPS depends on multiple assessments to mitigate the risk but a first step is to find a qualified supplier with an established reputation who can provide a complete solution. A HIPPS needs to meet stringent SIL requirements and each installation has a unique set of calculations for Risk Assessment. Between them Hima-Sella and BEL Valves have more than seventy years of experience in proving technology and installing tried and tested products in international markets. By combining their resources to provide a complete solution to HIPPS they are able to design, engineer, supply, warrant and certify each particular application.

BEL Valves operates from an integrated production facility in Newcastle upon Tyne and provides a full range of services including: In-house Design, Integrated



Manufacturing from raw material sourcing and in-house foundry to product finishing and Tungsten Carbide coating, extensive product testing, including deepwater, and after-market service and training.

It provides a range of valves, actuators and controls for surface and subsea applications, worldwide, with a specific focus on high pressure and high integrity applications. The configurations include; on-off, through conduit slab and expanding gate valves, high-integrity ball, globe and check valves, an eccentric ball valve (e-ball) and a range of small bore gate, check, needle and rotary disc valves for the subsea market.

These bespoke products meet all the main industry codes in bore sizes from ½" to 42"; pressures up to 16,500psi and water depths to 3000 metres. They are designed and manufactured to API 6A, 6D, 17D, ASME 16.34, ASME VIII and satisfy ISO 9001, GOST and Norsok standards. They can be supplied in materials for sweet and sour service, which are suitable for a combination of high pressures and high temperatures, and for applications which require zero leakage to the atmosphere.

This has led to close liaison with the industry which means a unique exposure in delivering product-engineering solutions that has enabled BEL Valves to satisfy many major projects in the UKCS, the Norwegian North Sea, West Africa, the Gulf of Mexico, Canada, the Far East, Middle East and FSU areas in Kazakhstan and Azerbaijan.

BEL Valves, Tel: 0191 265 9091
Website: www.belvalves.com

Ron Hague - Valve & Actuator Specialists

A company overview from new BVAA member Ron Hague Ltd

The Company



From our foundation in 1984, we have prided ourselves on our policy of commitment to positive customer care, professionalism, attention to detail and aiming for total customer satisfaction.

Ron Hague Ltd is the UK's largest stockist and distributor of Kinetrol equipment. Kinetrol's vane actuator has a single moving part providing a simple yet reliable mechanism for quarter-turn rotary actuation. It is ideal in the operation or positioning of ball, butterfly and plug valves, also ventilation dampers.

Modular 'add on' options include spring return fail safe, switch box, gear box, 180 degree and positioned units. All are available with the option of ISO direct mount. Electro-hydraulic versions are also available, designed for use in areas without compressed air.

A rigorous quality program approved to ISO 9001 ensures each actuator is manufactured to the highest standards. Every actuator is tested before leaving the factory.

Bray Butterfly Valves

We stock Bray Controls and have the butterfly valves and actuators needed for your flow control solution. The modular design of butterfly valves and actuators offers you the best compatibility, economy, quality and performance in the flow control industry.



Asco



We also offer Pilot operated and direct acting solenoid valves in brass, stainless steel, aluminium and plastic, threaded, flanged and Namur style suitable for hazardous areas zones 0, 1, 2, 21, 22 ATEX approved.

Gate, Globe & Check Valves

At Ron Hague we offer a full range of gate, globe and check valves in a variety of sizes, pressure ratings and materials.

- Size ½" to 60"
- ANSI 150lb to 4500lb
- Flanged socket weld, threaded and wafer
- Standard and extended bonnet
- Bellow sealed bonnet
- Through conduit and double block and bleed valve
- Carbon steel, stainless steel, titanium and alloys

At Ron Hague Ltd we also stock a wide range of Mars Ball Valves, Gemu diaphragm valves, Orbinox knife gate valves and ancillary equipment.

Ron Hague Ltd,
Tel: 01274 532 727
Website: www.hague.co.uk

Developing standards

By Charlie Duncombe, BSI

How standards benefit businesses

Standards are a powerful tool for use by organizations of all sizes and can potentially support innovation and increase productivity. Standardization can be used by businesses to help shape their industry and promote and enhance profitability.

The business benefits that can result from adopting and using standards include :

- cutting costs and driving profitability by reducing the time, effort and money that has to be invested in the research and development of new products, while increasing their likelihood of success in the marketplace;
- providing best-practice guidance and sharpening business processes;
- providing a reliable benchmark against which performance can be judged;
- demonstrating a commitment to the quality of goods, services or processes;
- providing a competitive edge which will keep existing customers coming back and open the door to new customers;
- providing a reliable and consistent reference point which can help to reduce the risk of making an error;
- ensuring that products or services are compatible (or 'interoperable') with those manufactured or provided by others;
- helping to ensuring regulatory compliance;
- supporting exports;
- enabling innovation by defining and measuring product performance;
- strengthening marketing resources;
- providing assurance to stakeholders and customers via independent verification and certification that products or services consistently stand up to rigorous examination.

Why should I get involved

Participation in the work of a technical committee is unpaid, however funding assistance is available in some circumstances particularly when international travel is required. Representation on a technical committee is usually through groups with related interests, such as trade associations, to ensure that as wide a consensus as practicable is reached. Where individuals have specific expertise, they might be co-opted onto a committee and so contribute directly.

BSI welcomes approaches from those who are interested in taking part in standards work and although it requires time and effort, there are a number of direct benefits that can be gained from participating by :



- increasing knowledge of and familiarity with existing standards which can then support evolutionary business ventures, decrease development time and increase speed to market;
- being pro-active and taking a leadership role in putting forward the business case for adapting existing standards to suit new products or technologies or drafting new standards;
- taking advantage of the immediate benefit of professional and personal networking with experts from the same business/technology area;
- being fully and currently aware of developments and trends in the standards it is interested in;
- be able to identify and take part in new areas of standards work and hence be in a position to have advanced knowledge of any emerging or developing markets.

Further information regarding taking part in standards work can be found at :

<http://www.bsigroup.com/en/Standards-and-Publications/About-standards/What-are-the-benefits-of-standards/>

Good for Business is BSI's Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) guide to standardization, designed to introduce small businesses to British and international standards and showcase organizations benefiting from standardization. To download your free copy of the guide, visit :

www.bsigroup.com/sme-guide

If you would like to discuss the opportunities available for taking part in standards work, please contact BSI customer services at :

cservices@bsi-global.com

If you are particularly interested in getting involved in standardization work in the area of Industrial Valves and Actuators, please contact Charlie Duncombe, Programme Manager, Manufacturing and Services at BSI on +44 (0)208 996 7141.



Rotork aids Regeneration

Rotork actuators at the centre of successful UK environmental regeneration

To the casual observer, it looks like a set of modern sea locks and outfall penstocks such as can be seen all around the coast of the UK. But, as part of one of the country's most successful regeneration schemes, it is much more than that. The Cardiff Bay Barrage – a major engineering project that took over five years to build at a cost of £220 million – is also a highly sophisticated environmental protection mechanism designed to regulate the water level in the 500 acre fresh water Cardiff Bay and to isolate it from the sea by preventing the ingress of sea water.

For over a decade, since the barrage was first completed, the enormous butterfly valves in the underground pipework network that controls the environmental protection process have been reliably operated by Rotork IQ actuators. The pipework design comprises of a man-made sump in front of the locks on the bay side of the barrage which leads down to a 1200mm pipe installed beneath the barrage in order to return to the sea the salt water introduced to the bay by lock activity. Two branches from this main pipe lead to Locks 1 and 2, enabling the salt water to assist the filling of these locks at times of low river flow into the bay. The branches can also be used to transfer water between the two locks as circumstances dictate.



Senior Maintenance Engineer Richard Parker with two of the Rotork IQ actuators on the pipework branch leading to the two sea locks. The actuator in the foreground controls the flow into the branch and the other actuator controls the flow into (or out of) Lock 1.



IQ actuators installed on the fishpass penstock

The IQ actuator on the main pipe valve is fitted with a current position transmitter to enable the valve to be opened at percentage increments in order to control the flow of salt water from the sump. The configuration of the three other actuated valves in the network can be altered to fill either or both of the locks or transfer water between them.

Under PLC control, the actuated valves are remotely operated from the Salt Water Panel in the Barrage Control Room. Data from floating analysers in the bay assist in gauging the level of salt water in the sump, enabling the operators to open the valves as required and divert the salt water into the appropriate destinations.

Because Cardiff Bay is now a recreational and environmental asset, the frequency of actuator operation fluctuates from season to season and from day to day. In busy periods there can be over 150 boat movements through the locks during a weekend. Meanwhile the actuator on the main inlet control valve is constantly in operation throughout the year.

In an adjacent area of the barrage a fishpass is installed to allow the uninterrupted travel of migratory fish from the Severn Estuary to the bay and to the important Taff and Ely salmon rivers that feed into it. Like the locks, there is more to this installation than meets the eye. Designed to assist the ongoing scientific study of fish health in a changing environment, the fishpass is equipped with six Rotork IQ actuators to control various penstocks and screens leading to different areas of the installation, depending on tidal conditions.

The actuators operate penstocks to allow fish in and out of a fishtrap, where they are examined by the Environment Agency, through a gravity attraction area, which allows fresh water to flow out of the barrage to draw the fish towards the fishpass, and through the Denil pass, man-made rapids that enable the fish to travel 'uphill' into the bay. An additional IQ actuator operates a screen that prevents debris from travelling through the fishpass.

The operation of the fishpass actuators is controlled by a SCADA system in the Barrage Control Room, which is backed up by a motor control centre in the unlikely event of a fault.

Rotork Controls, Tel: 01225 733 220

Website: www.rotork.com



The landward view of the sea locks from the Barrage Control Room

Rotork successfully defends intellectual property rights in China

Autork guilty of copying and unfair competition

In landmark rulings in the Shanghai People's Court of China, Rotork has successfully defended its internationally recognised trademark and copyright to its intellectual property following infringements by the copier company Shanghai Autork Digital Instrument Co. Ltd. (Autork) also known as Greatork. The Court also found Autork guilty of engaging in unfair competition through the use of false publicity for which they were fined the maximum amount permitted by the court. Furthermore Autork was ordered by the courts to cease these infringements with immediate effect.

Autork based in Mid-Yunnan Road, Shanghai, PRC is a trading organisation very closely affiliated to Tefulong Group Co. Ltd (formerly known as Zhejiang Tefulong Machinery Co. Ltd) who also trade as Wenzhou Greatork Apparatus Co. Ltd.

Rotork has also successfully claimed protection for its intellectual property in the Netherlands and Germany following infringements by Autork. In the Netherlands, Autork was found guilty of slavish imitation, breach of copyright and violation of design rights relating to Rotork's award winning IQ and IQT series of actuators and also guilty of infringing Rotork's internationally recognised trademark. In Germany and Holland the Autork stand was removed from high profile trade shows after Court action by Rotork in the German



Closed down stand – the consequences of infringing intellectual property rights

and Netherland courts established intellectual property infringement by Autork against Rotork.

Rotork, with over 50 years experience of manufacturing actuators, has been responsible for introducing many innovations within valve automation and its products are the result of extensive research and development. Rotork urges its customers and users to be vigilant and wary of inferior imitations of its products and components that have not been subjected to the same level of third party approvals and certifications. If in any doubt, customers are requested to contact their nearest official Rotork representative.

Rotork Controls, Tel: 01225 733 200

Website: www.rotork.com

Russian production of valves and accessories in 2008 - Figures and facts, analytical review

The evaluation of the current situation in the market of pipeline valves and accessories has been carried out by executive direction of Scientific Industrial Valve Manufacturers Association (NPAA) over the last several years. We are considering the valves production for each year and making the data analysis in dynamics.

Both the total production volume by Russian valves plants and the production volumes of the basic valves types it is being reviewed in the given case.

In addition, we purchase and analyze the export-import transactions database of the Federal Customs Service. Published reports are based on the primary sources (the data from manufacturers about valves production volumes), and secondary sources (the statistical information from Federal State Statistics Service (ROSSTAT), the data of the Central Bank of the Russian Federation, the reports of independent experts published in mass-media, and several other sources).

Structure of production

This section will offer a review of basic trends on the market in 2008 according to the questionnaires received from the valves manufacturers, the data of quarterly accounts of open joint-stock companies, and the data of Goskomstat (Russian State Statistics Committee). In spite of the fact that the first half of the year was rather successful for domestic producers, the total annual production volume decreased by 4,5 % in natural terms, and growth (in rubles) made up 13 % in terms of value on the results of 2008 versus 2007. This may be explained by price rises on products. In a dollar equivalent growth made up 16 % .

For more detailed analysis we considered the data, received from the 57 biggest manufacturers of pipeline valve and accessories. The total production volume of these manufacturers was \$820 million USD and 19440000 items of pipeline valve and accessories. Analyzing the received information it may be concluded that the leaders in production volume in terms of value are steel gate valves and ball valves having just about the same production volume. There are followed by electric actuators, steel globe valves and iron gate valves. The smallest percentage is accounted for by steel valves and check valves.

Steel valves (check valves) were the leaders of growth in terms of value last year, followed by steel globe valves and steel ball valves. The production volume of the iron gate valve and globe valves made from cupriferous alloys was reduced. The steel ball valves showed the highest growth rate in natural terms.

Structure of imported pipeline valves and accessories in Russia

The valves import volume increased by 62% in terms of value and by 11,8% in natural terms in comparison with 2007. The leaders in import volume are the ball and plug valves, the gate valves are the second, followed by import of sanitary valves. Control valves and globe valves are the fourth and fifth in the rating. In natural terms the ball valves, plug valves and gate valves are mostly imported.

Valves and accessories were imported to Russia in 2008 from 93 countries.

Distribution by regions is given in Figure 1. The majority of valves and accessories were imported from European countries, or \$907 million USD (73,4%). Valves and accessories from CIS countries amounted to \$95,9 million USD (7,8%). Due to the increasing of Chinese imports the total import from Asian countries increased by 21% and made up \$180,7 million USD. Import volume from American countries made up \$46,3 million USD. Import from Africa and Australia is negligible (0,09% and 0,04%).

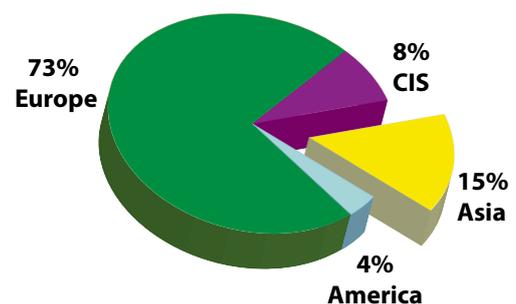
Export structure

In 2008 the export volume of valves from Russia exceeded the same figures of 2007 by 11,7%, in natural terms the growth by 3,7%.

Gate valves and ball and plug valves have nearly equal parts of total export volume (20,2% and 20,4% respectively), then followed globe valves (11,6%) and other accessories (11,4%). Least, as well as last year, it is taken out diaphragm valves (0,2%) and sanitary valves (2,6%).

In 2008 the highest growth was shown by ball valves and plug valves, their deliveries increased 150% from 2007. This position in 2008 was first having outpreceed the gate valves that were leaders during several years. The delivery growth of check valves made up 44,9%,

Fig 1. Import of Valves in Russia in 2008. Segmentation by regions of the world (thousands \$)





Ivan Ter-Mateosyants



Alena Bakulina



Olesya Afanasyeva

spare parts 33,9%, sanitary valves 24%, gate valves 12,3%, the delivery growth of other accessories, safety and diaphragm valves made up 10%, 9,8% and 8,8% respectively. The delivers volumes of globe valves were reduced by 14,2%, control valves by 7,4%, butterfly valves by 23%, pressure reducer valves by 21,7%.

Russia exports valves to 108 countries among them 5 countries with consumption volume more than \$10 million USD for 2008 make 70,5 % from total annual consumption.

Most valves are exported to CIS countries (see fig.2). For 2008 the export to these countries made up \$184,72 million USD (65% of total export volume). Valves delivered to Asian countries made up \$58,5 million USD (21%), to European countries \$31,7 million USD (11%). Export to America, Africa and Australia is negligible (3 % totally).

Market of pipeline valves

Summing up, it may be said, that the foreign trade surplus made up for the negative peak over the last 10 years. It was a result of the considerable increase of imports in 2008. Table 1 gives the main indices of the valves market. We compared volumes in 2007 and 2008 at an average course for 2008 to show the trends which are independent from the exchange difference.

Table 1. Increase of main indices of valves market in 2008 versus 2007 in terms of value	
Production	+13%
Import	+57.6%
Export	+8.7%

Actuators

According to statistical data of NPAA the total volume of actuators in Russia reduced in 2008 versus last year by 2,3% in natural terms.

In 2008 the deliveries of actuators to Russia significantly increased with simultaneous export reduction.

Over the past several years Germany has been the leader on deliveries volume, which considerably increased versus 2007. Fast rates of growth in 2008 were shown by China (where there was a nine-fold increase), while the deliveries volumes are negligible, but, considering the 'specificity' of China, it is necessary to pay attention to it. Volumes of import from the Czech Republic and Slovakia were reduced.

In 2008 as well as in previous years the majority of export deliveries were accounted for by CIS countries. We analysed the delivery volume every month in 2007 and 2008 to define whether reduction of delivery volume is connected with an economic crisis. The analysis results show that the deliveries were reduced sharply in the fourth quarter and remained at the level of about 240 thousand US dollars a month. It is possible to assume that this reduction actually is connected with an economic crisis, and since October that production was delivered only on earlier annual contracts which had been concluded.

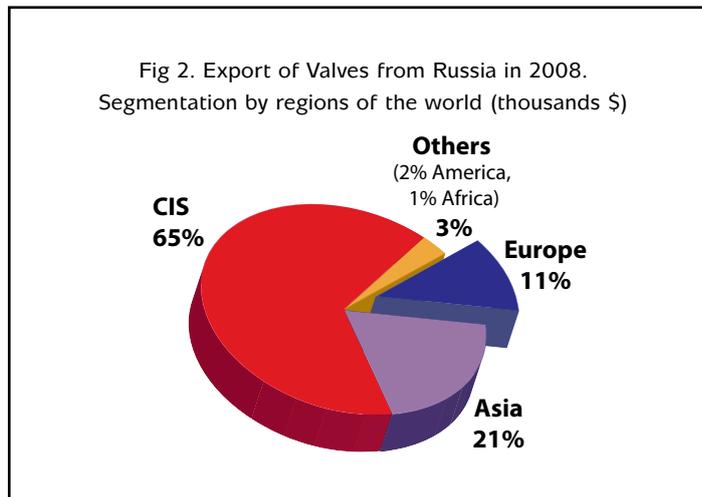
Material of this review is a part of a report made by Executive direction of Scientific Industrial Valve Manufacturers Association (NPAA). The report allows us to formulate a perception of the current market situation in the sector of pipeline valves and accessories in Russia and to forecast development using available trends.

The following reference materials were used during market review:

- Database of customs declarations from the Main Research & Information Computer Centre under the Federal Customs Service of Russia;
- Results of statistical processing of data received by NPAA from manufacturers;
- Quarterly and annual reports of manufacturers;
- Information from specialised publications.

NPAA, Tel: 00 7812 5287571

Email: npaa@npa-arm.org



Customers give Saint-Gobain PAM UK the seal of approval

Customers of iron technology leader Saint-Gobain PAM UK have given the company a glowing accolade in its latest independently commissioned customer survey.

Customers from across the country gave Saint-Gobain PAM UK high scores in the 20 issues that they deemed most important. These included: effectiveness of technical advice, quality of products, on time deliveries, ease of placing an order and speed of response to emergency situations. Leadership Factor Ltd, an independent research specialist, conducted an initial survey to establish the most important customer issues and then asked participants to measure how well Saint-Gobain PAM UK performed in these key areas.

Satisfaction scores across the 20 categories were all marked highly, with quality and technical performance of products and the effectiveness of the technical advice line among the most impressive scores. Ease of placing an order, the condition of goods and packaging on delivery and accuracy of invoicing all received an average score of more than eight out of ten.

Paul Minchin, managing director of Saint-Gobain PAM UK, commented: "We are delighted that, in the aspects that matter most to our customers, we have been given some very positive feedback and we are really pleased to see that our customers find us easy to do business with.

"Our highest rating was with 'adherence to health and safety regulations' – something that we consider to be the single most important issue within any business. We work hard to meet our 'zero work related incidents' and 'zero occupational illness' aims in every aspect of our operations. This commitment extends to our customers and we have been recently awarded by Morgan Est, a leading supplier, for our efforts in continuing to seek easier and safer handling methods for our products."

"Since the survey, Saint-Gobain PAM UK has pledged to continue to improve in key areas to maintain and increase levels of customer satisfaction and is actively looking to work with customers on how we can help improve our products and service offering."

Saint-Gobain PAM, Tel: +44 (0) 121 454 8181
www.saint-gobain-pam.co.uk



Saint-Gobain's Paul Minchin



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Econosto UK exhibit at Seawork 2009



BVT Surface Fleet vessels use Econosto products

Seawork International is Europe's largest port-based Marine and Commercial Workboat Exhibition and Conference, and has been established for over a decade. For three days each June in Southampton, UK, the exhibition offers a unique combination of more than 10,000m² of indoor, quayside and waterborne displays with live events and demonstrations.

A major event within the commercial marine industry, the show attracts hundreds of exhibitors and thousands of visitors from right across the globe. Part of the reason for this success is the incorporation of specialist areas such as DiveWork, Fluid Power, and Shipbuilding & Repair pavilions. Also new this year was a Marine Civils Pavilion.

Econosto UK made the decision to exhibit for the first time at the 2009 Seawork from 16-19 June. It proved to be the right decision according to Clive Gamble, MD of Econosto UK, *"Although many people will associate Econosto with our well-established markets such as oil, gas and energy, the Econosto Group have a long history of supply to shipbuilding and other maritime industries and it is a growing area for Econosto UK. Attendance at an event like Seawork, which serves all of the commercial marine sector, is a prime opportunity to reach potential customers within the industry"*.

Already well established as a preferred supplier to leading shipbuilders such as BVT, and with a project team in place who are used to dealing with the requirements of maritime industries, Econosto UK has just the right combination of experience and products to develop within this sector. Seawork 2009 proved to be an ideal platform for meeting a variety of potential customers across a broad range of maritime industries.

Throughout the three day event, our stand staff was kept busy with interest and enquiries coming from companies that already knew or dealt with us plus a good level of interest from those who had little or no previous knowledge of Econosto UK.

Overall, expectations were exceeded in terms of visitor numbers to the stand and the quality of enquiries was extremely good making this exhibition very likely to become a regular in the events calendar.

Econosto UK Ltd, Tel: 0116 272 7300
www.econosto.uk.com



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Econosto products are in all types and sizes of vessels

Using butterfly valves for control

All control valve manufacturers will tell you that it is important to carefully size and select any valve that you wish to use in a control application. This is to ensure that the process can be controlled accurately, minimising variability and all the inherent instability problems that this can bring, as well as minimising the impact on raw material and utilities costs. However, valve selection is often based on reasons other than controllability.

When selecting a valve for a given control application there are two major considerations. One is the total range of conditions that the valve will be expected to control against, the second is the installed gain of the control valve across its operating range. The gain is the ratio of rate of change of input to rate of change of output, so if the input signal is increased by 10 percent, causing the flow rate to change by 10 percent, then the gain is deemed to be one. The installed gain is dependent on the process conditions and the inherent characteristic of the valve. The inherent characteristic is described by the shape of the graph when plotting the percentage travel of the valve against percentage of maximum flow, with a constant pressure drop. There are three main characteristics, quick open, linear and equal percentage (see fig 1).

In an ideal world, the characteristic should be matched to the process conditions in order to give an installed gain of one across the entire flow range. In practise, the control valve has a useable range where the gain is between 0.5 and 2. Outside this range it is difficult to provide accurate control. By far the most widely used inherent characteristic is equal percentage.

Valves are often selected for economic reasons. This especially applies to butterfly valves. One of the reasons butterfly valves are selected is because they offer lower installation costs. Installation costs are lower because pipework reducers are generally not required as butterfly valves tend to be line size. In addition, butterfly valves use less metal in their manufacture making them cheaper to purchase and meaning they weigh less – which reduces the need for bracing or supports. Another reason people choose butterfly valves over other styles is because they can be more compact. This is especially important for vendors of package plant who will always try to reduce the overall envelope size of their equipment.

Typically butterfly valves are installed in secondary loops where control is not deemed as critical, or in loops where the pressure drop across a system must be limited and the designer needs a line-size valve with little or no obstructions to the flow path. Using a butterfly valve in



these applications may not present any problems but all too often it will, and that is when the end user is faced with difficult choices.

Butterfly valves inherently have a linear characteristic and in most applications have a useable controllable range between 25 percent and 50 percent of valve travel. They generally have a very high gain at low travel, which means that for a very small change in input signal there is a very large change in output. Trying to control at this lower end of the travel range results in set point under and overshoot. The valve gets a signal telling it to open, which it does, the resultant change in output is larger than intended so the valve gets a signal telling it to close, which it does, then it gets told to open, then to close... This opening and closing can create an oscillation in the loop that is reflected and then sometimes magnified in all connected loops.

Operating at the other end of the travel range, when the gain is very low, you get little change in output for a large change in input. This makes the valve performance very sluggish. This problem is exacerbated when the loop has been tuned to restrict overshoot at low opening.

For some process operators this constant monitoring, re-tuning and process adjustment is not possible, so another option is to put the valve in manual control and

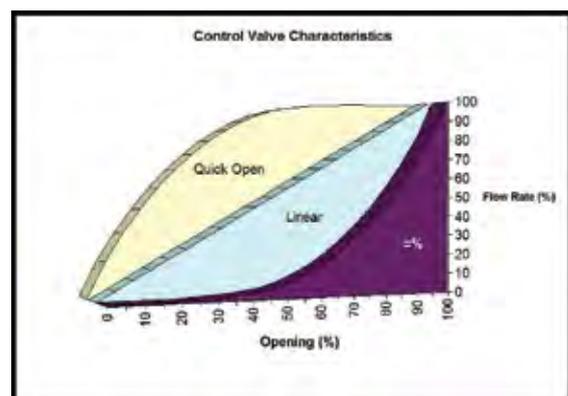


Figure 1

set it to a single position. This is fine all the time the loop is in a stable condition, but it can create safety and/or end product quality problems if conditions elsewhere in the process mean that the valve should move. In these situations it is often necessary to look to change the valve to an alternative design.

However, once a butterfly valve is installed, especially on packaged plant, it may be very costly to re-engineer a solution using a globe or a ball valve. The pipework may need to be modified to take into account the longer face to face dimension and pipeline reducers may need to be fitted to account for the smaller body size. When a butterfly valve has been chosen due to limited available space then the modifications may be even more costly, with the possibility of having to move several pipes in order to install a valve with a larger envelope size.

An alternative solution has now been developed by Emerson Process Management - the Fisher® Control-Disk™ butterfly valve which has an equal percentage characteristic. This valve has been designed to offer better control in situations where a butterfly valve is the preferred option, or where it would be too costly to change a butterfly valve for another valve style. The effective control range of this new valve is very near to that of a globe valve. Tests have shown a useable control range of between 15 percent and 70 percent of travel, compared with the 25 to 50 percent for a conventional butterfly valve.

In keeping with Emerson's other control valve designs, the new butterfly valve has been designed with maintenance in mind. Independent tests by valve maintenance staff have led to comments on how easy the valve is to disassemble and reassemble, without the need to stock discs and shafts as machined and matched pairs.

One of the companies that has been testing the new technology is Agfa Graphics Ltd. Agfa produce photographic film at their Leeds, UK site. In order to meet the production specification, the process temperature has to be kept to within ½ degree of the set point, of 44.5 deg C. The source water for the cooling system is taken from an outside storage tank. In the summer, the source water is generally above 15 deg C and the loop controlled well. In the winter, when the source water was below 10 deg C, the valve would move below its control range, down to around 8% open, and start to limit cycle.

A limit cycle is caused when a signal is sent to the valve by the controller and due to the high gain at low travel there is a large change in flow rate when the valve moves. The controller quickly sends a signal telling the valve to change direction, which it does, causing a large change in the opposite direction. This cycling continues until either the process conditions change or there is some form of manual intervention.

When the original valve was unable to control, it had to be placed in manual and then adjusted any time there was a change in film width or production speed. It took time to get this adjustment right and large amounts of scrap were generated as a result.

Because Agfa was already using butterfly valves in this application, any change of valve design would have led to expensive piping modifications. In addition, they wanted to utilise the existing actuators and positioners. The valves were replaced with new Fisher Control-Disk valves, the control loop was switched to automatic and the improvement could be seen immediately.

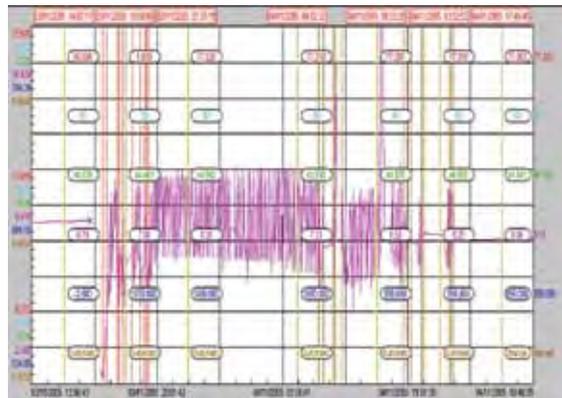


Figure 2 clearly shows the limit cycle in the original valve when attempting to control at low levels of opening. The valve travel (the purple line) can be seen to be varying between 6 percent and 12 percent. With the control disc valve fitted, the travel can be seen (figure 3) to be controlling steadily at 11 percent open (green line).

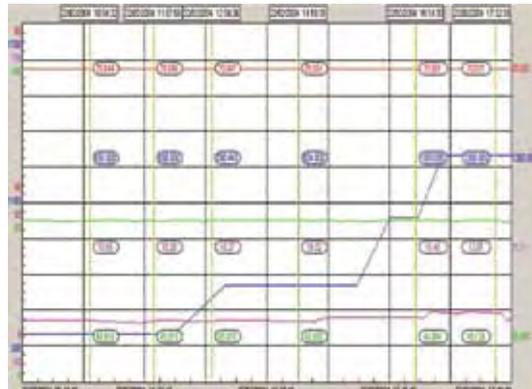


Figure 3

The new Fisher Control-Disk valve, with its equal percentage trim and tested, proven reliability is destined to change the traditional approach to selecting butterfly valves for control applications.

Emerson Process Management, Tel: 0870 240 1978
Website: www.emersonprocess.co.uk

Hobbs Secure MOD Contract



Hobbs Valve are once again delighted to have been awarded such a prestigious UK contract to deliver Triple Offset Butterfly Valves to what will be the second largest aircraft carriers in the World.

The new UK CVF Royal Navy aircraft carriers, HMS Queen Elizabeth and HMS Prince of Wales, are expected to enter service in 2016 and 2018.

CVF will displace 65,000t, a size between the USA's 100,000t Nimitz Class and the French 43,000t Charles de Gaulle Class, and three times larger than the current 20,000t UK Invincible class of aircraft carriers.

With a combined manufacturing total exceeding over 340 valves Hobbs are expecting to deliver the first ship set later this year and commence the second ship set for delivery during 2010.

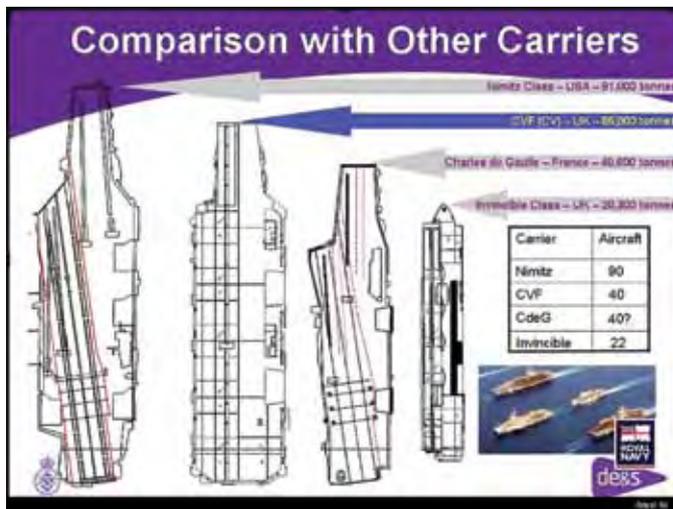
Rhys Jones Commercial Director stated "Year by year Hobbs Valve continues to grow its market share

through the award of prestigious contracts such as this and our success is largely due to continually delivering quality products within the time frames proposed. It is during difficult times such as these that customers require reliable sources of product and thankfully due to all at Hobbs Valve we are one of those suppliers".

Hobbs Valve are also excited to announce that During OTC 2009 Hobbs Valve is launching Triple Offset Cryogenic Butterfly Valves and a 600Lb pressure class range to add to the existing 150/300 and Double Block and Bleed.

Company information and or product information will be available at the OTC stand no A44 but if you require any further information before then please feel free to make contact directly.

Hobbs Valve,
Tel: +44 (0)29 20861099
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Drawings courtesy of the Royal Navy.

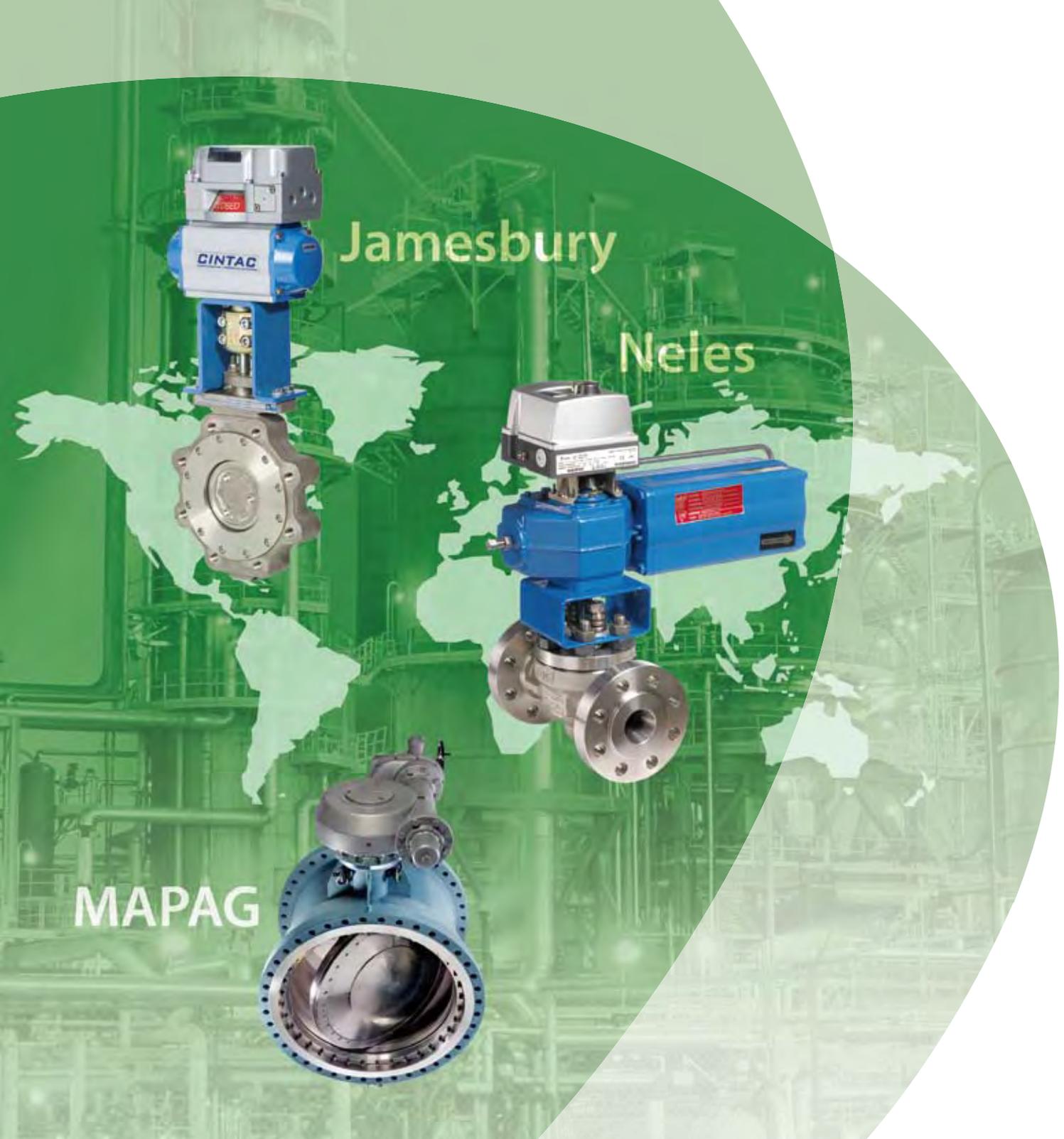


Pictures courtesy of the Ministry Of Defence

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Flowserve Delivers Valve Solutions

Complete controls assembly for Imerys tube presses



As part of the restructuring project Imerys commissioned 120 new tube presses at its Rocks plant near St Austell. A key success factor was to design an efficient, resilient mechanism to control the ingress of slurry and the egress of water drained from the tube pressing process.

The company turned to Flowserve Flow Control who, with many years of experience of working with Imerys, produced a modified ball valve and actuator design which featured Flowserve Worcester A44 series valves and Norbro actuators with:

- UHMWPE valve seats to provide abrasion resistance
- Special hardened matched ball and stem to handle the highly abrasive slurry and high cycling duty
- High tensile strength valve stems
- Bespoke high cycling stem build

A major operational re-structure at Imerys Pigments for Paper has seen a large part of the company's Cornwall production facilities re-focused on the production of high-volume paper filler kaolins.

Imerys' Pigments for Paper unit is a world leading producer of white pigments, such as kaolin ground calcium carbonates and precipitated calcium carbonates. Its Cornwall facilities are particularly well suited to the production of filler grade material used in a range of papers which make up magazines, newspapers and catalogues across Europe.

In concentrating filler production at St Austell, Imerys invested significantly in new clay drying plant to improve the production processes. China clay production is a mining process involving the washing of clay out of altered granite rock. After processing, the feed material has a very high water content which is reduced through use of a tube filter press.

The press consists of two tubes one inside the other, with an internal space between them, except at the bottom where the inner tube is bell shaped to fit closely within the outer tube. The inner tube contains drainage holes and is covered with a filter cloth. The outer tube has a tubular rubber bladder inside it. Clay is pumped into the space between the filter cloth and the rubber bladder. Hydraulic fluid is then pumped into the space between the outer tube and the rubber bladder. This compresses the clay and forces water through the filter cloth. The advantage of this method, is that very high pressures of up to 100 bar can be used and the filter cake can be reduced to 18% water content. When the pressing cycle is complete, the inner tube can be lowered slightly within the outer tube and the clay cake is pushed off by compressed air.

A key feature of the solution is that for each tube process, Flowserve was able to supply Imerys with a bespoke valve manifold and pneumatic control design, which was pre-mounted, assembled and tested as one complete unit. This solution was identified as a far more cost-effective proposition than a fabricated assembly.

Particularly important to Imerys was Flowserve's ability to produce 3D solid modeling of the assemblies as their design evolved and their subsequent ability to integrate the models into their own plant layout designs.

This highly collaborative approach meant that the 120 valve/actuator packages and manifold assemblies were all delivered on time and achieved significant installation cost savings for Imerys. Subsequently the success of the Flowserve solution has been recognized by orders for a further 33 manifold assemblies for a plant upgrade at Imerys' facility in Brazil.

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Hardide at NACE

Hardide Coatings selected to present at NACE CORROSION 2010



Dr Yuri Zhuk



Hardide Coatings has been selected to present a paper at the world's largest corrosion conference CORROSION 2010 Conference and Expo, March 14-18, 2010 in San Antonio, Texas, USA. Dr Yuri Zhuk, Hardide's Technical Director will present 'Nano-structured CVD coating HARDIDE protects against wear and corrosion' in the 'Advances in Metallic Coatings and Hardsurfacings for Oilfield Applications Symposium'.

Commenting on his paper's acceptance, Dr Zhuk commented: *"It is an honour to be selected to present a paper at such a prestigious event. Hardide is a family of CVD (chemical vapour deposition) tungsten carbide coatings proven to increase tool life and reduce downtime and drilling operation costs particularly in new frontier, severe drilling environments. As a cutting edge coating with an unrivalled combination of protective properties, it is highly relevant to this symposium."*

The Hardide-T coating variant consists of tungsten carbide nano-particles dispersed in a metal tungsten matrix. It has enhanced hardness in excess of 1100Hv and abrasion resistance up to 12 times better than hard chrome (ASTM G65 testing). The coating can be produced on stainless steel, low alloy and some tool steels, and Ni-, Co- and Cu- based alloys with a coating thickness up to 100 microns, which is unique for hard CVD coatings. As a nano-structured material, it demonstrates outstanding toughness, and crack and impact resistance by withstanding 3000 microstrain deformations without any damage. This deformation will crack or chip any other thick hard coating.

The gas phase CVD process enables the coating of internal surfaces and complex designs such as valves, hydraulic components and pump cylinders. The pore-free coating is resistant to acids and aggressive media and its resistance to H₂S is proven by NACE TM0177-2005/ASTM G39 testing. After 30 days of exposure to H₂S, salt and acetic acid solution, Hardide coated samples made of 17-4PH and 316 steels did not exhibit evidence of cracking, degradation or de-lamination. The samples were strained to the stress levels of 2000 μ , 2500 μ and 3000 μ .

ASTM B117-07a Neutral Salt Spray testing was carried out with Hardide-coated samples of commercially available hard chrome plating and HVOF spray coatings produced on the same substrates. The Hardide samples passed the test with very little staining observed while all the HVOF samples showed heavy or very heavy rust stains at the end of the 480 hour testing. The hard chrome samples had to be removed from the test after just 288 hours when very heavy rust stains showed the coating had lifted in some areas due to severe corrosion developing beneath the coating.

Oilfield customers include Weatherford International, the Expro Group, FMC International and other leading energy services companies.

The conference and expo is being held at the Henry B Gonzales Convention Center, San Antonio, Texas, USA from March 14-18, 2010 (www.nace.org).

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Emerson Successfully Completes First Point Assessment (FPAL)

Independent audit validates structure and working practices around Health, Safety and Environmental controls

Emerson Process Management has announced that it has completed the First Point Assessment (FPAL) Verify assessment. Achieving FPAL Verify status reduces risk for oil and gas industry purchasers by providing an enhanced level of supplier assurance. It also saves them time and money by giving access to shared on-line supplier assessment reports and improvement plans which are specifically focussed on the oil and gas industry. Tender processes are streamlined by giving on-line access to reliable generic pre-qualification Health, Safety and Environmental Supplier data.

FPAL auditors validated the structure and working practices of Emerson, around their Health, Safety and Environmental controls. FPAL manages the oil and gas supply chain database for the UK and The Netherlands. It is a key tool used by purchasers in the oil & gas industry to identify and select current and potential suppliers when awarding contracts or purchase orders.

"Achieving FPAL Verify status is critical to our business and is a clear indication of our ongoing commitment to our customers within the oil and gas market," said Paul Smith, UK and Ireland General Manager for Emerson Process Management. *"FPAL Verify status gives our customers reassurance that our systems and procedures meet the same rigorous health and safety and environmental standards as theirs do."*

Verify is a supplier assessment service that involves a 'Verification Visit' to a nominated supplier's premises to assess Health, Safety and Environmental practices in alignment with the oil and gas industry's OGP & NORSOK standards. The results of the visit, along with individual supplier improvement plans, are then shared on-line between those FPAL purchasers who participate in the Verify scheme. Emerson's scores were above average, in particular with the scores of 8.5 for the Environment and 8.3 for Health and Safety.

Emerson Process Management, Tel: 0870 240 1978
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Emerson Wins Contract with Golar LNG

Emerson's technical prowess and expertise key to contract in new market - Automates Floating Storage and Regasification Unit

Emerson Process Management announces that it has won a contract from Golar LNG to supply PlantWeb® digital automation architecture for basic process control and safety systems on the Golar Freeze, a floating storage and regasification unit (FSRU) vessel.

Currently an LNG carrier, the Golar Freeze will be converted into a floating terminal, and docked at a purpose-built jetty in the Jebel Ali Port near Dubai, UAE. Golar will operate the vessel. Dubai Supply Authority (Dusup) will operate the jetty and the high pressure export line into Dubai to supply needed gas during high energy demand months in the summer.

"Floating storage and regasification units are the ultimate example of reuse and innovation," said Tor Jahren, project manager of ship conversions for Golar. *"We are looking forward to working side-by-side with Emerson Process Management on the vessel conversion as we trust they have knowledge of the onboard systems and the required capabilities in digital process automation."*

Built in 1977, the Golar Freeze is only the fourth traditional LNG vessel to undergo a regasification conversion. Golar and Emerson engineering teams will work side-by-side in Norway on the execution of the project. Conversion is planned to begin in Q4 2009. The converted Golar Freeze will be capable of storing 125,000 cubic metres of LNG and delivering up to 480 MMSCFD (approximately 13,000,000 cubic metres per day) of regasified LNG to Dusup for delivery into the Dubai gas network.

"Golar is a leader in the FSRU market and will inevitably prove to be the innovators of tomorrow," said David Dunbar, president of Emerson Process Management Europe. *"We are pleased that Emerson's advanced PlantWeb technology will play a vital role in the cost-effective and safe delivery of natural gas in Dubai."*

The Golar Freeze will make use of Emerson's PlantWeb digital plant architecture for process control, power management, and safety instrumented systems. PlantWeb components in the mainstream process and power management systems include the DeltaV™ digital automation system, AMS® Suite predictive maintenance software, Fisher® control valves with FIELDVUE® digital



Golar Freeze LNG Carrier before conversion



Emerson will automate the Golar Freeze Floating Storage and Regasification Unit

valve controllers, and Rosemount® pressure, level and flow transmitters.

Components in Emerson's smart safety instrumented system (SIS) include the DeltaV SIS system, Fisher FIELDVUE SIS digital valve controllers for Fisher valves, and Rosemount SIS measurement instruments. PlantWeb architecture has an extensive track record of ensuring a fast start-up, lowering installation costs, controlling energy costs, and improving operations and maintenance.

Wärtsilä Corporation, an Emerson alliance partner, will replace the main switchboard on the vessel and in addition provide new 6kV and 440V switchboards for the regasification plant. Last year, the two companies expanded their alliance to deliver integrated energy and automation systems for Floating Production Storage and Offloading vessels.

For more information about Emerson in LNG applications, go to: www.EmersonProcess.com/Ingas

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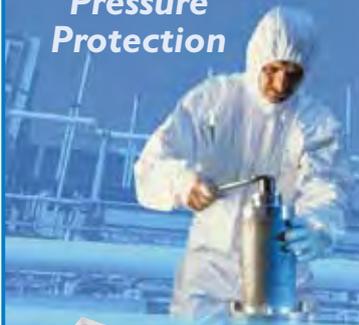
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The Bifold Group has re-developed its range of ball and needle valve products and re-launched the range for low/medium pressure applications with operating range from 1,000 psi / 70 bar up to 15,000 psi / 1035 bar. The valves offer exceptional integrity to meet medium pressure and other demanding instrumentation applications that are increasingly being faced in the upstream and downstream oil and gas sector.

Constructed from 316 stainless steel as standard (other material options offered), in compliance with NACE MR-01-75 as standard and with 1/4" up to 2" tube connection sizes.

The Ball Valve range utilises a state of the art design to reduce potential leak paths. They are bi-directional and are actuated by a 90 degree turn handle as standard, for fast on/off action. The valve mechanism works on the floating ball principle and offers 100% bubble tight operation. The use of PEEK seat and stem seal materials allows operation over a wide temperature range from -20°C to +180°C, with other materials available for lower/higher temperatures.

The Needle Valve range offers a robust single piece design with standard pressure ratings from 6,000 psi / 414 bar up to 10,000 psi / 690 bar along with a low operating torque facility even when under pressure. Manufactured with a stem seal design to prevent galling and thread contamination along with a non rotating anti-galling tip as standard. Suitable for either panel or pipe mounting, the manifold valve range design permits controlled venting of the instrument for calibration and/or removal from the circuit, whilst leaving the process intact resulting in no downtime.

Within the Needle Valve range, Bifold is able to offer a medium pressure design ratings from 13,000 psi / 896 bar up to 15,000 psi / 1035 bar. This unique design allows direct inline connection

to pipe systems through 3/8" MP connections, thus eliminating the requirement for a connection 'T' and vents through a 1/4" MP connection.

Many applications for the new instrumentation valves can be found, for example, on the topsides of offshore oil and gas platforms. These include hydraulic systems for wellhead control, emergency shutdown systems, chemical injection skids, pumping packages and test equipment.

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Truflo Marine attends Laying Ceremony for 4th Astute Class Submarine

The traditional keel laying ceremony for the fourth Astute Class nuclear powered submarine Audacious took place at the Barrow in Furness shipyard on March 24th.

The keel is a large beam around which shipbuilders make the hull of a ship or submarine. It is generally the first part of the vessel to be constructed. Laying the keel, or placing the keel in the cradle in which the engineers build the vessel, is a momentous event in the vessels construction and is therefore marked with a ceremony. Builders place coins in the keel to invoke good fortune during the submarines construction and throughout the future years at sea. The ceremony marks a significant milestone in the construction of what is the fourth boat in the planned seven strong Astute Class.

Barrow in Furness MP and Defence Secretary John Hutton took centre stage amongst the 100 VIP's which included BAE Personnel, MoD & Navy representatives and key suppliers. David Richards, Customer & Technical Support Manager was proud to represent Truflo Marine at the ceremony and to participate in a key networking event.

HMS Audacious, who takes her name from an original 74 gun ship which served under Nelson, is likely to enter service in approximately 2018 following 12-18 months of sea trials and will be fitted with approximately 5,000 high integrity valves supplied by Truflo Marine. Marine Valves supplied will range from 250mm diameter hull valves through to 10mm bronze ball valves. Twenty three hull valves which will be welded onto the inside of the submarine are critical to the operation of the vessel; such valves are responsible for the inlet and outlet of seawater used for cooling, garbage eject and desalination.

Truflo Marine, Tel: 0121 327 4789
Website: www.truflomarine.com

Photo: Ministry of Defence/BAE



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Schuck Group awarded Holford contract

The Schuck Group are pleased to announce that a substantial order has been secured for the design, manufacture, testing and commissioning of valves and actuators for the Holford Gas Storage Project.

The contract award is for the supply of a wide range of valves which serves to underline Schuck's ability to deliver a comprehensive project capability both in product and management.

The Holford project includes:

- Welded steel ball valves, API 6D, 1" to 24", up to ANSI 900 complete with electric actuators
- Welded steel ball valves, API 6D, 1" to 24", up to ANSI 900 complete with spring return actuators
- Welded steel ball valves, API 6D, 1" to 28", up to ANSI 900 complete with manual operating gears
- Insulating Joints for cathodic protection, 12" to 30" up to PN115

The Schuck Group has a reputation synonymous with quality engineered products and has supplied many flagship projects throughout the world. Schuck's commitment to the UK market has been further strengthened with the formation of a dedicated sales & service center in Hinckley, Leicestershire in 2008.



Check Valve



Insulation Joint

David Melrose, Schuck UK Managing Director explains: "Many UK customers are familiar with Borsig Valves, a company The Schuck Group acquired in 1977 and consolidated into our main manufacturing facilities in Steinheim, Germany. The acquisition of Borsig complimented Schuck's established range of products and completed the company's ability to supply products for both transport and distribution within oil and gas pipework systems."

"Schuck's modern manufacturing headquarters in Steinheim, employees over 300 people and is testament to the company's commitment to a quality based production platform. A strong design bias keeps the company at the forefront of development of both valves and actuation systems to meet the ever more challenging demands placed upon us. It's important for our customers to know that Schuck will continue to deliver equipment to the highest standards possible and in a cost effective manner."

"Establishing a sales and service center in Hinckley is an integral part of the company's development programme and long term commitment to the UK Oil & Gas Industry."

The Schuck UK product range consists of the following items:

- Welded body ball valves form 1" to 56" up to ANSI 900
- Top entry ball valves from 6" to 54" up to ANSI 900
- Non Slam Check Valves from 1" to 54" up to ANSI 900
- Monolithic Insulation Joints from 1" to 40" up to ANSI 2500
- Actuation and control systems include, manual, electric, spring return, gas over oil, subsea and many other systems.

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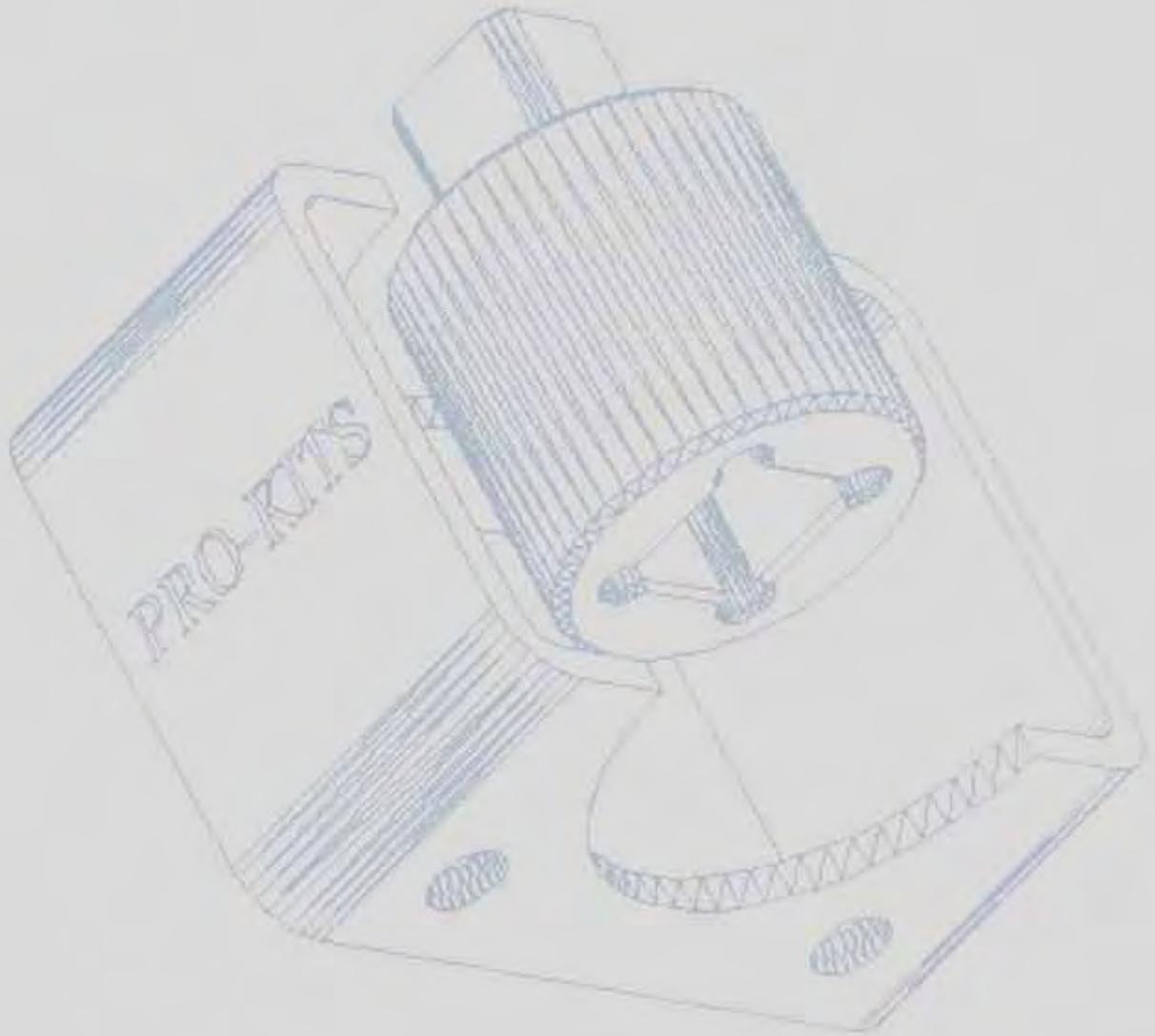
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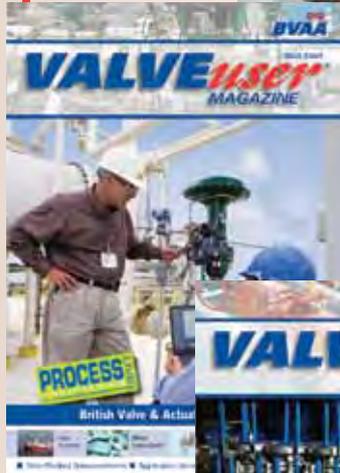
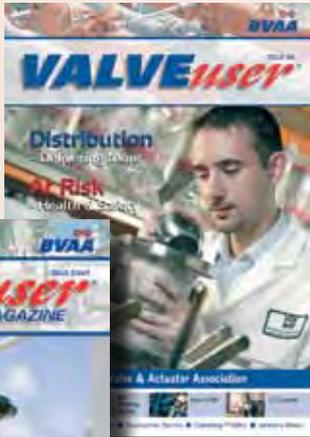
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Steam Today and Steam Tomorrow

A series of three articles covering steam's widespread use today, how steam system efficiency is being improved and how use will evolve and change in the future

By Brian Johnston, Spirax-Sarco

Why and where steam is used

What do these things all have in common? A headache tablet, a gallon of petrol, a pair of stretchy leggings, a can of baked beans, a tin of paint, a ream of paper, a car dashboard and a freshly sterilised theatre instrument?

No, it's not a party game involving a tray and a tea towel, so let's remove the mystery and say that they are all produced with the assistance of steam.

Steam is used for a variety of purposes in a huge number of processes across industries as diverse as pharmaceuticals, food and beverages, textiles, pulp and paper, oil and petrochemicals, laundries and public buildings. We literally couldn't function in the modern world without it.

Application	examples
Power generation	- to turn the turbines
Process & space heating	- to cure rubber tyres, or heat large buildings
Humidification	- for clean rooms or electronics manufacture
Sterilisation	- for hospital instruments
Cooking	- in vats, ovens and canning retorts

Steam has been used to produce electrical power in thermal power stations for many years. Even in modern

generation facilities today (such as nuclear power stations) steam is still the fluid used to turn the turbines. Power produced from gas turbines can also involve steam in Combined Cycle Gas Turbine (CCGT) systems. Here steam is produced from the gas turbine exhaust and used in a steam turbine to improve the overall generation efficiency.

So what makes steam so suitable for all these other different applications?

Well it takes a lot of energy to turn water into steam, energy that is 'made available' again when the steam condenses back to water. This makes steam a very effective carrier of heat. A lot of energy available in a small volume means smaller pipes.

As steam condenses, its pressure drops and higher-pressure steam flows into the lower pressure region. Therefore no pumps are needed to make the steam flow, a considerable saving in installation and running costs. No pumps also mean no system balancing is required. Another of steam's unique properties is that there is a distinct relationship between pressure and temperature. This is illustrated in steam tables, an extract from which is shown below.

Gauge Pressure	Temp	Enthalpy in kJ/kg			Volume Dry Sat.
		Water	Evap	Steam	
bar g	°C	h_f	h_{fg}	h_g	m^3/kg
0	100	419	2257	2676	1.673
1	120	506	2201	2707	0.881
2	134	562	2163	2725	0.603
5	159	671	2086	2757	0.315
7	170	721	2048	2769	0.24
10	184	782	2000	2782	0.177
14	198	845	1947	2792	0.132

So to control the temperature of the steam, and hence it's heat transfer capability, we need only control the pressure. That means the use of a simple 2-port valve rather than the mixture of 2 and 3 ports normally associated with liquid heating systems.

Steam is inherently sterile. The rapid transfer of heat it gives when condensing is the reason why it is such a common means of sterilising not only surgical instruments in a sterilizer, but also pipelines in essential industries such as food or pharmaceuticals where steam is a key component of SIP (Steam In Place) or CIP (Clean In Place) systems.

Being a sterile gas makes steam an ideal choice to humidify air in ventilation systems. This is why it is commonly used in the healthcare, pharmaceutical and electronic industries where clean, sterile and humidified air is required. Of course the steam can be used to heat the air as well (strangely, it can also cool the air, as will be shown in a later article.)

A lack of basic awareness training on steam is causing younger engineers to be nervous about its application. It is inherently a safe medium (a leak won't poison you!) but deserves to be treated with respect, no different from how you'd treat electricity.

It is also a very forgiving medium. A steam system will seldom simply stop working but with a little ongoing maintenance, operating costs can be kept low.

In the next article, we will look at what a modern steam system could and should look like to maximise efficiency and reduce operating costs.

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Surgical instruments sterilized using steam



Traditional packaged steam boiler



Leeds Valve helps boost Jersey electricity supply



Leeds Valve is assisting the Jersey Electricity Company (JEC) in a major programme of upgrades at its single oil-fired power station to further enhance the reliability of electricity supply across the island of Jersey.

The West Yorkshire-based company, which is a world leader in the manufacture and supply of butterfly valves for niche applications, is supplying JEC with a series of vast isolation valves to be used in the sea water culvert system which supplies cooling water to the turbine and diesel generators and auxiliary equipment at the Power Station.

Butterfly valves are used for this application due to size and space restrictions – they are installed in 15ft-deep pits – and each is of a non-standard size, with an internal diameter of 1.5m (5ft), and weighing in at 2.2 tonnes. The valves, which are thought to be the biggest on the island, are capable of shutting off a full-bore flow rate of 20,000m³/hour.

Leeds Valve Technical Director George Burns said: *“Our expertise in manufacturing non-standard butterfly valves for use in even the most challenging environments made Leeds Valves the ideal partner for JEC on this project.”*

“JEC needed valves to fit their existing 60” pipe work and the existing pits, so the valves had to be sized to exactly meet these dimensional constraints. Our great strength lies in our ability to supply competitively priced, custom-made butterfly valves that precisely meet requirements.”

The Jersey Electricity power station, which is the control centre for the Channel Island Electricity Grid, is located next to St Helier Harbour for a constant supply of seawater to cool the condensers and other heat exchangers. The valves are typically operated once a month to shut off the seawater inlet supply during maintenance.

Each valve has been manufactured to meet the exacting requirements of this application. They have double flanged bodies in ASTM A126 Class B material, protected by a fully vulcanised rubber lining, which is machined to give optimum interference for low torque and extended wear life. The valve internals are in high-grade sea water resistant aluminium bronze.

Leeds Valves is a division of the Flow Group Limited, a British valve manufacturing group specialising in the supply of valves to the global energy industry. Annual sales have doubled over the last 5 years and now exceed £30million. The Flow Group has purpose built manufacturing facilities in the UK, based in Hull, Sheffield, Leeds and Newcastle, and a distribution centre near Pittsburgh, USA, to cover the Americas.

Other businesses in the group are Shiphams Valves, Bestobell LNG, Bestobell Valves, Conflow and John Mills Valves.

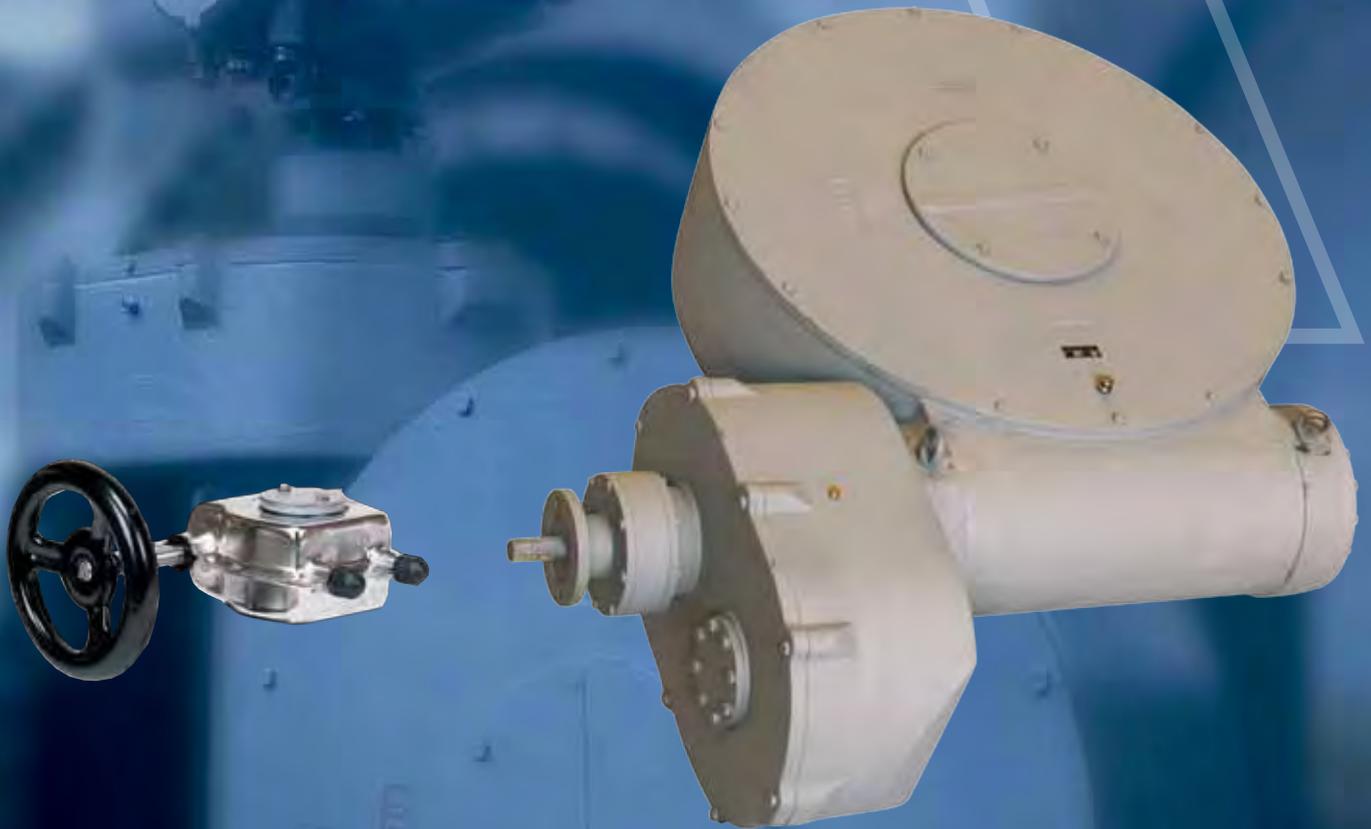
For more information visit www.leeds-valve.com or www.flowgroup.co.uk

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One of the 60” bore butterfly valves before leaving the factory

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Safety Systems Looks to Asia



Following a highly successful 2008, which has continued into 2009, Safety Systems UK Ltd is now looking to develop its growing Asian market. Key agents from Asia were invited to the company's headquarters in Worsley for their first Asian Agents Conference, commencing on the 15th June and concluding on 17th June.

Safety Systems invited agents from 14 countries (China, Japan, Singapore, Taiwan, Korea, Malaysia, Brunei, Thailand, India, Pakistan, Philippines, Indonesia, Vietnam and Australia) to develop and progress sales growth opportunities within the Asian markets.

"Strategically, the Asian market is of significant importance to our company", explains Paul Williams, Managing Director. "The region already contributes to 25% of our turnover, and these markets will continue to expand rapidly over the coming years. Our global agent network is of vital importance to the company's success, providing us with a professional and immediate access to these markets worldwide. Although we maintain regular contact with all our agents, it's obviously harder to keep those based further afield fully informed of key developments in the factory and the business as a whole. This seminar was a great opportunity to address this, as it allowed us to fully demonstrate our core competencies and capabilities, whilst developing plans together to ensure continued business success in these key markets".

As well as these in depth discussions on market potential and new product development, the agents also toured the company's facilities in Worsley and Wolverhampton. In the evenings, the agents got a taste of the landmarks within the region.

"Previous conferences we've held have been more technology and skills based, focussing on the transfer of knowledge to our agent network", explains John Davis, Sales Director. "This was our chance to connect with these agents on a business level. Many of those who attended the conference are the Directors and Owners

of these companies, some of which have been doing business with us for many years. A key objective to this conference was to not only impress these agents, but to say 'thank you' for their continued support and business over the years".

Safety Systems UK Ltd, Tel: 0161 790 7741
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Award Winning IPL



Alan Wilkinson (left) from HSBC presents IPL MD Colin Wilson with the award.

IPL, leading UK distributor for Houston based Valve Technologies, manufacturer of Severe and Critical Service Ball and Parallel Slide valves, are proud winners of the "Tees Valley Small Business Award, 2008" in this year's neBusiness-backed North East Business awards.



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