

valveuser

Magazine



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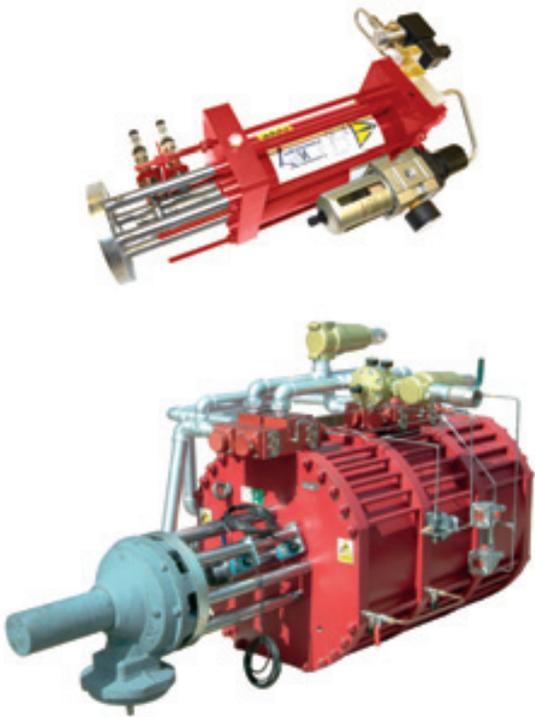
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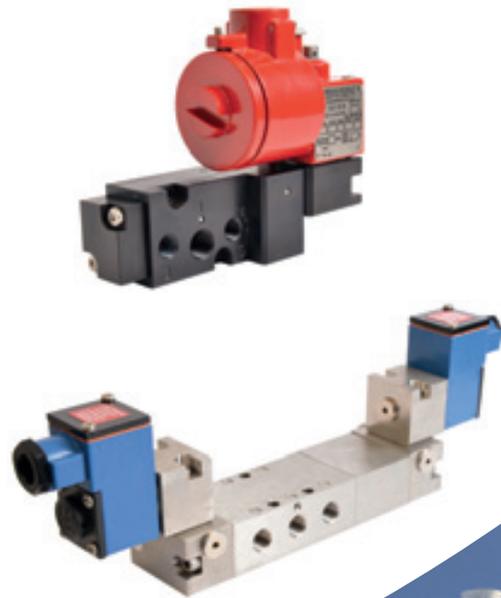


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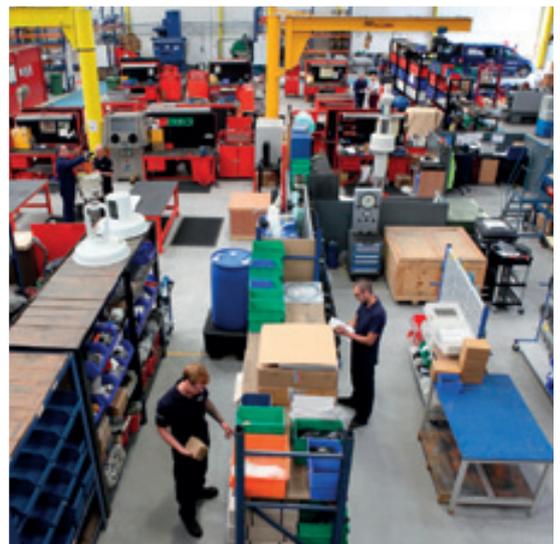


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Cover: The BVAA British Reception at Valve World 2014



Comment

by BVAA Director,
Rob Bartlett

Greatest Briton?

50 years ago today the UK buried its Greatest Briton, Winston Churchill. I may be biased in that opinion due to a combination of the fact that I was born so close to his passing, I share several of his names, and finally there is – it is alleged – a family connection to the old boy!

There's no resemblance obviously. However there is significant supporting evidence of the 'greatest' claim, principally his winning the national poll for the accolade carried out on national TV some years ago. The Churchill episode was recently re-run as part of the 50 year commemorations, but it was the competition runner-up that caught my attention, the Great Engineer Isambard Kingdom Brunel.

Not for the first time then had a politician trumped an engineer. Given the state of the oil and gas market at the moment, I fear that may be happening again.

The recent Wood Report was a review of UK offshore oil and gas recovery and its regulation by Scottish businessman and self-made billionaire Sir Ian Wood. Unlike the revered and often audacious Brunel, whose work is highly visible, Sir Ian's achievements are less well known outside his field. Sir Ian's commercial successes are however hugely impressive, whereas many of Brunel's – although magnificent in size and ambition – were actually commercial disasters.

So Sir Ian Wood gets my vote. It does seem however that he's struggling to get the attention – or at least appropriate action out of the Government who commissioned – and 'accepted in full' – his report.

My friends at Douglas Westwood stated recently that production from oil wells declines naturally at around 9% per annum. So to serve a static market, we need to find sufficient new sources to plug that gap, just to stay still. No industry expert I know of has yet predicted a global sustained slump in demand, indeed it is

widely predicted and expected to recover in the relative short term. So we need new exploration, and as it takes so long to develop new fields, we need that to happen now!

But even that may not be sufficient to save the UKCS. North Sea companies are haemorrhaging jobs at an alarming rate citing the prevailing market conditions. Bizarrely however I hear that some companies are still clinging to ancient and entirely inappropriate valve specifications, or over specifying valves for no good engineering reasons, other than perhaps some lack of confidence on the part of the itinerant workforce that seems prevalent in some EPCs [see Barrie Kirkman's 'Gold Plating' article on page 8].

In my opinion two things must happen without delay.

- The UK Government must implement the practicalities of the Wood Report with extreme urgency – this cannot wait. Cut the Tax now to encourage desperately needed investment.
- Valve buyers and specifiers must engage with the valve experts – the manufacturers – to ensure what they are specifying is 'fit for purpose' and not grossly over-engineered. It could save them a lot of money. My telephone number is 01295 221270.

Did you know?

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Held at Severn Glocon Group, Brighthouse

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BVAA AGM 2014

The BVAA 75th Annual Meetings and Black Tie Dinner Dance was held at Rockliffe Hall, Darlington in December. The event was a huge success with over 40 members attending the daytime meetings and over 120 attending the celebrations in the evening.

At the evening do our out-going Chairman Neil Kirkbride was presented with some engraved BVAA cuff-links by David Millar who has assumed the role in Neil's place.

Neil's 3 year term has been a very successful one, with membership, income and services offered growing significantly. We offer him our heartfelt thanks for his efforts and are delighted to say he will retain his place on the board.

The four excellent presentations given during the daytime 'mini-conference' are now available to download from the members area of the BVAA website. The presentations, listed below, were given fantastic feedback from members in attendance and are well worth a look: Shale Gas: A UK perspective - Ken Cronin, UKOOG, Follow the Money, High Value Opportunities from UKTI, - Phil Haymes, UKTI Global Energy Prospects - Andy Jenkins, Douglas-Westwood and UKCS Update - Malcolm Webb, Oil & Gas UK.



Malcolm Webb, CEO of Oil and Gas UK, addresses the BVAA AGM

Valve World Conference and Expo, Dusseldorf

665 exhibitors from 40 countries came together at the summit of the industrial valves and fittings industry at the Exhibition Centre Düsseldorf from 2 to 4 December 2014

This, the 9th Valve World Expo and the concurrent conference took place on approximately 18,000 square metres of net space across three exhibition halls, Halls 3, 4 and 5 (2012: Halls 3 and 4).

On show were the latest technologies, components and systems from a wide range of segments in the industrial valves and fittings sector. Some 45 UK companies were exhibiting, with an impressive 30 of these from BVAA membership. Several more BVAA members attended as trade fair guests, there were 12,500 delegates in total.

Once again BVAA hosted a 'British Group Stand' including a busy hospitality area. On the first evening of the show, BVAA also hosted a drinks reception, which was well attended by visitors to the show.

We had great feedback from our group stand partners: Mogas, Adanac, HSP, DFT, AllValves Online, Maher, Quickkits, MP Filtri, SACO and the VMA. Between those companies, members who held meetings in our hospitality area, other visitors and friends – our team were kept busy pouring drinks and making sure everyone was comfortable.

Feedback from the show, both anecdotally from our conversations with members, and in the official show statistics has been very positive.

Messe Dusseldorf report: 'About 12,500 qualified trade visitors from 57 countries attended the Valve World Expo 2014. That's a plus of approximately 19% over the previous Valve World Expo in 2012. About 75% of trade fair guests were international visitors from countries such as Italy, the UK, the Netherlands, France and India. Roughly 76% of trade fair visitors were executives, with 28% of trade fair visitors classifying themselves as users of valves or fittings, followed by manufacturers (22%) and distributors (16%) of valves or fittings and other traders (4%). Just under 3% were craftspeople. Visitor interests revolved mostly around valves and fittings (74%), followed by actuators and positioners (38%), valve components and parts (36%),

and compressors (7%). Overall, about 98% of trade fair visitors handed out excellent or good marks for all the expo and the conference had to offer.'



The BVAA Group Stand (left) was busy all week. BVAA members network at the British Drinks Reception (right)

Gold Plating: Are End Users' extra requirements to international standards justified or not?

By **Barrie Kirkman**, BSc. CEng MIMechE, barriekirkman@ntlworld.com

If the industry is faced with sustained Global low oil prices of \$50 then the potential knock on will be extensive. In 2015 all parts of the supply chain will be affected. End Users will be looking to streamline their investments and expenditure.

Having now experienced many of these boom and bust cycles one area that is guaranteed to be looked at is END USER SPECIFICATIONS. These specifications will be challenged to see if the requirements are relevant or excessive? If the specifications are excessive then often the term used is 'Gold Plating.'

This article will share my 40 years experience in writing, reviewing, implementing, streamlining, preventing Gold Plating and benchmarking End User specifications. Today across the End User community I see the total spectrum of specifications from those not under control to those that are. The gap is most interesting as it affects supplier selection, valve designs, valve manufacturer and testing and deliveries.

The article will address

- My first experience of Gold Plating.
- How and why do End User specifications run the risk of being Gold Plated?
- How do End Users control / not control their Specifications to prevent Gold Plating?
- Benchmarking End Users Specifications for Gold Plating.
- Some examples of why additional requirements are specified. Is this Gold Plating necessary?
- Final thoughts on how should the Supply Chain respond to Gold Plating?

My first experience of Gold Plating

As Engineering Technology Manager at an End User I had proudly produced detailed Project Specifications for a Far Eastern project to be managed by a Contractor. These specifications were spectacular in it their content and coverage to ensure a safe, low maintenance and effective plant operation. When the Specifications were printed they achieved five large A4 folders! What quality!

An unexpected Town Hall meeting of Engineering Department was called by the Chief Executive. Indeed this was most unusual so en masse all the engineers attended with anticipation. What we were about to hear none of us expected.

The Chief Executive deeply criticised 'Engineering Department Project Specifications.' Strategic presentations of the importance of this project were given and how Project Costs were too excessive. One key area that needed urgent attention was 'The Project Specifications'. The Contractor had highlighted that they alone increased the costs by 20% with significant delivery knock on effects. They had benchmarked our specifications against a recent project build.

The instruction was to reduce the impact of the Project Specifications by at least 20%. There was no debate, no discussion it had to be done within one month.

There was utter silence from the engineers. We were stunned. How could we reduce the costs? That's not an engineer's job. We write the specifications and procurement procure.

Management had prepared their case by examples. They tore into the specifications text. What was mandatory and why? What was a preference and why? Why were some requirements just stated?

The message was clear. Engineers were in disarray.

As a result of this meeting top priority was given to this task. It was indeed a focused learning curve to re-train and to challenge all that was written. The month passed and the Project Specifications were re-issued. Only 2 A4 folders remained.

The Chief Executive and Contractor accepted them.

The plant was built and today after 25 years plant operation the operational, maintenance and safety requirements were met consistently.

There were so many lessons learnt from the above testimony that have been valid over the years which still apply in 2015.

How and why do End User specifications run the risk of being Gold Plated?

Engineers have the option to amend specifications to reflect areas not currently covered by international standards. Also they add lessons learnt and preferential requirements. It's easy to 'cut and paste'. What can happen is that over the years these changes are not monitored nor managed so they are left unchallenged. Then engineers leave and new engineers take on the role and they too add requirements to the specifications. The 'snow ball' gathers momentum. The testimony shared above changed this scenario.

How do End Users control / not control their Specifications to prevent Gold Plating?

The End User needs to monitor Engineering Specifications against an internal control document.

The internal control document should detail;

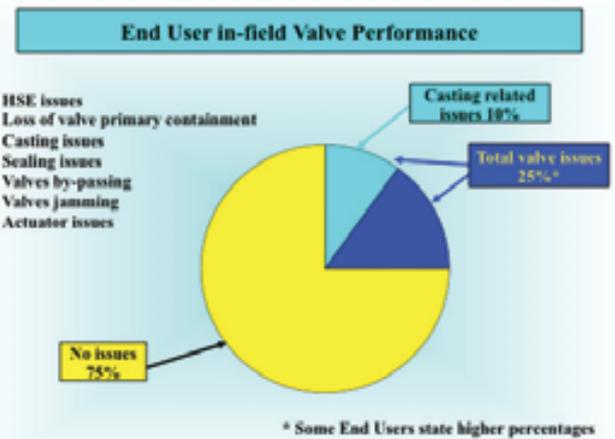
- a) The acceptance of International Standards with a full understanding of options / requirements that require End User input before order placement.
- b) Criteria of importance should be stated for additional requirements.
 1. Requirements for HSE & Safety.
 2. Requirements for plant operation.
 3. Requirements for plant maintenance.
 4. Requirements for innovation.
 5. Lesson learnt.
 6. Engineering preference.
 7. Any other reason?
- c) Review of existing specifications should be undertaken against (b) above and areas that are in addition to International standards identified and challenged as described in (d) below.
- d) Any proposed change to specifications' should be quantified by;
 1. The reason for the change?
 2. What benefit / value does the change have to the End User?
 3. What will happen if the change is not implemented?
- e) A management structure consisting of engineering and project/ operations should exist to approve the changes.
- f) Within the control document some form of standardised definition on
 1. Mandatory using say 'shall'.
 2. Optional alternatives using say 'may'.
 3. Other definitions could be added but these tend to cause confusion.

Benchmarking End Users Specifications for Gold Plating

When using the control document for the first time resistance from engineers is common. However when fully explained the logic and reason behind the process the majority of engineers see the benefits. For example it actually makes the End User requirements clearer and more effective to implement through the supply chain. The importance of HSE and Safety is ensured with any appropriate attention by the End User.

I have benchmarked various End User Specifications by comparing them with each other and with the requirements above international standards. Experience shows 5% to 10% cost impact has been accepted by many End Users. Others have been identified up to 30% and higher. Maybe these End Users are out of control? They either do not know this or do not care.

Are there any differences between Upstream and Downstream? Yes and no. (Not a helpful answer). From my observation Upstream tend to be more Gold Plated than Downstream. Generally when the business units return on investment is high such as in Upstream then Gold Plating is less likely to be challenged. With tight margins and over capacity Downstream cost reduction programs are more active with less Gold Plating.



Slide 1

Typical changes that affect the procurement and valve supply chain include;

- Design restrictions / additions
- Excessive proto-type testing
- Chemical composition restrictions
- Higher impact testing
- Tight control on sealing components
- Restriction on sub-suppliers, castings, forgings etc
- Extra NDT examination, XRay, UT, mpi, dye penetrant etc.
- Material certification additions
- Fugitive emission interpretation & testing
- Hydrotest changes, test pressures / test duration times
- Excessive painting requirements above normal

Some examples of why additional requirements are specified. Is this Gold Plating?

When ever an End User has an operational failure it is normal for a root cause analysis be undertaken. Slide 1 illustrates End User in-field Valve Performance showing up to 25% failures.

Obviously a failure that results in loss of containment is most critical. Sometimes the original specification is incorrect, poor maintenance or incorrect operation is identified. This is dealt internally within the End User.

However, often the root cause is identified as the valve manufacturer. Analysis of this data clearly shows that the probability of failure is more likely to be linked with new unproven manufacturers in the valve design itself or a commercially more attractive cost. The more established proven manufacturers do tend to perform better. (A few End Users do not hold this view)

In the valve segment some End Users are experiencing failures in operation that is attributed to the valve supply chain. Hence some End Users require extra controls and inspection etc to help alleviate the problems. Unfortunately these extra requirements often are implemented globally affecting all valve suppliers whether they have been at fault or not. This regrettably applies to the UK Valve supply chain. Often this is interpreted as Gold Plating.

Clearly castings continue to be a major issue in the industry with low cost country production. This will get worse as evidence of

the industry accepting high end materials are becoming more and more common. Also low alloy steels are now being sourced. Extra NDT is called for and high / longer hydrotest times. Nitrogen / helium testing is requested. Gold Plating? (An End User re-tested several thousand valves on a project to find up to 10% failures plus other issues were found.)

Explosive decompression of O rings constantly occurs as unproven designs or suppliers are used. I am currently discussing this with an End User and valve manufacturer. Also bonnet and stem seal failures occur. Extra material/ design controls / testing are requested. Gold Plating?

When End Users have disassembled valves that have failed often the internals are incorrect in design or materials. Often *'equivalent materials are used'* and they are not equivalent. Hence a hold point in the manufacturing is introduced to independently check the internals before assembly. Gold Plating?

Valve by-passing occurs. The End User increases the testing requirements. Gold Plating?

Actuator design inadequate resulting with failures to operate / seizing. Also poor mounting design cause failures. The End User increases their requirements. Gold Plating?

Regretfully the list goes on and on....

Final thoughts on how should the Supply Chain respond to Gold Plating?

I hope this article has been informative by giving an insight into End Users extra requirements and hopefully explains how and why Gold Plating occurs. End Users drive is for top HSE, Operational and Maintenance performance. Yes some End Users do over specify and Gold Plate whilst others are more reasonable with effective controls.

I am sure you have many other Gold Plating examples? I hope they are not too demanding. I know it is protocol to accept the End User requirements as they are *'King'*. Just to say some manufacturers do highlight the opportunity of different options and are accepted. Food for thought?

If I can offer any assistance or comments then please do not hesitate to contact me on barriekirkman@ntlworld.com

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you a successful 2015.



BVAA's Technical Hot Spot



CEN/TC69 Systematic Review of Standards 2015

Below is a list of Standards being systematically reviewed in 2015. We believe that many of these will impact upon BVAA members, and most are expected to be revised.

The list includes:-

EN 736-1:1995 'Valves - Terminology - Part 1: Definition of types of valves'

EN 1074-1:2000 'Valves for water supply - Fitness for purpose requirements and appropriate verification tests - in 4 Parts...

1. Part 1: General requirements'
2. Part 2: Isolating valves'
3. Part 3: Check valves'
4. Part 4: Air valves'

EN 1503-1:2000 'Valves - Materials for bodies, bonnets and covers - in 3 Parts...

Part 1: Steels specified in European Standards'

Part 2: Steels other than those specified in European Standards'

Part 3: Cast irons specified in European Standards'

EN 1984:2010 'Industrial valves - Steel gate valves'

EN 12288:2010 'Industrial valves - Copper alloy gate valves'

EN 12351:2010 'Industrial valves - Protective caps for valves with flanged connections'

EN 12567:2000 'Industrial valves - Isolating valves for LNG - Specification for suitability and appropriate verification tests'

EN 12570:2000 'Industrial valves - Method for sizing the operating element'

EN 13709:2010 'Industrial valves - Steel globe and globe stop and check valves'

EN 13789:2010 'Industrial valves - Cast iron globe valves'

BSI requires comments before 27 February 2015 - the intention is to respond positively to the proposed revisions.

If you would like to get involved in developing or influencing these standards, please contact rob@bvaa.org.uk



BVAA's Technical Hot Spot



Certification of Valves for the 'Customs Union' (Russia, Kazakhstan, Belarus)

There are significant changes afoot with 'Gost' type certification for Russia and certain associated states...

The procedure for the Certification of Valves is now governed by CU TR 032/2013, which entered into force by a Eurasian Economic Commission Council decision on Technical Regulations of the Customs Union "on the safety of excess pressure equipment" Nr 41 of 02 July 2013. We understand this is similar to the European Pressure Equipment Directive (PED). The procedure is valid for Russia, Kazakhstan and Belarus. In Kazakhstan in addition to CU TR requirements, GGTN K Permit is currently still in force.

Previously issued national certificates will remain valid until expiration date but not any later than 15th March 2015.

Valves may require a Declaration of Conformity (DoC CU TR 032/2013), or Certificate of Conformity (CoC CU TR 032/2013) depending on the category to which they belong.

The approach to determine the category of valves is the same as for equipment they are destined for - pipelines, pressure vessels and boilers.

Like PED the pressure, volume and process fluid type information is also needed.

According to CU TR 032/2013, Annex 1, there are four categories of pressure vessels and boilers (table 1 to 5 of Annex 1, pages 19-21) and 3 categories of pipelines (pages 21-22).

Typically, valves falling under the 1st and 2nd category require a Declaration of Conformity CU TR 032/2013.

Valves falling under the 3rd and 4th category require Certificate of Conformity CU TR 032/2013.

Safety valves belong to category 4 by default, unless they are designed specifically for equipment of a lower category.

'Groups' for media can be found on the document's page 6 'II. Basic concepts.'

Like PED, determining the Valve Category and Media Group is very important in order to determine the costs of certification, due to the fact that the difference between a Declaration of Conformity and a Certificate of Conformity is considerable - in terms of both price and procedure - and in particular:

- For Declaration, manufacturer's test reports are accepted and no audit of manufacturer's facility by CU TR Accredited Laboratory is required;
- For Certification, inspection of manufacturing facilities and testing by CU TR Accredited Laboratory is needed (witnessing of tests carried by manufacturer by one or two Accredited Experts)

If you would like more information on how to obtain CU certification of your valves, you can contact the provider* of this information:

Trevor Bottomley
Rustek SA
trevor@rustek.net
+44 1582 792709

*Other suppliers of assistance are available.

View from the other side



How we arrived at smart actuators and what should be next?

C. Warnett

This article, the third of our 'View from the other side' feature columns from our colleagues in the USA, is provided by Chris Warnett. Chris, a UK expatriate, is the President of CPLloyd Consulting Inc. Rochester NY, providing marketing and applications expertise for the valve and automation industry. Chris has over 38 years of engineering, sales and marketing experience in valves and automation. Reach him at chris@cplloydconsulting.com Tel 001 585 298 6239.

The majority of valve actuators used around the world on isolating valves fall into two main categories based on the power source used.

- 1) Electrically powered actuators that typically use 3 phase power to drive a motorized gear mechanism to operate any type of valve.
- 2) Fluid powered actuators that utilize pneumatic, hydraulic or electrohydraulic power on either a rack and pinion or a scotch yoke mechanism to move a quarter turn valve.

There are other types of valve actuator using other drive variations of motor or gear, but the vast majority of valve actuators fall under the two categories.

The typical fluid power actuator is a relatively simple mechanism. The tendency is for small actuators to use a rack and pinion mechanism and for larger actuators to use a scotch yoke. There are many manufacturers of rack and pinion actuators, so much so, that it is considered a commodity product rather than an engineered product. The scotch yoke device however is manufactured by fewer companies and their fundamental design is basically the same.

On smaller pneumatic actuators there is some standardization of the controls and position feedback, for example under the NAMUR guidelines, but in general most pneumatic actuators have 'bolt on' control components manufactured by other parties. Different end users have their own preference for the type and manufacturer of these controls so there has been little in the way of standardized controls for the larger pneumatic actuators.

This means that the development of 'smart' components for pneumatic actuators resides with the manufacturers of the pneumatic controls rather than the actuator manufacturers. In the case of process control valves these are often the same manufacturer, but in the isolating actuator world the actuator

prime mover manufacturer may not be the same as the control device manufacturer. Even if they happen to be part of the same group of companies, they are not closely integrated in the design process.

Electric actuators have developed in a different way.

Initially, the valve actuator was a motorized gearbox with torque limiting switches and a separate motor control. Power plants, for example, used separate a motor control room containing all the three phase motor starters, including the valve actuator motor controls.

Motor controls and position switches were later integrated in the electric actuator enclosure. This important change placed the actuator design, as an integrated package, under the control of the actuator manufacturer. This opened the possibility for them to incorporate significant advances in their actuator technology.

Later, robust explosion proof electrical enclosures allowed motor starters and switches to be incorporated in the electric valve actuator for field installation in hazardous oil, gas and chemical applications.

The development of superior sealing (often 'O ring') for the electrical enclosure allowed more sensitive electronic circuitry to be installed in the actuator. This allowed greater monitoring and control options to improve controllability and safety.

The rapid development and adoption of electronic control and communications systems led to the innovation of the non-intrusive configuration and commissioning capability of the automated valve. This prevented the ingress of dirt and moisture into the actuator enclosure during field start up, one of the most vulnerable times for an automated valve.

Wireless technology then made the non-intrusive setup even more versatile and easy to use. The ability for the user to have a dialogue with the actuator made trouble shooting and record keeping fast and simple.

There are only a handful of large global manufacturers of heavy duty electric valve actuators and most of them now have products that offer these technologies. The non-intrusive feature, for example, has been available in the marketplace now for well over a two decades.

But has the pace of innovation caught up with the requirements of the end use?

The sophistication of the diagnostic and maintenance tools may have outstripped the capability or desire of the majority of end users to take advantage of these technologies.



The SIPOS SEVEN



Top: The Rotork Skilmatic SI
Bottom: The Bettis Model 500

There has not been a real breakthrough development in the heavy duty valve actuator field for some time.

If end users are no longer demanding more technology than the existing manufactures currently supply, then how can manufacturers better satisfy their needs?

The competitive pressure on users of automated valves is as strong as ever. Manufacturers have to improve efficiency, productivity and safety continuously to remain competitive. The pressure on ROI is always there and this translates to downward pressure on equipment pricing. Despite the high level of sophistication in valve actuators, the price pressure is constant. Greater efficiencies in manufacture, supply and support may be the next area of focus for the valve actuator companies.

This may result in a new form of actuator design that allows faster fulfillment to global users with service and support infrastructure that can help users maintain high plant efficiency and optimization.

Standardized reliable global products, with multiple manufacturing facilities and strong local service support, will be key competitive edge for the support of the end user decision makers.

This suggests that the design of the next generation of valve actuators should not only have the current level of technological features which users now expect, but should also be easy and quick to supply and support in the field.

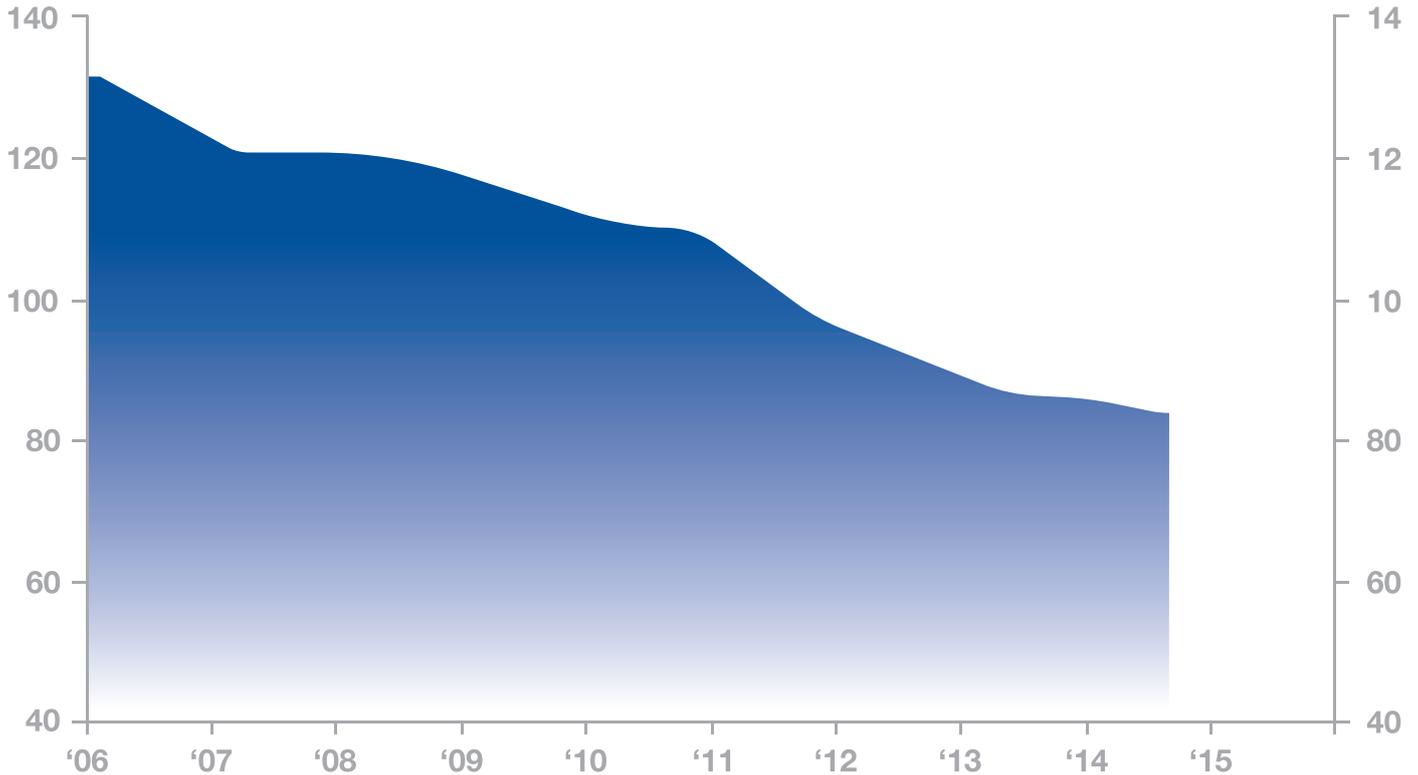
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European Recession to Continue



By Jackie Greene

UK Energy Production Index
Annual Data Trend



Europe’s economy will generally see recession in 2015, less severe in Eastern Europe but times will still be rough ahead. Weak consumer activity in the region and fears of deflation are likely to keep investors away for the time being.

Rise in annual UK Industrial Production is poised to persist into mid-2015 before tumbling in the latter half of the year. Expect a weak global economic environment to be the main culprit, but decline is likely to remain brief and mild. Weak exports to North America are contributing to slower growth in the economy. Annual UK Exports to Mexico are down 12.0% from last year; Exports to the US are down 4.1% over the same period; and Exports to Canada are down 9.8%. Expect North America to demand fewer imports from the UK this year due to slower regional economic growth.

The UK is an energy importer. In fact, nearly 14.0% of total imports are tied to petroleum. Falling Oil Prices should benefit companies

operating in the UK, but electricity companies are keeping rates high despite the drop in wholesale prices. Persistently high energy prices are weighing on UK Energy Production, down 3.0% from last year on an annual basis. While energy prices are falling for most of Europe, rising energy costs in the UK could deter investment into heavily energy-dependent industries.

Use this period of stagnant economic activity to prepare for the upturn expected to take hold from 2016 to 2018. Beware of linear budgets and review capital expenditures with an eye toward decreasing expenses for 2015. Conduct a thorough review of established people, products, and procedures and eliminate the ones that are not contributing to your bottom line. Research niche markets that will be outperforming the overall European economy and target your efforts in those segments to mitigate the loss associated with economic downturn.

ITR Economics International is able to help your company see tomorrow’s economy today. Confidence about your markets over the next few years will help you lead your business while providing you with a tool to outperform the competition. For additional information on how ITR Economics International can give you a greater planning tool to assist in meeting your business needs or to suggest future article topics, please email jackie@itreconomics.com.

Wentworth Valve Components Joins BVAA



Wentworth Valves carry out sub-contract machining of a wide range of valve components

Wentworth Valve Components Ltd, the Huddersfield based Subcontract Machinist, has demonstrated its commitment to the valve industry by joining the British Valve and Actuator Association (BVAA).

The company was founded eight years ago, by purchasing the TaylorShaw manufacturing machinery from fellow BVAA member Blackhall Engineering following Blackhall's acquisition of the TaylorShaw business. Wentworth now operates on the original site of Shaw, Son and Greenhalgh Ltd., one of the founding members of the BVAA. As a result the Company has drawn on a wealth of operator experience and with significant further investment has developed a successful facility with a variety of size and range of machines at their disposal.

Wentworth capabilities include the machining of specialist materials including, stainless steels, duplex, super duplex, hastelloy and Inconel. Needless to say, quality is paramount and underlines everything that is produced. The company is quality

assured to the ISO 9001-2008 and because of their strong valve background, familiar with relevant standards.

Wentworth is keen to establish a connection with the BVAA, not only as a vital source of industry information, but in recognition of the importance that the design of valve components should take into account. Wentworth believes that machining capabilities and new technologies are vital to exploring cost effective manufacturing solutions.

The Company was founded because of the strong belief of manufacturing and a desire to maintain a base in this country and joining the BVAA representing one of the countries strongest industrial sectors they believe they have a stronger voice.



Wentworth Valve Components Ltd

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Email sales.wentworth@btconnect.com

HAVI Instrumentation Valves to be Distributed in the UK by Zoedale plc



Zoedale plc, the international flow control equipment supplier, has announced it has been appointed as the exclusive UK Distributor for HAVI Instrumentation Valves. HAVI products include needle valves and gauge valves, high pressure ball valves, monoflange valves and double block and bleed valves.

Photos: HAVI valves are manufactured to the highest standards with complete raw material traceability.

This growth is down to excellent customer service combined with high quality precision engineered products

HAVI was founded in 1965 and has continued to grow since then – This growth is down to excellent customer service combined with high quality precision engineered products. These values echo the values at Zoedale and the partnership is set to be an exciting one.

Zoedale will stock a range of 6,000Psi needle valves in varying sizes from ¼” to ¾”. The needle valves are manufactured in 316 stainless steel as standard with exotic materials like duplex and super duplex available upon request. All come with non-rotating tips as standard.

High pressure ball valves manufactured in 316 stainless steel with a working pressure up to 10,000Psi are also going to be on the Zoedale stock list along with 3,000Psi low pressure ball valves. Both will be available in sizes from ¼” to 1”.

The range of double block and bleed valves and monoflange valves from HAVI are all manufactured to the highest standards with complete raw material traceability and are approved by various oil and gas companies like Takreer and ADGAS.

‘The range of instrumentation valves offered by HAVI will really complement our

existing range of actuators and trunnion mounted valves. We vet new suppliers thoroughly and have been impressed with the customer service and high quality products from HAVI and are very pleased to have been offered exclusivity for the UK’ commented Tim Guest, Managing Director of Zoedale plc.

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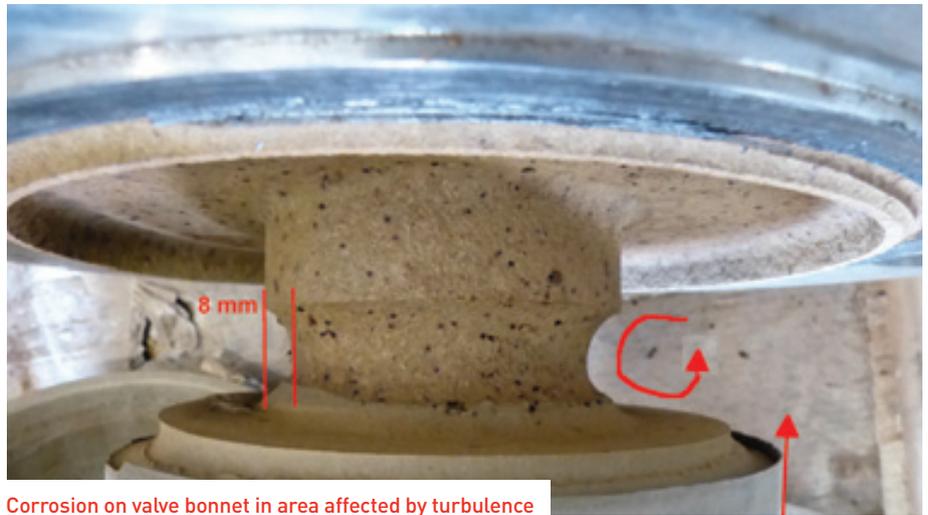
Are You Facing Corrosion Problems With Your Control Valves?

GEPC can now supply the descote control globe valve specifically designed to handle chlorine, A-HF, A-Cl and their derivatives

Control valves are a critical part of the control loop, when it comes to controlling hazardous fluids of the chemical & petrochemical industry belonging to category M of the ANSI B31.3, in particular Chlorine, anhydrous HCl & HF, phosgene issues can even be more critical.

Corrosion is one of the major issues challenging the safe and efficient operation of a control valve. Selecting the appropriate valve design and the accurate material for your control valve requires experience and knowledge.

A customer faced a problem with an 8" control valve on phosgene service, a bellows sealed globe valve, with pressure balance plug design, located on the output line of a TDI reactor. The valve could only work a few times before becoming permanently open and could no longer close.



Corrosion on valve bonnet in area affected by turbulence

After inspection, it appeared that both body and bonnet were highly corroded, the disc to seat contact was in poor condition, and corrosion of the stem induced failure of the stem to disc junction. The failure of the valve had two kinds of causes: the choice of the trim design and the choice of materials. The specific pattern of flow in regulation valves involves high speeds and intense turbulence that can be the cause of so called 'dynamic corrosion', or 'erosion induced corrosion' with materials that could otherwise be considered as resistant to the fluid. Overlooking this issue is a common engineering pitfall.

descote's experience in phosgene service - and several other highly hazardous application - has led to a specially adapted trim design (single non-frictional seating surface, hard facing and integral seat) and an appropriate selection of materials for the stem, bellows, screws and any threaded part.

In January 2013, descote offered this customer an 8" Model 2100BAC that has been working since then without any problem.

For 40 years now, descote has been developing a complete range of bellows sealed globe valve designed and manufactured to address the safety and reliability standards required by highly hazardous applications.

Model 2100BAC control bellows sealed globe valve manufactured by descote combines the essential functions of a control valve with the stringent requirements for the reliability of plant operations and the safety of staff and

neighbouring populations, despite corrosive and particularly destructive process conditions.

Model 2100BAC provides perfect external tightness, thanks to a long metallic bellows sealing the one-piece, non-rotating stem. An emergency stuffing box acts as secondary sealing. The extra long bellows, protected from turbulences in a bonnet cavity shielded from the main fluid flow, reduces stress and increases fatigue life. Fully entrapped body-bonnet gaskets, over-dimensioned bolting, high quality level 2 castings guarantee the perfect internal tightness of the control valve.



descote 2" model 2100BAC bellows sealed control valve

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Corroded stem on failing valve

The control function is ensured by a renewable single seat, designed to avoid galling and sticking. It is fixed on the stem to ensure stability. The profiled disc is CAD designed to meet control specifications and avoid cavitation and erosion.

Our team of experienced engineers will be able to help you select the most appropriate material for your service conditions, from stainless steel to special alloys.

Model 2100BAC has been approved by the Euro Chlor association according to NEW GEST 06/318 for use on liquid chlorine application.

Other specific descote globe valves benefits are also available on the control valve: they are inherently fire-proof designed, can answer earthquake resistant tests and are SIL3 capable certified, according to IEC 61508-2010 newest issue. Our customers can thus install them in their safety loops on Safety Instrumented Systems (SIS). The Bimatic actuator, designed for the harsh environment of chemical plant, insures reliability and ease of operation. Zero seat leakage can be achieved thanks to the hard-faced metal/metal seating (knife effect) and to individual seat testing.

descote control valves, as all other descote valves, follow very strict non destructive tests and examination requirements. They are based on international standards (API 600, ASME B31.3...), national standards (German TÜV, Japanese KHK...) trade associations (Euro Chlor, Chlorine Institute...), customer specific requirements and our own industrial experience

With numerous references in the Chlor/alkali, MDI, TDI, HF alkylation, fluorochemicals, polysilicon, and semiconductor gases, descote is known worldwide as the valve expert for hazardous media. Our team can design and manufacture small volumes of custom-built products. The expertise in the use of materials such as high purity carbon steels, stainless steels, duplex alloys, Monel®, Inconel®, Hastelloy® ... offers the advantage to propose a valve and a service adapted to the requirements of each customer.



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K Controls introduces a new visual indicator on sub-sea valve position monitors.

Positioning, monitoring and control specialist **K Controls** has introduced a new optional visual indicator on its range of submersible valve position monitors. These products can be fitted to a wide range of sub-sea valve actuators and submerged to a depth of 400 metres.



Enclosures are available in a range of materials including carbon steel, 316L stainless steel, 254SMO stainless steel (20%Cr -18%Ni-6%Mo), Duplex 2205 and Super Duplex.

Optional surface coatings of the carbon steel and 316L stainless units include NORSOK M501 Rev 6 System 7B (Sub-sea) paint.

Applications include rig positioning, sub-sea emergency shut down or manifold valves, dry docks and FPSO ballast tanks.



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Gas blending process adopts Rotork CVA for improved accuracy, economy and environmental performance

Rotork's innovative CVA electric control valve actuator technology has successfully delivered an improvement in performance with reduced operating costs for the vital gas blending process on a European natural gas distribution network.

Fluxys is the independent operator of the natural gas storage and transmission system in Belgium, supplying domestic and industrial consumers throughout the country. Because the natural gas can come from different sources and the composition of each source varies, the quality of the gas is closely monitored for calorific value and density at blending stations. The gas blending process is therefore a critical part of the transmission and storage structure, impacting on product quality, environmental regulations and profitability.

Wishing to improve the blending process, Fluxys identified valve actuation as a key area. Improving process valve response times whilst reducing dead-time and overshoot would increase control efficiency and eliminate potential cycling and variability problems. If an electrical solution could also be found, it would reduce operating costs and improve environmental performance by eliminating the requirement to waste gas through venting to air as determined by existing equipment.

Prodim, Rotork's agent in Belgium, proposed the use of the CVL-5000 electric control valve actuator as an alternative to the existing actuator on a blending flow control valve in a trial at the Fluxys booster station at Le Roeuix. As well as simplified, all-electric operation with low power consumption, the CVL-5000 delivers a high thrust linear output performance that suits the heavy duty demands of the large control valves used in the application, combined with a programmable integral failsafe capability.

Engineers from Fluxys, Rotork and Mokveld removed the existing actuator, fitted an ATEX certified explosionproof CVL-5000, re-connected the control signal and carried out a series of tests that demonstrated improved response times, accurate valve

Wishing to improve the blending process, Fluxys identified valve actuation as a key area. Improving process valve response times whilst reducing dead-time and overshoot would increase control efficiency and eliminate potential cycling and variability problems.



Engineers fit the CVL-5000 to the installed gas blending valve at the Fluxys Le Roeuix plant in preparation for performance testing.

positioning, low running costs and fail-to-position operation on loss of mains supply. As a result, Fluxys has decided to adopt the CVL-5000 as the standard actuator for its gas blending plants; over time, existing valves will be retrofitted whilst new valves will have the actuators factory fitted. It is estimated that the improved performance achieved by each valve installation can be accompanied by an annual saving of up to 5000 euros in operating costs per unit.

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Practicality at the Heart of New Acuflex Range

Aquaflow, a division of T-T Pumps Ltd, introduces its range of new liquid turbine flow meters. Acuflex is designed with reliability, durability and practicality in mind to incorporate the required features of a flow meter with manufacturing expertise to produce a flow meter that operates efficiently in demanding media conditions.

Acuflex's durability is demonstrated in its diverse temperature range, allowing a flow of liquid from -40°C to +85°C and a 40 bar maximum working pressure. Not only is the Acuflex reliable in terms of its robust design of corrosion resistant stainless steel, it is also reliable in terms of its data capture with the readings guaranteed to achieve accuracy within one per cent.

Aquaflow, recognising the importance in customer satisfaction, have produced a product with usability in mind. The simple-to-use flow meter incorporates a two line LCD display indicating flow rate, volume and cumulative totals for clear data recording. The Acuflex also comes with preferential display units, including litres, US gallons and imperial gallons. Alongside these necessary features the Acuflex includes a low battery indication and display capacity up to 999,999 units, ensuring the user has maximum usage of the product. Options include remote display, stainless steel bearing supports and predetermined electrical output pulse.

Aquaflow is an established manufacturer of waterworks valves, and related products and services, to the water, process and allied industries.



Aquaflow Valves

Tel: 01630 647111.

Web: www.aquaflowvalves.com



BVAA's Technical Hot Spot



Fugitive Emissions Standards near Completion

prEN ISO/FDIS 15848 'Industrial valves – test and qualification procedures for fugitive emissions...'

Both parts of this standard were issued for 'FDIS' vote – essentially a final 'Yes or No' vote prior to full publication. The two parts were:-

- Part 1 '... - Classification system and qualification procedures for type-testing of valves' (BV001574)
- Part 2 '... - Production acceptance test of valves' (BV001575)

The deadline for comments was 15th December 2015 so publication is anticipated shortly.

Continued Success for Quickits at Valve World Expo 2014

Quickits, the International manufacturer and supplier for valve mounting kits and other related ancillary products for the valve and actuator industry, has exhibited for the first time at the Valve World Expo Düsseldorf 2014.

Showing a comprehensive product range including mounting kits, spool kits, fabricated brackets, extensions, pedestal and hand wheel extensions, locking devices, worm gearboxes, declutch gearboxes, bevel gearboxes, switchboxes, spring return handles and chain wheels; Quickits established a professional stance at the long running renowned valve and actuator industry show

Plans began over a year in advance of the exhibition when the Quickits management team had regular meetings discussing various ideas. The team led by Creative Manager Nicola Spencer put together a visually interesting stand that would prove to make an impression.

'The stand and all the accompanying extras such as the new brochure and website, business cards and merchandise all followed the same visual theme. This tied everything in nicely which is what we wanted to represent the Quickits ethos 'quality and service with excellence' said Nicola Spencer.

Whilst Rob Smith, Mick Durkin, Matt Shirley and Nicola Spencer were at the show the Quickits team back at the UK's head office experienced a record sales week and an influx of new customers which would seem to stem from their presence at the show.

'A number of weeks have passed since our time in Düsseldorf and it's clear that our decision to exhibit at Valve World was fundamental to the ongoing growth in new customers and sales. The next few months will truly show how successful we've found the show to be for us, but there's no doubt that Quickits have had success!', Managing Director, Rob Smith talking about how the Valve World show has affected business for Quickits.



Rob Smith, Mick Durkin and Matt Shirley speaking with customers Dan Stafford, Pete Wright and Jack Eley from Isis Fluid Controls



Passers by taking interest in Quickits gearbox display.

Plans have already begun for Valve World Expo Düsseldorf 2016 with Quickits ready to put their name on the exhibitors list. Sales Manager Mick Durkin explains what the future holds for Quickits at the Valve World Shows.

'With the successes we've just had at Düsseldorf it makes complete business sense to exhibit again, most definitely in Düsseldorf and possibly elsewhere if it proves to be beneficial. We want to continue to improve our presence within the industry and these shows are the ideal stages for Quickits to show off and demonstrate why we retain an enviable position as a leading supplier within the industry.'



Quickits stand just before the show opened on the first day



Quickits Ltd

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New hyperbaric test facility announced to strengthen the UK's subsea industry

The new 'Neptune' technology centre development announced this month will deliver a long needed centre of excellence for hyperbaric testing in the UK.

Situated on the North bank of the River Tyne in Newcastle the facility will be jointly owned by BEL Valves and Newcastle University. Housing six hyperbaric chambers which simulate water depths down to 4,500m, the facility will provide a unique mix of commercially available test facilities and a national centre for training and research for the industry.

With the demise of 'easy oil' Operators, Vendors and Academics are now leading the way in developing technologies to shape the world's energy future. The joint challenge faced is one of developing safe, environmentally and economically viable subsea solutions for the frontier oil and gas challenges including ultra-deep water. Development of these technologies requires commitment to R&D investment regardless of the changes to energy prices and earnings. Therefore good relations and close collaboration between vendors and academia is needed to ensure that the potential benefits of deep water systems for both the industry and global energy supply security are realised.

The hyperbaric facility is the latest development under the 'Neptune' banner in the North East of England, delivering superior test, research and development facilities for the North East of England and for the wider Subsea community in the UK.

Project lead Professor Nick Wright, Pro-Vice Chancellor for Research and Innovation at Newcastle University said 'This new facility will complement the new Neptune National Centre for Subsea and Offshore Engineering being led by the University.'

The creation of this unique facility has, in part, been thanks to funding from the North East Local Enterprise Partnership - Andrew Hodgson, vice chair of the Partnership and chair of Subsea NE, said: 'The subsea sector is a vital part of the economic regeneration within the North East of England...our vision remains to make the North East the recognised centre for subsea technologies on an international scale.' This is a vision re-affirmed in the 'UK Oil and Gas Business and Government Action plan' which was published earlier this year as part of the Government's Industrial Strategy which in turn was strongly supported by Oil and Gas UK.

The UK is already recognised as a leading technology hub for subsea engineering and with the introduction of these new, shared facilities, collaboration across operators, subsea system suppliers and supply chain companies will be encouraged further. This commitment to R&D will provide mutual benefits for the North East's cluster of subsea businesses and for the wider oil and gas community, bolstering the UK's research, training and test capabilities.

Neil Kirkbride, Chief Executive Officer, BEL Valves said: 'There is a known bottleneck in the industry due to the lack of easily available, large diameter, high pressure hyperbaric facilities, a trend which is set to continue with the move to deeper waters & advanced subsea processing. This facility will improve our capabilities for research



Artist's impression of the completed quayside development



Artist's impression of the completed quayside development from the South bank of the Tyne (BEL Valves) Ltd

and development and provide access for others in the subsea community to world class development facilities in a timely and cost effective manner.

'We already have close links with Newcastle University, collaborating with them on many projects including development of our Engineers and this move will strengthen the training program for our skilled engineers whilst also addressing some of the key skills shortages currently faced by the UK Industry as a whole.'

Building work for the Neptune Test Centre is due to commence early in 2015 with staged commissioning of equipment to be completed by 2017.



BEL Valves Ltd

Tel: 0191 265 9091

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Final inspection success for SIPOS at Atucha II

Over the last forty years, just under 1,200 **SIPOS Aktorik** actuators have been supplied to Atucha nuclear power plants (NPP) in Buenos Aires.

Over 400 SIPOS SIWI actuators were installed in the early 1970s at Atucha I, the first nuclear power plant in Latin America. A further 90 actuators were installed as part of an upgrade in 2009 followed by a commission for 700 actuators at a sister plant, Atucha II.

The Central Nuclear Atucha (CNA) comprises two pressurised heavy-water reactor units. The Atucha I unit (340 MW) has been in successful operation since 1974. Commercial operation of the Atucha II (692 MW / PHWR) plant is targeted for the end of 2014. SIPOS' support for the Argentinian NPP development has included revisions, conducted in stages to meet construction requirements.



Team work is central to SIPOS' ethos – photograph shows SIPOS specialists and Atucha technicians marking the success of the final inspection at Atucha II.



A detailed review of SIPOS' actuators installed at Atucha II was conducted by technical staff.

Latest news regarding SIPOS' actuator installations at the scheme is the company's successful final inspection at Atucha II. Under commission from the end user, Nucleoelectrica Sociedad Anonima Argentina, the review was conducted in April this year. A joint group of SIPOS specialists and Atucha technicians assessed a number of the installed actuators. During the inspection period, Atucha II staff received additional training regarding adoption of SIPOS' nuclear actuators.

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Assuring valve components are authentic with Positive Material Identification

Recent years have seen a proliferation of inferior low quality, low cost imitation components flooding onto markets as diverse as the automotive and food industries.

More often than not it has been the more successful products that have been targeted in each market as producers of the cheap alternatives have sought to take advantage of established reputations.

These alternative products may well have the same appearance as the real thing but sadly offer performance way below that which is acceptable. In safety critical applications such as valves, it is vital that the material or product specified is the one received and used, in order to eliminate the dangers of equipment failure which could in turn cause production loss, environmental contamination and potential hazard to life.

After one of its high-specification materials fell victim to imitations including the use of a registered band name, sealing and materials engineering specialist James Walker has perfected and launched a method of positive material identification (PMI) for its range of Devlon® thermoplastics to help



protect its products from future such attacks. The products involved in the PMI development include Devlon® V-API which is commonly specified for valve seat use in critical valve assemblies.

The PMI Technology in this case is a microscopic additive incorporated within the Devlon material that can be identified from the smallest sample of material – including fine swarf shavings. The additive can even be detected in parts that may have been melted or burnt during use.

The properties of Devlon are not in any way altered or compromised by PMI Technology, though its inclusion now means that genuine Devlon can be identified quickly and easily.

In addition to having a material sample analysed at the James Walker thermoplastics manufacturing centre, customers are also able to request a site visit from James Walker personnel for tests using portable PMI analysers – ideal in cases where immediate results are imperative or the material may already have been installed in an assembly.

The concept of Devlon V-API with PMI Technology received an enthusiastic welcome when it was launched by the company at the recent Valve World Europe event as it offers a simple, fool-proof check and the peace of mind for manufacturers and end users that they are using genuine Devlon materials – particularly significant in an industry where increased occurrences of counterfeiting and copying are an unfortunate and unwelcome reality.

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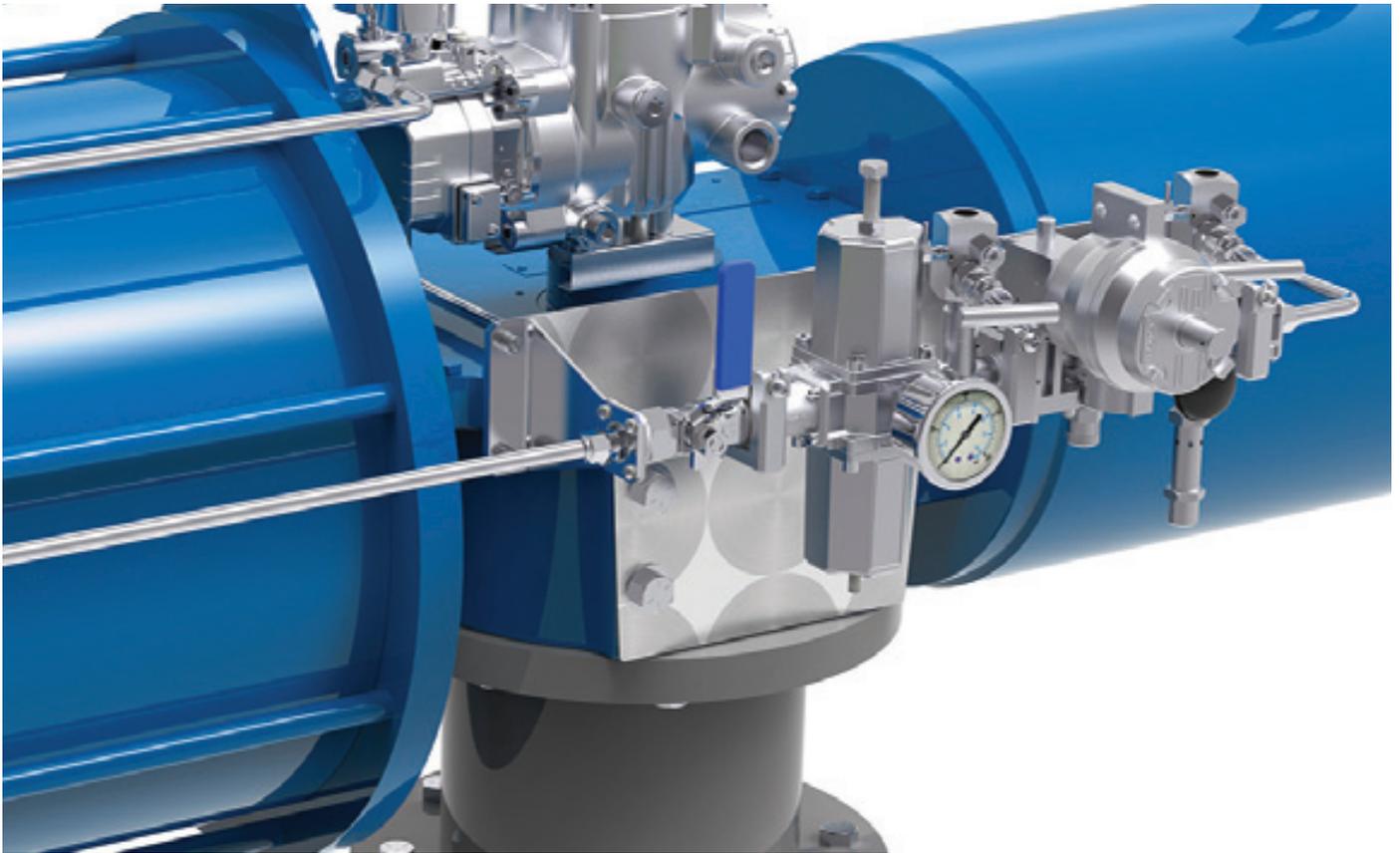
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SMART-LOC™ delivers the modular solution for pneumatic actuator control



The Rotork Midland SMART-LOC introduces a high integrity modular concept for pneumatic actuator control assemblies.

Rotork Midland introduces SMART-LOC, a new high integrity modular concept for pneumatic actuator control assemblies. Constructed in 316L stainless steel, the SMART-LOC system is particularly suitable for the control and sequencing of process valve actuators in oil and gas applications.

Compared to traditional fabricated panel mounted assemblies SMART-LOC offers a lighter, stronger and more compact alternative, together with significant capital and operating

cost savings. Complex, labour intensive arrangements using panels, pipes and additional fittings are eliminated and replaced with a fully assembled and tested interface block, ready to be fitted directly to the actuator. Delivering best in class flow characteristics, the units will interface with all types of pneumatic actuators.

A range of field proven components – valves (spool, poppet or direct mounting) and filter regulators – connected in series on the interface, are tailored to meet the requirements of individual projects, ranging from standard shut-off circuits to intricate control circuits. The unique SMART-LOC clamping system for individual components incorporates static O-rings for higher integrity and long term reliability. No design work is required from the contractor and all components are kept in stock, resulting in very short lead times. With ATEX approval, SMART-LOC components are suitable for hazardous areas and industrial use.

The integral SMART-LOC clamping system also simplifies field maintenance, enabling individual components to be simply and swiftly unclamped and replaced.

SMART-LOC is designed with the benefit of more than 50 years' experience in the manufacture of stainless steel pneumatic components, during which time Rotork Midland has developed a range of field proven specialist products that are renowned for their performance and reliability.

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 CAMERON

DeZURIK Valves Available in the UK via Flow Technology Services Ltd

Flow Technology Services, the County Antrim based distributor of valves and actuators, has been appointed the sole UK sales agent for DeZurik Valve range

Sales Director Gerard Ainsworth commented: 'We are delighted to be stocking and supplying a high quality and well recognised brand such as DeZURIK. We feel the products dovetail with our existing range of products and expertise.'

Below, Flow Technology Services examines 'why DeZURIK'?



DeZURIK Valves are available in the UK from Flow Technology Services

Commitment to quality

DeZURIK, Inc.'s ISO certification represents a commitment to ongoing quality improvements and a dedication to higher levels of performance. From High Performance Butterfly Valves and AWWA Butterfly Valves to Eccentric Plug Valves and V-Port Ball Valves, the company continues to improve quality in all aspects of design, manufacturing, order processing and service to our customers.

Designed for superior performance

DeZURIK's hands-on philosophy begins with design. Using state-of-the-art computer aided design (CAD) systems, a team of highly-skilled engineers perform 3-D solid modeling of valve parts and assemblies. From there our 3-D models are electronically transferred to Finite Element Analysis software to visualize deflection of critical parts under stress. Proper interference analysis and safety factors are included in every design to ensure long-term performance.

Rigorous testing capabilities

Research and Development activities are conducted in DeZURIK's in-house state-of-the-art technical centre. Capabilities include high and low pressure flow loop testing for verification of capacity, characteristics, product performance, and noise levels. The computer data acquisition center captures the test parameters and results. Read more information about our testing services.

From high tech to handcrafted

DeZURIK, employs the 'best practices' concept in manufacturing methods, utilizing machining centers that can produce up to 75 parts simultaneously while maintaining tight tolerances. 'Best practices' also includes hand-lining eccentric plug valve bodies, which are proven to stand up in severely abrasive slurries.

Whether produced by machine or by skilled craftsmen, prior to shipment, we test all valves for structural

integrity, sealing performance and operation. The factory application engineers make sure the product you need is the product you get.

Service excellence

The integrity of our sales and service force plays a key role in delivering products that meet our customer expectations. Our customers can expect nothing less from us than application-specific valve solutions that assure long-term reliability and, ultimately, superior value. By getting inside our customers' processes, we help get process performance where it needs to be.

For details on the supply of DeZURIK products within the UK please contact Gerard Ainsworth using the details below.



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Crane ChemPharma & Energy Expands Pacific® Valves Wedgeplug Line

Characterized by simplicity of design, low energy usage and the innovative Wedgetorque® operator, Pacific Wedgeplug valves from Crane are specifically engineered to address the challenges in severe service applications. Now available in ½" to 36" sizes, the range has been expanded to increase the breadth of solutions for customers in the refining, petrochemical and power generation industries.



The valve's unique design offers users a number of benefits, including:

- 1. Increased Return on Investment:** When not actuating, Pacific Wedgeplug consumes no steam, resulting in industry-leading low steam usage and DCU operational savings of more than \$150,000 per year.
- 2. Easy TAR Servicing:** With inline decoking and service, the valve body stays in the piping system to deliver a shorter TAR schedule and lower trade costs.
- 3. Enhanced Safety:** A single valve offers double block-and-bleed capability, reducing upstream and downstream concerns and enabling users to purge and gauge the valve body for safety permissives.

'For more than 80 years, the Pacific Wedgeplug has provided an energy-efficient, reliable solution to the industry's most demanding applications' said Roger Turley, Global Business Line Manager for Crane ChemPharma & Energy. *'With the greater range of valve sizes now available, we are able to offer more users the superior performance and reduced cost of ownership delivered by the Pacific Wedgeplug'*

Pacific Wedgeplug valves are designed to ASME B16.34, API Standard 599 and API Standard 600, latest edition, where applicable. Testing is to API Standard 598, latest edition. Special hydrostatic testing and non-destructive examinations are available.



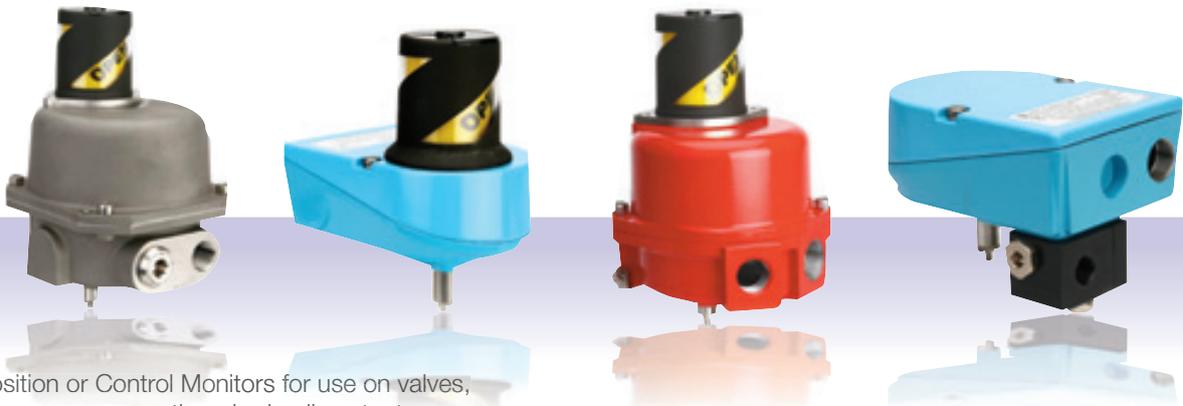
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Review of Thermoplastic Valves Standards

BSI have announced a routine 'periodic review' of six industrial Thermoplastic valves standards:-

ISO 21787 Globe type

ISO 16137 Check

ISO 16135 Ball

ISO 16138 Diaphragm

ISO 16136 Butterfly

ISO 16139 Gates

Recommendations to confirm or withdraw the standards are possible; a recommendation to revise must be accompanied by a detailed justification.

BSI close the comments period on 15 January 2015.

If these standards are important to you, you should consider joining BSI PSE/18/3 'part turn valves' which covers 5 of these standards, or PSE/18/2 for gate types.

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BEL VALVES

www.belvalves.com



AllValves Online to Stock New Range of Sun Yeh Actuators

Sun Yeh, the Taiwanese Actuator Specialist, has launched a new range of Stainless Steel electric actuators and additional housing options. The complete range will be available in the UK from AllValves Online.

A 316 stainless steel housing for the OM series of quarter turn electric actuators has been available from late 2014. The new housing is further evidence that the global manufacturer is continuously developing the range of quality electric actuators. Sun Yeh has launched the new housing as standard in a raw finish but will quickly have available a polished finish to allow the actuator to be used within a hygienic application. The range will cover OM1 through to OM6 covering 35Nm through to 600Nm. Stock to be held at the AllValves Online warehouse in Pershore, with stock ready made at the factory enabling very quick delivery times. The product range will be enhanced early next year once the ATEX approval is confirmed, having already achieved ATEX approval on the Linear and Spring Return range, Sun Yeh will soon add the OM series to the range of approved products. This enabling Sun Yeh to offer a stainless steel ATEX approved electric quarter turn actuator.

In addition to the above, Sun Yeh also has at their disposal housing options for the OM series of electric actuator. Also available to enhance the standard IP67 aluminium offering are the IP68 upgrade and epoxy/ED undercoating. IP68 enables the actuators to be submerged in water for example, operational whilst submerged with full test reports available. To enhance this option we can offer the epoxy coating option which sees an epoxy coating applied to the housing and base of the actuator (includes local control unit if installed) to allow the actuator to be installed in corrosive atmospheres and applications. Sun Yeh has developed this option further in recent years to add an undercoating to the epoxy finish which further protects the actuator from corrosion. Should the epoxy coating become damaged for any reason, this would expose the standard aluminium housing and cause corrosion. However, with the undercoating this prevents this from happening. Applications where we have supplied these actuators include salt spraying applications, coastal applications, fish factories where the actuator is exposed to sea water and many more.

The range also includes an adjustable speed control option, which allows the user to not only increase the working time of the actuator but also slow it down; bespoke working time solutions are available, we are working with OEM customers with a 35Nm³ second working time actuator, another with a 3 second 3 position actuator 0-90-180 degrees and actuators with 150 second fixed working times. Sun Yeh can also offer 3ph voltages, modulating controller with selectable control signal of 4-20ma and 2-10v all in one board. Local control units for local open / close control of the actuator.

Sun Yeh is working hard to further develop the range to offer a complete range of on / off, failsafe and modulating electric actuators.



Adam Chapman, Director of AllValves Online explains the benefits of working with Sun Yeh, 'Working with a manufacturer that is open to new features, constant development and keen to listen to what our customers want is fantastic. Following a recent visit to the factory it is clear that the quality is at the highest level and the number of global brand names that use Sun Yeh to make actuators for them is incredible. The biggest names trust in Sun Yeh, as do we and we are sure that together we will produce the complete range of electric actuators.'



Allvalves Online

Tel: +44-1386 553190

Web: www.all-valves.co.uk

Stainless steel actuator solutions from Rotork Schischek

Customer demand to use the Max electric quarter-turn actuator from **Rotork Schischek** in more and more challenging environments has led to the development of a new range of stainless steel versions. Already use extensively in hazardous and industrial areas, clients wishing to use Max actuators in corrosive and/or maritime atmospheres can now utilise the VAS and VAM stainless steel versions.

Size S Max actuators (output torque range 5–30Nm) are now available in a cast stainless steel AISI 316 housing whilst larger Size M Max actuators (output torque 30–150Nm) utilise a fabricated stainless steel AISI 316 enclosure.

Brass nickel coated cable glands replace the standard plastic version, whilst an option for metal conduits, including a stainless steel terminal box, further adds to the package by offering armoured cable protection.

Stainless steel Max actuators retain all the features of the established Max range. Designed and manufactured to the highest possible standards and in accordance with ATEX94/9/EC, they are suitable for operation in Ex Zones 1, 2, 21, & 22 where gases, vapours, mists and dust may be present in the environment and certified for worldwide use by Ex, UL, CSA (USA & Canada), ExGostR and IECEx

Environmentally certified to IP66, Max actuators are available with and without spring return and have options for on-off, 3-position and modulating control. Torques range from 5Nm to 150Nm without spring return and 5Nm to 60Nm with spring return.



The Schischek ExMax stainless steel actuator is designed for corrosive and/or maritime environments

Red for Schischek 'Red' products for Ex Zones 2 & 22.

Green for Schischek 'In' products for safe area industrial applications.

An advertisement for Pentair Marvac Tank Protection Pressure and Vacuum Relief. It features the Pentair logo at the top, followed by the product name 'Marvac Tank Protection Pressure and Vacuum Relief'. Below the text are three images of red valve components: a large red valve, a smaller red valve, and a red relief valve. The website 'www.safetysystemsuk.com' is listed at the bottom.

An extremely useful self-adaptable power supply

An extremely useful self-adaptable power supply allows actuators to operate from supplies ranging from 24 to 240VAC/DC, with opening and closing times selectable on the device. Operating temperatures range from -40°C to +40°C with a T6 temperature classification, the best possible.

Schischek has also pioneered its own colour coding to indicate, at a glance, the appropriate application area thus avoiding any installation errors:

Yellow for Schischek 'Ex' products for Ex Zones 1, 2, 21 & 22.



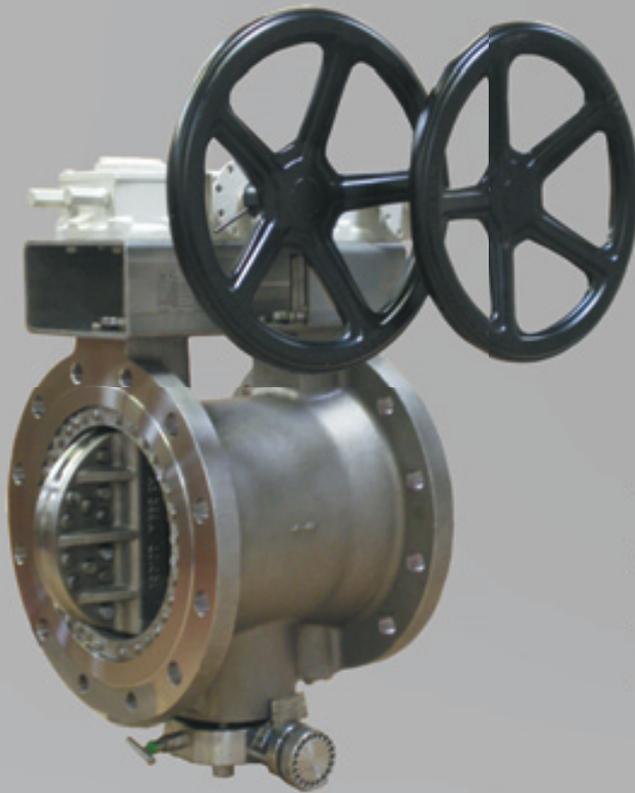
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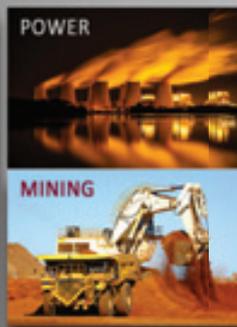
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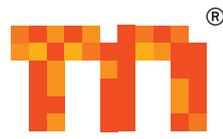
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Wärtsilä Shipham expands its valve range

Wärtsilä's Shipham Valves has extended its full range of duplex and super duplex stainless steel valves to cover higher pressure ratings. This portfolio expansion means that Wärtsilä is able to provide customers with all the corrosion resistant valves needed for their entire project from a single source. This will significantly reduce both the costs and complexity of the procurement process.

The full product range of Wärtsilä Shipham Valves, including gate, globe, check, ball, and butterfly valves, can now be specified in duplex and super duplex, with sizes ranging from ½ inch (15mm) to 48 inches (1200mm) and pressure ratings up to ANSI 1500 lbs. With Wärtsilä's expanded offering of duplex and super duplex valves, a broader



A butterfly valve undergoing liquid penetrant inspection to check integrity of casting quality

scope of applications requiring enhanced resistance to corrosion and erosion can now be handled.

'Wärtsilä Shipham Valves are known for their quality and focus on corrosion resistant materials. We are an acknowledged world leader in the design and manufacture of speciality non-ferrous, composite and high alloy material valves, for applications with seawater or other corrosive fluids. This expanded portfolio is the result of a two-year investment and development process and means that we can now support a vast range of challenging applications,' says Trevor Fairhurst, Business Development Director, Wärtsilä Valves.

Wärtsilä's Shipham Valves division is based in the U.K. Each valve is manufactured to the industry's most exacting standards. The extended offering of duplex and super duplex valves meet the requirements of NORSOK M-630, D46 and D56 material specifications, and have already gained

vendor approval from a number of leading oil and gas sector companies. All Shipham castings are sourced from NORSOK M-650 qualified foundries to ensure consistently high integrity quality and 100 percent material traceability.

The new range was Expo. which will take place in Düsseldorf, Germany from 2nd to 4th December 2014. Wärtsilä Valves will exhibit the new products at Stand B51 in Hall 3.



Illustration of a new Wärtsilä Shipham Valves 8-inch size, 150 lbs duplex butterfly valve

 **Shipham Valves**
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Shipham Valves (trading division of Wärtsilä Valves Ltd)

Tel: 01482 323 163

Email: sales@shipham-valves.com

Are blocked tapping points giving you a headache?

BVAA members **GPEC Ltd**, based in Wigan, Lancashire, are extremely proud to have extended their portfolio as the exclusive UK sales agents of OEM's, by agreeing the sales representation of **CLEARGUARD® PTY LTD**, Perth, Australia.



The CLEARGUARD Autorodder in operation

In year 2000, CLEARGUARD® identified the need for safe and reliable process measurement. This prompted them to design and manufacture an automated rodding device, the Autorodder, which prevents scale build-up on tapping points. The Clearguard Autorodder was invented and developed with the assistance of field trials taking place in Australia and Scotland and a worldwide patent was granted in 2001.

Partially blocked or plugged tapping points and impulse lines have been a curse on accurate and reliable process variable measurement for decades, however now, that problem has been solved.

Designed and manufactured in Western Australia and Oregon, USA, the CLEARGUARD® Autorodder keeps tapping points clear at all times. Operating in applications where process temperatures can reach 1400°C and pressures up to 1450psi, the CLEARGUARD® Autorodder has proven itself to be reliable and effective in keeping the tapping point open, allowing for accurate and unimpeded process variable measurement.

How does the Autorodder work?

The CLEARGUARD® Autorodder is a simple device. By using proven pneumatic cylinders, operating on instrument air, a specially designed scraper is periodically stroked through the tapping point, scraping all scale and debris from inside.

The aim of the Autorodder is not to unblock tapping points that are plugged but more to prevent any build-up of scale before it has a chance to block. The scraper of

the Autorodder has an annulus and cross section allowing for continued process variable measurement during the 1- 3 second cleaning stroke. At this point the wax, scale, crust or debris that is usually at a loose or toothpaste consistency is easily removed and pushed back into the process stream. The scraping/cleaning stroke takes less than a few seconds and even during the stroke, the field instrument/pressure transmitter is on-line, measuring the process variable. With the ability to be operated locally or remotely, operators are able to dictate the required frequency for the scraper to clear the tapping point.

Benefits of the CLEARGUARD® Autorodder:

Standard connections:

The Clearguard Autorodder can be manufactured in accordance with International Standards for flange and thread connections.

Safety:

The Clearguard Autorodder eliminates any potential risk to technicians.

Dilution:

The Autorodder reduces the need for purge to an absolute minimum thus ensuring minimal process dilution via the addition of a purge medium.

Energy Savings:

By reducing the addition of a cold purge to an absolute minimum, energy used to generate heat for efficient process refining is no longer required to heat unnecessary additional purge.

Servicing Tools:

The Autorodder does not require any special tools for installation, operation and maintenance.

Instrument Reliability:

A clear tapping point ensures field instrument process variable measurement is accurate and reliable at all times.

Plant/Process Efficiency:

With clear open tapping points, accurate process variable measurement allows for improved process/plant efficiency. Spurious unit outages due to plugged impulse lines and tapping points are eliminated.

Special Field Instrument:

The Autorodder allows the use of accurate, inexpensive and rugged pressure and differential pressure transmitters instead of expensive fragile non-contact instruments.

GPEC Ltd are here to offer end-users sales and after sales support within the UK working direct with CLEARGUARD® to bring safer and more reliable process variable measurements to the UK markets.



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New models added to Valvekits' gearbox menu

The scope for valve gearboxes available from valve adaption specialist Valvekits has been increased with the addition of a new model and the enlargement of an existing range. Both new developments are manufactured by **Rotork Gears** and designed for the operation of gate valves, globe valves and penstocks. Both will be available from Valvekits workshops in the UK and USA.



Rotork HOB/MPR bevel gearbox (left) Cutaway drawing of Rotork IS21 spur gearbox (right)

The robust and cost-effective new HOB/MPR range of bevel gearboxes is available in eleven body sizes to deliver a torque output range of 380 to 8018 Nm. The corresponding thrust range is 54 to 1557 kN, facilitating the hand operation of a broad range of valve sizes.

The totally enclosed, maintenance free gearing has been designed with carefully chosen ratios to maintain user-friendly handwheel rim effort across the range. Manufactured with cast

iron gearcases, ductile iron baseplates and zinc plated fasteners, the new range has been life-tested to ensure that maximum performance, reliability and quality is consistently maintained. Standard ambient operating temperature range is -40°C to $+120^{\circ}\text{C}$, with other ranges optionally available.

Further options include increasing the IP67 watertight environmental enclosure to temporarily submersible IP68, local position indicators, two speed input reducers, two or three input shafts at 90° and 180° configurations, flexible extensions, special coatings for aggressive environments and a Firesafe trim conforming to ISO10497.

In the second new development, the introduction of the IS21 gearbox adds higher thrust ratings to an established range of multi-turn, thrust taking spur gearboxes. Retaining most of the parts from the IS20, the IS21 incorporates a new F60 cast ductile iron thrust base, thrust bearings, spigot ring and output sleeve, featuring a removable output sleeve for separate spindle machining. The resulting thrust rating rises to 4350 kN for manual operation and 2900 kN for motorised operation, an increase of 30% over the previous maximum. Corresponding maximum output torques rise to 46100 Nm and 43386 Nm respectively.

Like the HOB/MPR, the standard IP67 watertight and enclosure can be optionally increased to IP68, whilst the standard operating temperature range of -40°C to $+120^{\circ}\text{C}$ can also be expanded to suit specific high or low temperature demands.

The totally enclosed gearing is grease filled for life and available in a wide range of ratios. The option of combined spur and bevel gear combinations adds even more operational flexibility. The addition of the IS21 to the existing range enables the gearboxes to be used for the manual or motorised operation of the largest valves to be seen in markets including water and waste treatment, power generation, petro-chemicals and general industry.

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Certificate No: 7835

New Range of Pressure Reducing Valves from Aquaflow

Aquaflow, the specialist valve division of Cheshire based T-T Pumps Ltd., is pleased to announce the introduction of a range of stainless steel pressure reducing valves (PRV). The valve will automatically reduce and stabilise downstream pressures regardless of upstream pressure and flow rate fluctuations, due to its responsive directly-acting spring.

The downstream and upstream pressure balance, obtained by the intermediate chamber and guided piston, guarantees a high accuracy and long lasting performance. By means of the innovative self-cleaning piston technology, the pressure regulator stands out for its higher reliability when compared to pilot operated control valves that are vulnerable to fine particles.



The hydrodynamic profile of the valve body, with its large downstream chamber, ensures high resistance against cavitation effects and vibrations in the event of high pressure ratio conditions.

These robust pressure reducing valves are precision machined from a solid piece of stainless steel material, upstream (inlet) rated to 64 Bar, downstream (outlet) adjustable down to as low as 1½ Bar and having female threaded connections. Additionally, various seat materials are available to suit the media and temperature.

The absence of pilots and hydraulic circuitry avoids rapid variations and consequently the risk of pressure surges, as well as possible pulsations and potential dynamic instability. Even in terms of reaction time this pressure reducing valve stands out to be the safer solution; always ensuring the correct functioning in maintaining the downstream pressure value to a constant level also in the case of rapid variation in demanding and static conditions, for example when used before valves in charge of tank regulation and control.

Aquaflow is an established manufacturer of waterworks valves and related products and services, to the water, process and allied industries.



Aquaflow Valves

Tel: 01630 647111.

Web: www.aquaflowvalves.com

The advertisement for Belleville Springs features a blue background with a large, detailed image of a Belleville washer and a disc spring. The text is arranged as follows:

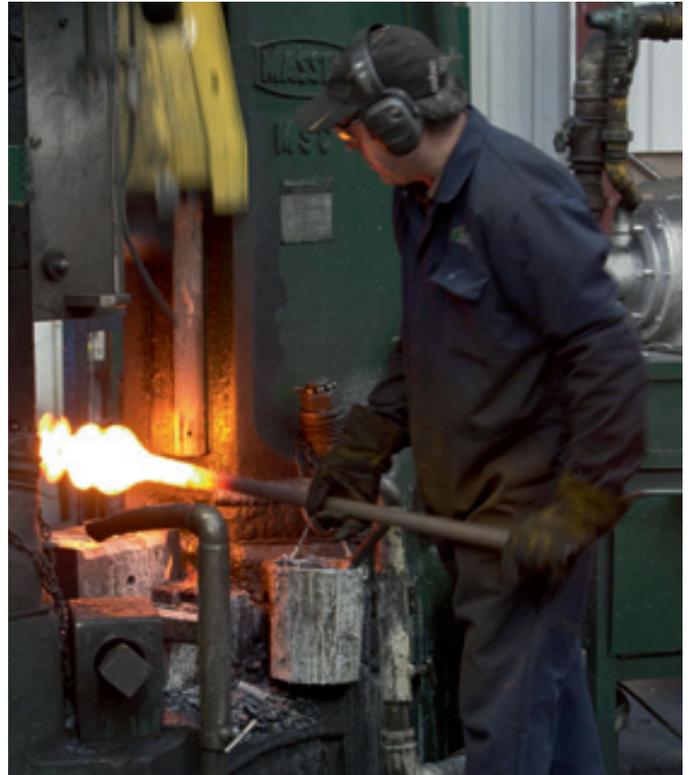
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info@bellevillesprings.com www.bellevillesprings.com

A Complete One-Site-Solution for Forged and Machined Components in UK



Left: Valve Bonnet forged in LF2, stainless steel and nickel alloy (Top).
Body forging in A105 and stainless steel (Bottom)
Right: Forging at WH Tildesley

Forging specialist **W H Tildesley Ltd** (WHT) continues to produce a wide range of components for the oil & gas, petrochemical and process industries.

Current products range in size from elbows and tees at a few grams to parts such as valve bodies and forged flanges up to 70Kg.

'We forge parts in a many grades of steel including LF2, stainless steels 316, duplex and super duplex. In addition, we forge in a range of nickel alloys and other non-ferrous metals such as brass, bronze and aluminium.'

'WHT offers a complete solution for forged components from initial concept where our Engineers can assist with component design and simulation, through to post forge processing, where we can proof or finish machine parts in-house, if required. Using the most up to date CAD & simulation software packages, we can optimise material usage and ensure that die designs and parts are right first time' says Sales and Marketing Manager Phil Hobley.

From its base in the West Midlands, W H Tildesley has been serving the oil & gas market for many years and is particularly competitive on small and medium quantity runs.

'Our commitment to the principles of LEAN manufacturing helps to makes us proficient in setting up to produce just a handful of components, if required by our customer. WHT also produces higher quantity runs up to several thousand. For some customers we hold stock at our site which is then called off to schedule or order' continues Phil Hobley.

W H Tildesley holds several NORSOK approvals including F44, F51 and F55 accredited by Aker Solutions.

w.h.tildesley ltd
Forging Specialists

WH Tildesley Ltd Forgings

Tel: 01902 366440

Web: www.whtildesley.com

Pressure Tech Completes Large Expansion



Pressure Tech is delighted to announce its recent expansion, involving both an exciting move into larger premises and major investment in new state-of-the-art equipment.

The company's production floor space has more than doubled to 4,000 square feet at the new machine shop, enabling both the purchase and use of additional equipment straight away and the rollout of further developments in the coming months.



Major investment in machinery

As well as Pressure Tech's extensive range of existing machinery, the new site houses cutting-edge acquisitions. We have invested over half a million pounds in a Doosan Puma MX, Haas VF-2 CNC machine tool and two sliding head machining centres.

These purchases will play a pivotal role in streamlining the production process, cutting out earlier complexities, improving consistency and further building on the quality performance for which Pressure Tech is already known. With the growth in capacity comes a reduction in set-up times and a faster cycle from start to finish, bringing the overall order processing time down and helping to get products to customers exactly when they need them.

Flexible service

Extending the array of different machine tools at our disposal also widens the options to offer a completely individual service, with solutions tailored to every project. Pressure Tech has always prided itself on working in partnership with clients, listening and responding to needs on the ground, and these latest investments increase our flexibility and provide even greater scope to meet highly specialised demands.



Up and running

Inevitably there has been a short transition period during which all the machinery has been moved, installed and brought up to speed. The team at Pressure Tech continued to work to meet all our customer's requirements throughout this process but it necessarily had some impact on our usual procedures and we would like to thank clients who experienced any delivery issues during this time for their patience. With Pressure Tech now established in its new premises, our improved systems are all up and running smoothly, making the provision of our products and services more efficient than ever.

Planning for the future

As well as making an immediate difference to the service Pressure Tech can deliver, this latest move opens the door to further significant expansion in the near future, with space opened up on the existing site to implement plans for enhanced testing and assembly facilities and the inclusion of a clean room.

Global Support

We would also like to take this opportunity to introduce Kevin George who has recently joined internal sales to provide additional customer support. He is fluent in English, German and French as well as being able to speak basic Spanish and Italian and so whatever your preferred international language we are confident we will be able to support you.



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Annual Review

 **BVAA** SPRING 2015



BRITISH VALVE & ACTUATOR ASSOCIATION

Chairman's Statement



David Millar, BVAA Chairman

David Millar signals future direction of the BVAA

I am delighted to report another year of substantial progress at the BVAA. The year ending March 2014 saw turnover grow again by over 20%. More importantly however our robust financial position allowed the secretariat to expand the service package to members, in line with our ambitious goals.

As the incoming Chairman it is traditional that I instigate my own Strategy Review, where I anticipate re-shaping of the BVAA Technical service and educating young valve executives to feature strongly. I also believe that there will be a greater need to interact ever more closely with our customer base.

A significant development this year was the bold and opportune decision to relocate the BVAA HQ to a much larger facility. The bigger Training suite and additional offices are already being well utilised by members. It is the first time in our 75 year history that BVAA has owned a property of its own, which will benefit members for decades to come.

The BVAA Board



Membership again grew solidly, with the total currently standing at record levels. We do feel however that we are approaching an upper ceiling and in future will be concentrating on the small number of key absentees, as well as re-focussing on the appropriateness, quality and effectiveness of the BVAA service package.

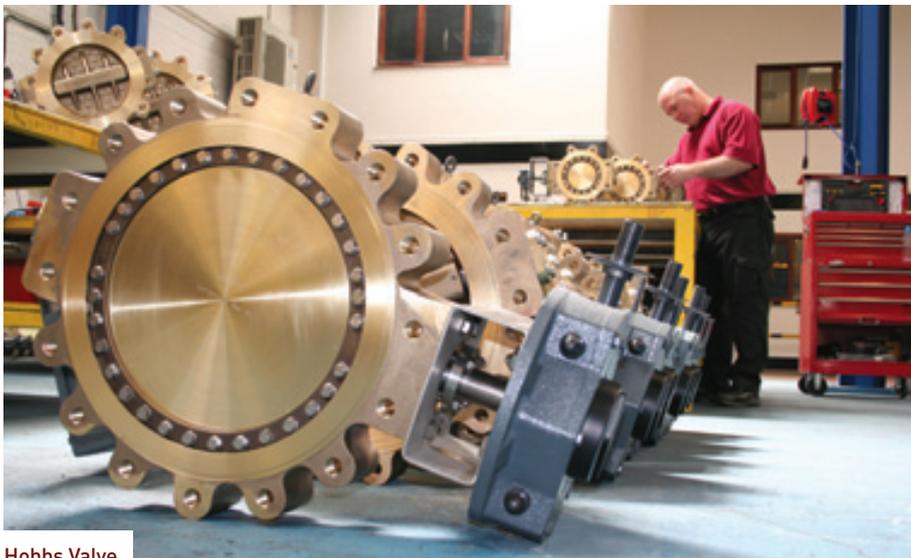
Our Training stream continued to grow, in advance of expectations, with yet more new courses. 'In-house' training also expanded, for members and also for our industry's

key clients - indeed one recent delivery involved a very long trip to Sakhalin Island, Russia, for one intrepid BVAA lecturer!

The sad passing of our Technical Consultant, Peter Churm was felt across the industry and his wise advice to BVAA senior executives will be greatly missed. I am encouraged however that Peter's protégés have already stepped up to continue to support the Technical Service. I am also especially proud that the BVAA Board agreed that our new training suite should be named 'The Peter Churm Technical Centre' in his honour.

I am as ever grateful for all the help and support I receive from my friends and colleagues on the Board. I would also like to acknowledge the huge contribution made by the Association's various working groups, and thank both the members and the chairs for their hard work.

I close with my sincere thanks to BVAA Director Rob Bartlett and his small but dedicated team who continue to provide members with such effective and cheerful service.



Hobbs Valve

Director's Report



Rob Bartlett, BVAA Director

BVAA's 75th Year of operation has been something of a triumph, but also not without its elements of challenge, or indeed tragedy.

Membership levels continued to climb satisfactorily, with a strong emphasis this year on returning members. They represent a welcome vote of confidence to an Association CEO, as 'returnees' are often an indicator that service improvements are proving to be as attractive as was intended.

2013/14 saw another significant milestone. A much bigger, 3000ft² unit was purchased in Banbury in the summer, and the BVAA now has facilities that must be the envy of our sector. Half of this is given over to our impressive new Training Suite.

As we moved in however tragedy struck, and our beloved Technical Consultant, Peter Churm, sadly passed away after a short illness. His loss was a huge blow to a

North Sea Oil & Gas is not a 'sunset' industry just yet, but exploration, investment and improved tax incentives must be there to ensure maximisation of recovery.



The BVAA sponsored 'British Reception' at Valve World 2014.



small, tight-knit community such as ours, and we will all miss his sage-like advice yet warm and humble persona.

We were extremely fortunate to be able to draw upon the colossal knowledge and experience of the technical community within membership, who ensured we missed no important opportunities or meetings, and who actually managed to increase our participation at ASME and API.

BVAA routinely exhibit at international valve events, the most significant this year being ONS Stavanger and Valve World



Dusseldorf. The latter featured, at the heart of the show, a BVAA Group Stand of unprecedented proportions and popularity. It was arguably one of the highlights of our year, rivalling perhaps our very lively 75th AGM Dinner Dance at Rockliffe Hall.

The first signs of a slowdown in the markets, particularly oil and gas, were hinted at last year when a lack of UKCS exploration investment was already causing concern. The autumn plunge in oil prices didn't help matters and despite new but small taxation incentives, a slow-down seems unavoidable. With the global thirst for energy it is widely anticipated that this will be relatively short-lived, but we must be prepared for all scenarios.

One area under the microscope is engineering cost. Quality and safety are paramount, but the increasing costs in the sector – especially on the UKCS – are well documented. The valve industry is prepared to play its part in eliminating costs that add no value. We will have to work closely with our customers and embrace – together – a 'fitness for purpose' philosophy rather than a 'whistles and bells' approach that often results in procedures that over specify, over test and over document products without adding anything to product quality, safety or performance. As market leaders we perversely embrace high spec/high value engineered products, but this must be for the right reasons. In that I believe our ever-expanding Training strand will have its role to play in educating the industry still further.

Technical Report



Rob Bartlett, BVAA Director



Peter Churm (left) with BVAA Director Rob Bartlett



Rob Bartlett reports

Peter Churm

Normally this technical report would be composed by BVAA's Technical Consultant, Peter Churm. However as previously reported, Peter sadly passed away this autumn after a short illness.

Peter's contribution to BVAA, and the wider valve industry, was immense, and his loss will be felt for many years to come. His passing led to a veritable tidal wave of messages of condolence, from all around the world – a measure, if one were needed, of his stature in the global valve industry. We were heartened therefore when the BVAA Board announced that our new training suite was to be named 'The Peter Churm Technical Centre' in his honour – a fitting tribute to a faithful servant of the industry. Peter's full obituary can be found on the www.valvesuser.com website.

BVAA Technical Service

Throughout the latter part of the year the various BVAA technical WGs and their colleagues have stepped forward to ensure that BVAA was represented at all the key technical meetings across the globe. There has also been a significant contribution from technical stalwart Martin Greenhalgh, aided by Ron Strang who updated our PED Guidelines. We would also like to publically thank our BSI programme manager Charlie

Duncombe for assisting us throughout this time.

In the case of ASME and API, we have in fact increased our participation, in line with the priorities identified at the beginning of the year, which also reaffirmed the high levels of interest in BVAA's technical activities. The BVAA Board are also initiating a timely 'Technical Shaping Exercise' to establish the needs of the BVAA membership going forward.

For more on API and ASME see Peter Burnett's Valve Working Group report.

ISO Meetings

ISO activity is split between ISO/TC153 for 'valves' and TC185 for 'safety devices.' To date TC153 has published 26 standards and is working on a further 8, mainly concerned with Steam Traps. In TC185 the few remaining ISO 4126 'safety device' standards are in development, including a revision to Part 2 'Bursting discs' and Part 11 'Performance testing.' We are grateful to Mike Gray (Pentair) for his leadership in this latter group.

ISO/TC 153 is eliminating its 'sub committees' level and now directly oversees its WGs. Consequently a new 'WG1' will be formed covering Actuators and Attachments. This met under its former guise SC2/WG1, in Cologne in December to discuss the long awaited revisions of the mounting accessory standards ISO 5210 and 5211. BVAA's Actuators experts Terry Little (Kinetro) and John Barraclough (Flowsolve

Limitorque) attended to present the UK's proposals on increased coverage.

CEN Meetings

To date CEN/TC69 has published 84 standards, with another 19 currently in development. The arrangements of the 'Vienna Agreement' mean that the 'lead' in developing or reviewing a standard often switches between CEN and ISO – a careful watch needs therefore to be kept on both group's work programmes, with CEN having the more comprehensive 'active' work programme at present.

Mick Jarrett (Emerson) kindly attended the CEN/TC69/WG1 'Basic standards' meeting in Milan. Standards in development there include prEN 10 'Marking of metallic valves,' prEN 16722 'End-to-end/centre-to-end dimensions' the FprEN 12516 series of 'Shell design strength' standards, and prEN 736-2 'Valve Terminology,' among others. Many of these standards will impact upon members' businesses, particularly a new project concerned with 'Minimum performance requirements' for industrial valves. Developments with the individual standards will continue to be reported upon via BVAA 'Technical Hot Spots' and the relevant BVAA WGs.

The EN ISO 15848 'fugitive emissions' standards revisions have been completed but the focus is rapidly turning to API on this topic.

From a technical standpoint 2013/14 was an eventful period, but 2014/15 does look set to be a watershed.

Actuator Working Group



Peter Hirst, Rotork Controls

There was a welcome boost of activity in my working group in the latter half of the year, with two meetings being held at the **BVAA** headquarters, the first being in July 2014, with the second following on in late October.



ISO 5210 & 5211 Interfaces

The BVAA has been awaiting, and lobbying for, a commencement of activity on the revisions of the interface standards ISO 5210 'Industrial Valves – Part turn actuator attachments' and the multi-turn equivalent, ISO 5211 (which are both also adopted as 'BS' British and 'EN' European standards).

As regular readers will know, there has been an ongoing saga regarding when work would actually start in ISO. The UK – via BVAA – carried out some preparatory work some considerable time ago. It was only in mid-2014 that a date for a meeting of the ISO WG was formally announced, prompting our team into action once again.

We reviewed our original proposals on extending the current torque/thrust ratings and the possible inclusion of linear output attachments. We addressed once again doweling issues, and looked again at the proposals to include additional drive types, bi-square drives and so on. There was of course the perennial problem of sizing which we suggest is addressed in an annex. As a result, we were able to submit complete 'UK draft' revisions of both standards to ISO – the only member country to do so. In the past this approach has proved very successful in steering published standards to meet member requirements.

ISO/TC153/SC2/WG1 finally met on 1st December 2014 in Cologne with UK experts John Barraclough (Flowserve Limitorque) and Terry Little (Kinetrol) attending. The new drafts are still very much in the early stages but we are confident we can get accomplish worthwhile revisions. Further meetings will be held in 2015.

CEN Standards

EN 15714-2 'Industrial valves - Actuators - Part 2 : electric actuators for industrial valves - Basic requirements' is to be will be revised to take into account the comments received during 2014 systematic review and the need, it is said, to be consistent with the endurance requirements in EN 1074-2 'Valves for water supply. Fitness for purpose requirements and appropriate verification tests. Isolating valves.' There is also the matter of taking into accounts some comments about possible conflicts with the ISO 12490 pipeline actuator standard. The first meeting of CEN/TC69/WG1/SG10 took place in early November in Milan which I attended. At the meeting it was mooted that a mechanical actuator standard should be developed as this would complete the EN series covering all industrial valve actuator requirements. Minutes and the outcomes are awaited.

Sub Sea Actuators

A few years ago a new ISO/TC67 working group - SC2/WG18 – commenced a project on 'Actuator mechanical integrity and sizing for subsea pipeline valves' (ISO project 16441). The WG was suspended due to largely political reasons.

API has however recently commenced a new project for a Task Group to develop a standard for sub sea actuators. The TG meetings are to be conveniently held in conjunction with the associated API 6DSS meetings for sub sea valves, and Brian Richmond (KKI) kindly attended the first meeting in Milan in October.

The Future

Our main targets for next year are continued involvement in ISO, CEN and API meetings as appropriate. We also aim to review the BVAA Mechanical Actuators guidelines (in light of the CEN Milan meeting), perhaps also studying actuator reliability data, should we find sufficient time.

To close, I too would like to register my appreciation of the late Peter Churm. I shall miss him as a personal friend, mentor and a great engineer whose knowledge and support was key in our work.

Marketing Focus



Jimmy Phillips, BVAA Marketing & Communications Manager



Left: The entrance to BVAA's group stand
Right: Visitor's to the show enjoying refreshments at BVAA's 'British Reception'

BVAA's marketing function is a key benefit for many of our members. Our efforts in this area are overseen by the BVAA Marketing Focus Group, a body made up of marketing specialists from BVAA member companies.

From an operational point of view, BVAA's Marketing and Communications Manager, Jimmy Phillips, was joined this year by a marketing assistant Isobel Goldthorpe, who has a special responsibility for event management.

Business Development: Partnership with NOF Energy

Our Strategic Partnership allows BVAA members to attend NOF Energy Networking events at heavily discounted prices.

The agreement has now entered its 3rd year and it has become a cornerstone of BVAA's marketing offering. Over 70 of the companies in BVAA membership attended an event in the last year. A very good percentage of these are regular visitors to NOF's 'Networking Lunches'; events which feature a key note speech from an energy contractor, plus a chance for 1-to-1's and associated networking.

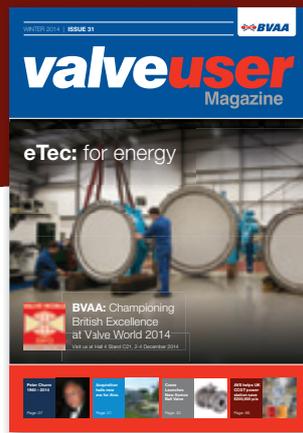
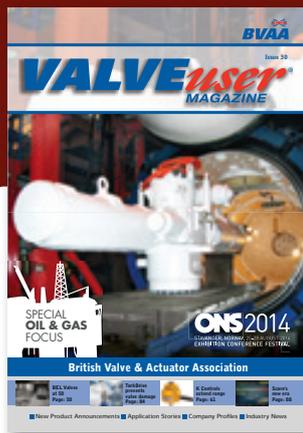
Exhibitions

Valve World Europe

Valve World Europe is held on alternate years, December 2014 was its 9th and biggest exhibition yet. As with previous shows, BVAA hosted a 'group stand'. This has proved to be a fantastic way for first time exhibitors to gain a central position at the show. The group stand included a networking and refreshment area open to all of BVAA's members and friends. This was busy throughout the show, with members meeting to do business, network and socialise.



Joachim Schäfer of Messe Dusseldorf addresses the BVAA British drinks reception



Valve User Magazine is populated by editorial submissions from BVAA members

On the first evening of the show, we also hosted a 'British Reception', which was well attended and provided further networking opportunities for our members.

The feedback we have received from participants in the group stand and visitors to the networking area has been 1st class, plans are already underway for Valve World 2016!

ONS Stavanger

BVAA also took a stand at ONS Stavanger, the busy Norwegian Exhibition for North Sea Oil and Gas. The show was ideal to promote two of our other marketing initiatives: Valve User Magazine and our 'valve and actuator product sourcing DVD'. On this occasion we benefited from being part of a 'British Group Stand' ourselves, as we took advantage of the service offered by EIC. Both the magazine and the DVD proved very popular with visitors to the show.

Exhibition Strategy

We reported last year, that we had surveyed members on exhibition plans. We repeated the survey in 2014; there has been no change in our stated exhibition strategy:

'Attend one main exhibition per year, alternating between Valve World Europe and Offshore Europe. Compliment this with two additional shows, attended by one or two members of staff as appropriate. Additional shows to come from shortlist of: ADIPEC, ACHEMA, ONS Stavanger, OTC Houston, Rio Oil & Gas and Valve World Americas.'

Valve User

As the premier journal for the flow control industry Valve User Magazine, with its 'opt-in-readership', remains one of the most popular benefits of BVAA membership. Editorial content, apart from the expert comment in the early BVAA pages, is reserved for BVAA members. The lively and technically led pieces we receive from our member companies helps to make Valve User the publication it is today.

We continue to develop the magazine, and in the past year we have introduced a 'publicity schedule', so that each issue receives exposure beyond the magazine's own dedicated readership. We also completed a design refresh in 2014.

Market Reports/Intelligence

BVAA continue to circulate an annual forecast report for the global valve industry. This is one of our most popular services and includes a five year forecast covering 63 countries. The data is classified by nation, end-user industry and product type.



BVAA's latest Global Valve Market Forecast (exclusive to BVAA members only)

This year, we have added a monthly series of 'industry intelligence' emails. This service includes news and project wins/awards from the power, chemical/petrochemical, oil & gas, and water industries. The service has received good feedback, and we look forward to adding content to it during the coming months.

Product Sourcing Tool

We continue in our efforts to allow those operating in key end-user industries to access the best of the British Valve industry through the BVAA product sourcing tool. The tool can be accessed via the BVAA website and an extended version is distributed on DVD at Exhibitions, events and via our extensive contact network.

We are aware of a number of six figure orders which have been generated for members via enquiries from BVAA! Consequently members remain keen to keep their product details up to date.

Activities Report

The BVAA Annual Meeting has evolved over recent years and in 2014 we took another great step forward. The formal Association business was this year preceded by four high profile speakers; namely Ken Cronin of UKOOG, Andy Jenkins of Douglas Westwood, Phi Haymes of UKTI and Malcolm Webb of UK Oil and Gas.



The pre-AGM conference in session

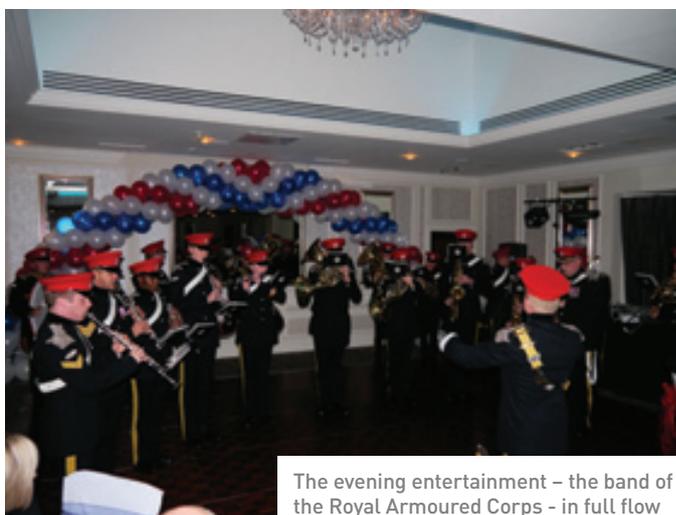
BVAA AGM

We returned to Rockliffe Hall, Darlington in 2014, a very impressive venue which contributed to another big attendance.

The extended conference element was very well received among attendees, with Shale Gas, Economics, Government Funding and UK Oil and gas all well covered. The traditional working group reports, association update and *'state of business'* discussion followed. We also welcomed a new Chairman, David Millar, and bid our fond thanks to the outgoing Chair, Neil Kirkbride, who had made an excellent contribution over his three year term.

There was a partners' programme again this year, with a very popular Cocktail Making demonstration.

The BVAA Dinner Dance – generously underpinned by member sponsorship – featured a champagne reception, some very talented 'silhouette artists, a string quartet and music from a military marching band.



The evening entertainment – the band of the Royal Armoured Corps - in full flow

BVAA Conference

The BVAA Spring Conference and Golf held at the Celtic Manor in May was given rave reviews by those who attended. As ever we were indebted to members who generously sponsored the event.

Attendees were treated to a varied selection of excellent presentations ranging from fugitive emissions standards changes to the global outlook for the oil and gas industry; all of which were well received. The biggest hit of the speakers programme was BVAA board member and MD of Heap & Partners David Millar, whose frank discussion on Shale Gas saw him receive 'excellent' from 90% of attendees. Also extremely popular was the talk from James Walker's Mark Richardson who updated the group on the API's planned changes for fugitive emissions standards. Mark's work on the subject has been supported by BVAA Valve Working Group.



Mark Richardson of James Walker updates the conference on developments in fugitive emissions standards



BVAA Golfers at Celtic Manor



Interested attendees at the AMEC Aberdeen Desktop Exhibition



Richard Edwards of Noel Village tees off!

The speakers programme was preceded by networking and a mini-exhibition and proceeded by a dinner in the lodge at Celtic Manor. This ever-popular event will return next year, with an expanded format. Contact BVAA for details.

BVAA Golf Society

The pairing of the southern May Golf Day with the Conference at Celtic Manor proved a very popular choice. The Celtic Manor course was bathed in sunshine all day and there was a fantastic atmosphere among the players! Thankfully more about fun and fellowship and less about scoring, that said the team event could not have been closer as both Valvestock and James Walker finished on 81 points, it went to count back and with the front and back nine scores also identical, in the end it was a superior score on the 10th hole (stroke index 1) which secured the prize for Valvestock.

Our customer golf day in Scotland – also generously sponsored – was held at Craibstone, Aberdeen in September. We seem to have a talent for picking sunny days, as we again enjoyed glorious weather. Again we aim for a friendly atmosphere over fierce competition, however; the winners on the day were Valve Solutions, with some help from Enermech, who amassed 97 points – a very large score with only two players from four scoring! Our thanks to everyone who supported these enjoyable events.

BVAA Desktop Exhibitions

Business Development remains at the forefront of Association activity (see Marketing Report) and we are especially keen on helping our members' customers. It's very pleasing to report therefore that we matched 2013's record year for our Desktop Exhibitions with five such events in 2014. Held 'in house' at Bechtel, BP, Amec, Foster Wheeler and Score Europe it is gratifying to see us both expanding our number of hosts, and building lasting relationships with some key contractors.

Essentially portable demonstration pieces backed up by knowledgeable technical experts, the events are typically held over the lunch period for minimum downtime / maximum efficiency and allow hosts to keep up to date with industry innovation without even having to leave their office.

Membership

Although BVAA represents most British companies engaged in the industry we still see very buoyant recruitment of new members to the Association, setting new membership records year on year. There's also tremendous diversity in membership now – new products, materials, services, supply and support. A huge boost however has been the record return of lapsed members this year – companies who are best placed to understand and appreciate the improving service level of the BVAA.

Training



Karen Webb, Member Services Manager



A 'full house' in BVAA's new Training Suite

The last twelve months have been quite an exciting time for the **BVAA Training** strand!

Due to scheduling issues, we temporarily reduced the number of training sessions or 'terms' from three to two this year, with a plan to restore it to three terms next year. However such is the capacity at the new BVAA Training Suite, in two terms we easily accommodated more students than ever before. Indeed the 'Introduction to Valves' course was full to overflowing and despite our commodious new facility, we had to introduce a waiting list.

A further development was another increase in the different courses delivered. New to the portfolio this year was 'Combating Corrosion' – delivered in association with

Namtec/AMRC, and also a new ISO 9001 Workshop in association with LRQA.

Our in-house courses also proved popular, with again a record number delivered. These are excellent for bigger clients, particularly major users and customers of valves, as they can be delivered at their own site without all the logistics problems and costs associated with overnight accommodation, travel, etc. Members' customers still account for c. 50% of our students, many of whom are engaging with the BVAA for the first time. We are constantly encouraged therefore by their wonderful feedback.

We are always appreciative of all our lecturers, many of whom are volunteers, for the time and considerable effort they put into maintaining their course materials, and of course the actual deliveries. Course materials are constantly evolving and we

never deliver exactly the same course twice it seems!

Another thank-you goes therefore to my colleagues Barbra Homer and Isobel Goldthorpe who go to great lengths to ensure the quality and completeness of the materials, and of course accommodating the many nuanced requests we receive for additional assistance.

A huge thank-you must go however to Martin Greenhalgh, who heartily accepted my invitation to deliver an Introduction to Valves and Actuators course for employees and guests of the Sakhalin Energy Investment Co. in Yuzhno, Sakhalin Island. The exhausting 15,000 mile round trip to far eastern Russia was rewarded with our biggest ever training audience.

A target for next year will be the re-equipping of the Peter Churm Technical Centre to the high standard Peter's name commands. New donations of valve/ actuator demonstration pieces are always welcomed as we are very keen to showcase the latest industry developments and technology.

Scheduled BVAA course dates are already fixed for spring, summer and autumn 2015. Details can be found at www.bvaa.org.uk/training or contact karen@bvaa.org.uk



The Smart Actuator Company at Valve World 2014

The Smart Actuator Company (SACO) exhibited the 2014 Valve World exhibition in Dusseldorf as part of the centrally located BVAA Group Stand. The SACO team looked forward to introducing many new customers and partners to the innovation called the SmartAct®1, their 40-100 Nm range electric actuator.

The show consisted of 3 very busy days with a constant stream of interested and intrigued visitors. Delegates from across the globe impressed with the innovation and features that SACO offers at this end of the electric actuator market. Particularly pleasing was the number of companies that saw the advantages of reducing the power consumption of actuators by an average of 75% in comparison to existing brands. All agreed that energy ratings must be taken seriously and expect it to challenge



Jerry Brown and Tony O'Donnell (top) were among the team which manned the busy SACO stand

high energy usage products increasingly in the future.

Offering a lightweight, energy efficient, universally powered, electric actuator with a large range of software upgradable features like failsafe, speed control and proportional position control to name but a few, at a comparable price to existing products, the SmartAct®1 actuator generated a lot of interest at the show.

Benefiting from a highly visible central location on the BVAA group stand and the hospitality of the BVAA staff SACO felt that the event was a great success. It offered the opportunity to make new friends and customers as well as catching up with existing contacts. The high level of footfall at such a global event allowed SACO the opportunity to gather information about the needs of the industry and the SACO team must thank the high numbers that completed their 'Voice of the Customer' survey.

Visitors were also able to preview the SACO smaller actuator bridging the gap up to 40Nm and the larger version that will operate from 100 Nm up to 400Nm. Also announced was the proposed range of parallel products encased in stainless steel housings for hazardous environments. SACO is working with larger partners with

existing presence in those markets to develop these alternatives.

Having successfully received funding in 2104 under Horizon 2020 phase 1 (European grant funding for SME's with innovation and patentable technology) SACO needed to complete additional market research for the procedure under phase 2. This was a perfect opportunity to gather a wide range of market information from end users to multi-million turnover manufacturers within the valve and actuator industry from around the world.

From the high number of enquiries and orders SACO have been receiving since returning to the UK they are very excited about the benefits of attending the Valve World exhibition in 2014, and look forward to their return in 2016.

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New Control Valve for Corrosive or Abrasive Applications

Heap and Partners Limited was approached to develop a solution to a range of problematic corrosive and abrasive applications.

The solution Heap's developed was a combined Saunders Fisher valve specially developed to combat the issues of inadequate control often experienced when using different types of valves, actuators & positioners.

Utilising the diaphragm valve from the market leading Crane Saunders Diaphragm valve and actuator from the market leading Emerson Fisher control valve, it is designed for applications involving corrosive & abrasive processes where the use of conventional valves may not provide the best solution, the key benefits being:

Low maintenance diaphragm construction

- No stem packing, minimising potential leak path
- Wide range of valve body and lining materials
- Suitable for abrasive & corrosive media
- Wide range of sizes
- High flow capacity
- Accurate control due to pneumatic diaphragm actuator design
- High accuracy digital valve positioner
- Contactless positioner unit
- Wide range of ancillaries available
- Low cost relative to other control valve types

Case study 1 - Initial application for the replacement of old lined control valves in sizes 1" through 3", which were no longer available from the original equipment manufacturer, the application involved the level control of an acid dosing system.

Heap and Partners provided an alternative solution utilising a Saunders A-Type diaphragm valve with ETFE lined body and Emerson Fisher's Pneumatic diaphragm control actuator type 657/667. This was driven via Emerson's digital valve positioner



type DVC6200 with linkage less feedback capability, a special valve actuator adaptor kit was designed through Heaps' in house engineering capabilities.

Case study 2 - An application was presented to Heaps for control of dilute aqueous acid. Heap & Partners put forward a 2" ebonite lined Saunders A-Type diaphragm valve as a solution to the application with a Fisher 657 pneumatic actuator mounted via a special adaption piece, a Fisher DVC2000 digital valve positioner with performance diagnostic was utilised.

Case study 3 - After being approached by one customer to provide a solution for a difficult application that required accurate control of CO² & nitrogen with trace ammoniated liquors (the customer had tried a number of different valves in the application without success). Heap & Partners proposed the use of a Saunders A-Type diaphragm valve with a Fisher GX pneumatic diaphragm actuator and Fisher's integrally mounted DVC2000 digital positioner unit. The improvement in the process was almost immediate, this unit was initially supplied on a trial basis with a view to installing further units on similar applications around the site.

The beauty of the solution developed by Heap & Partners is that it combines two market leading products whilst retaining the very best advantages of both products. The Saunders diaphragm valve's ability to easily handle solids and aggressive duties together with the Fisher actuator's excellent control capabilities.



For further information please contact Ian Edwards, Business Development Manager - Fisher Valves & Regulators at Heap and Partners.



Heap and Partners Ltd.

Tel: 0151 488 7222

Web: www.heaps.co.uk

Third generation Skilmatic delivers smarter failsafe actuation

The Rotork Skilmatic SI self-contained electro-hydraulic valve actuator combines all-electric simplicity with the precision of hydraulic actuation and the reliability of mechanical failsafe operation. Typical applications for Skilmatic actuators include functional safety related Emergency Shutdown (ESD) and Remotely Operated Shutoff Valve (ROSoV) duties.



Rotork 3rd Generation SI self-contained electro-hydraulic valve actuator

Skilmatic's advanced control and monitoring system has now been further developed with the introduction of the 3rd Generation, incorporating proven Rotork IQ3 intelligent electric actuator technology. Communication and data logging capabilities have been increased in response to end users' desire to access more valve related data, both in the field and in the control room.

The 3rd Generation of the SI actuator will consist of four models with multiple actuator sizes known as SI³-1, SI³-2, SI³-3 and SI³-4, enabling Rotork to offer quarter-turn failsafe actuation from 65Nm up to 600,000Nm for functional safety applications. As part of the development

Rotork has enhanced the range by introducing the new SI³-3 standard range of spring return actuators with a torque range of 2,000Nm to 20,000Nm. This new range offers a wide choice of operating speeds, additional ESD options with single or dual inputs and enhancements to partial stroking to meet a wide range of applications.

Skilmatic SI 3rd Generation actuators combine established features including non-intrusive setting, performance monitoring and configurable data logging with an extended torque output range, increased functionality and enhanced availability of valve and process data for asset management and data analysis, displayed in a new, large and information-rich format.

Robustly constructed for challenging environments, SI 3rd Generation actuators deliver a highly reliable means of valve management and positioning a valve to a safe condition. Safe valve positioning is selectable for failsafe to open, failsafe to close or lock in position on either loss of power or a range of programmable ESD signal options.

The SI 3rd Generation control module facilitates simple, safe and swift non-intrusive commissioning by means of an intrinsically safe hand held setting tool with infra-red and Bluetooth™ interfaces. Settings including internal hydraulic pressure, position, limits, control, alarm and indication functions can be accessed and adjusted using user-friendly Rotork 'point and shoot' menus. Actuator status, control and alarm icons are provided on an advanced new dual-stack toughened glass illuminated display which also gives access to real-time information such as pressure, diagnostics and help screens.

Rotork Insight2 software. Offering flexibility of customisation to suit the application, the actuators can be integrated into the majority of digital bus control systems, including Pakscan, Foundation Fieldbus®, DeviceNet®, Profibus®, Modbus® and HART®.

Designed for functional safety applications to SIL2 (1oo1) and SIL3 (1oo2) for use on safety critical applications, the actuators are also offered with enhanced partial stroke testing (PST), enabling valves to be function tested without affecting the process. Performed either locally with the setting tool or remotely from the control room via hardwire or fieldbus communications, PST tests all the final elements (actuator and valve) by measuring the time to move to a set position whilst monitoring the pressure. PST results are recorded by the integral datalogger, shown on the display screen and optionally remotely indicated.

All actuators are available with hazardous area certification encompassing ATEX, INMETRO, IEC, FM, CSA and GOST. The double-sealed electric enclosure is watertight and dustproof in ratings up to IP68 (submersed to a depth of 7 metres for 72 hours). Specifiable for three-phase, single-phase or DC electrical power supplies, the Skilmatic SI3 range delivers a range of rotary torque or linear thrust outputs that are suitable for valves of virtually any size and design.

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Data from the actuator can be transferred to a PC for storage and analysis by means of

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New catalogue dedicated to Check and Shuttle valve products

The humble check valve, so simple that it is often taken for granted, yet it is a critical component in nearly every hydraulic or pneumatic control system. At **BiS Valves**, stainless steel check valves have been a part of our range for over 40 years, so when we decided to create a new range of product specific catalogues, there was nowhere better to start.

BiS's new style data sheets are designed to give all the information you need to select the right product for your application, but as always, our sales team are ready to answer your questions.

The 12,000 psi rated NR series valve range has been extended to include medium pressure ports, a lower cost option for the increasing number of clients who wish to utilise a high integrity piping system without needing the full 20,000 psi pressure rating. Meanwhile, our 20,000 psi check valves have



been upgraded to use super duplex external parts as standard, for even greater corrosion resistance.

Louise Pedden commented:

'The YV25 yield valve is a new product, combining a full flow check valve with a reverse thermal relief function, ensuring that critical downstream components are not damaged when temperature fluctuations increase the pressure that would be trapped behind traditional check valve designs.'

Also containing cartridge and manifold mount check valve products, and shuttle valves that select the higher of two input pressures, often used to combine supplies in dual redundancy systems, we have a valve for nearly every situation and with our reputation for bespoke supply, when we don't have the valve you need, we can design it for you.'

Download your copy of the new check and shuttle valve catalogue and view our other valve ranges at www.bisvalves.co.uk.

Look out for more new catalogue and product releases soon

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Emerson introduces electro-hydraulic operator for remote valve emergency shutdown applications



Emerson's Bettis EHO actuator provides users with a complete, proven solution for critical situations

Bettis™ EHO actuator provides users with a complete, proven solution for critical situations where fail-safe response in remote areas must be instantaneous and dependable

Emerson Process Management has added a robust electro-hydraulic operator to its broad valve automation capabilities with the release of the Bettis™ EHO actuator. The EHO actuator couples proven technologies from Emerson's Valve Automation offering of actuation and controls to handle critical shutdown situations where dependability is a must.

The EHO actuator is ideal for a diverse range of applications, from topsides valve automation on offshore platforms to remote pipelines where operational upsets can cause safety and environmental hazards, as well as costly production losses. To help operators counteract these challenges, the EHO provides a compact design with actuator and control components from Emerson that have been field proven for decades in critical service and features that combine more than 200 years of experience in valve actuation, electric motor, and hydraulic control technology.

The EHO is available in either spring-return or double-acting configurations. Torque outputs can handle valve sizes from 150mm to 1500mm (6" to 60"). The EHO operates on utility electrical power or optional solar power for remote areas where electric power is not available or not reliable. The EHO is operable in temperatures ranging from -40°C to +60°C. Its fail safe capability is reliable with fast close or open stroke times, suitable for emergency shutdown in oil or gas service.



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Certificate Number
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AUMA ACE Scheme Drives up the Standard

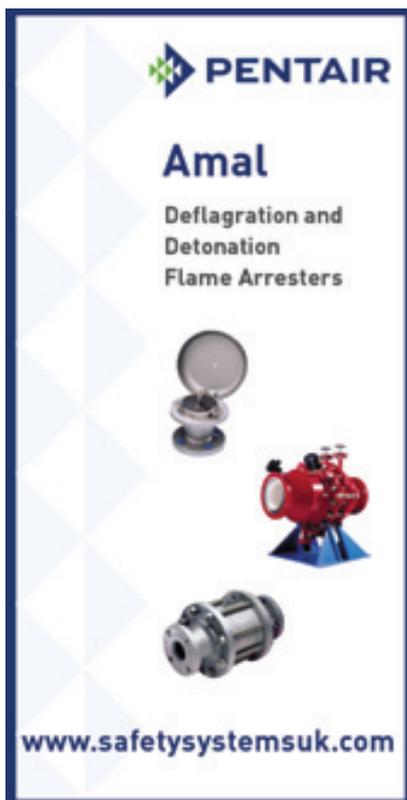
AUMA UK Ltd is introducing the ACE (AUMA Certified Engineering) Technician Certification Scheme to drive up the standards of actuator installation and maintenance within the controls industry. Split into three levels, the training and accreditation programme is targeted at actuator technicians working for both customers and independent controls contractors.

The scheme, spearheaded by the specialists in modular electric actuation, addresses the fact that there are no formal standards for SQEP (Suitably Qualified and Experienced Persons) working on-site with actuators and valve control systems.

Commenting on the need for enhanced training, and the current state of the UK valve controls market, Paul Hopkins, AUMA UK's Managing Director said:



Top: In a move to improve actuator installation and maintenance standards, AUMA launches the ACE Technician Certification Scheme. Left: AUMA Certified Engineering (ACE) training for technician certification. Right: The AUMA ACE Certified Technician logo.



'Although there are many skilled personnel within the controls industry, from a Health and Safety perspective, there are a significant number who have had insufficient training on specific products to be in a hands-on role addressing actuation issues. We are therefore launching the ACE Technician Certification Scheme to ensure customers can buy and use our products with confidence and without limiting their choice of contractors.'

'As systems become ever more complex, we are increasingly getting calls from customers whose actuators have been incorrectly installed or operated. If you buy a 'top of the range' car you would expect to have it serviced at a franchised dealer where the technicians have been trained on your particular model: it should be the same for actuators.'

The AUMA programme is set at three levels: ACE Technician Level 1 aimed at in-house technicians. ACE Technician Level 2 suitable for on-site installation and service

activities and ACE Technician Level 3 which provides the highest level of qualification for those involved in communications protocols and systems integration. Accreditation cards are provided to each qualifying technician so customers can check that personnel are suitably qualified to work on their sites, be safe in the knowledge that relevant tests have been passed and be assured that 12 month refresher training has been completed.

For full details of the ACE Certified Technician scheme contact Kerry Harris on 01275 871141 or e-mail kerry.harris@auma.co.uk

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Lock-up Your Doubters at -55°C

Doubt about the operational safety of a control valve, or the plant it operates in, is increasingly being managed out by means of risk analysis and complex failure modes to cover all eventualities.



single and dual lock-up valves from Sitecna

Instrument selection to manage these failure modes has to encompass more extreme environmental conditions not just due to climate change but also as the search for oil & gas expands to the more inaccessible and inhospitable areas of our planet.

The latest development from Sitecna® in Italy is an extension of their proven LK04 Lock-up Valve Range that enables safe operation at ambient temperatures down to -55°C. All valves have ATEX and GOST EAC certification as standard and there is a choice of construction materials to suit the particular environment. Epoxy coated copper free aluminium is shown here, ideal for ammonia plants or where low weight is crucial. The LK04 is also offered in 316L stainless steel while exotic alloy constructions such as Monel or 6MO can also be produced for extreme corrosion environments.

Available as single or dual circuit switching, these valves are often employed to isolate the control line(s) to an actuator and freeze the position of the valve in the event of decreasing pilot pressure. The LK04 has now joined other elements of the Sitecna® range that already offered -55°C options including filter regulators, volume boosters and pressure sensing relays. The -55°C version is readily identifiable in the picture here due to the blue diaphragms which distinguish the low temperature elastomer.

Exclusively available in the UK from Red Dragon Ltd in South Wales, the Sitecna® range of pneumatic instrumentation is ideal for use in control valve packages for all environments where safety and performance are key criteria.



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Certificate Number FS 534522

Schischek launches controller for decentralised control structures in industrial and hazardous areas

More and more applications in the industrial and hazardous area building automation sector require high performance and easy to use control systems. The local control of variable air volume (VAV) and constant air volume (CAV) systems as well as pressure, temperature and humidity eliminates the need for connection to remote controllers.



The Schischek ExReg-V is designed for decentralised control structures in hazardous areas

Air volume control is the key to delivering cost effective and environmentally friendly ventilation in modern buildings and industrial facilities. By locally controlling the movement of air dampers, the flow of air in to a room can be optimally controlled for the times when the room is occupied or not in use.

Schischek provides the solution with the introduction of ExReg-V (hazardous area) and InReg-V (safe area) control units,

designed to ensure smooth operation when controlling HVAC systems by minimising the number of separate components required. A variant of the ExReg-V controller, the ExCos-V sensor, allows for the measurement and monitoring of air flow (volume) or speed (velocity) in industrial and safety critical ventilation systems.

In a related scenario, the local control and actuation of 2 and 3-way water mixing and diverting valves allows for the regulation of temperature and humidity in buildings and environments where the maintenance of strict limits is a prerequisite. Examples of such applications include the manufacture and storage of temperature and humidity sensitive materials which, if exposed to levels outside those specified, could cause a threat to life, health and assets. Here, the ExReg-D or InReg-D controllers used with the ExPro-CT and ExPro-CF sensor range provides the solution.

Developed from the successful ExCos and ExBin sensor series used extensively in hazardous area locations including ATEX zones 1,2,21 & 22, the new ExReg control units feature a compact design which incorporates an internal proportional-integral-derivative (PID) control structure. The parameterisation process is easy to use and automatically achieved for standard applications. The system provides support, especially during the start up process, with many predefined settings and damper characteristics.

Features retained from the ExCos and ExBin series include the elimination of intrinsically safe wiring, digital adjustment,

actual value indication and LED status display. Designed for electrical and mechanical compatibility with market standards, the ExReg is suitable for 24Vac or dc supplies and environmentally protected to IP66.

For over 30 years Schischek has supplied electric explosion-proof control products for building automation in a wide range of industrial sectors including oil & gas, (onshore and offshore), shipbuilding, chemicals, pharmaceuticals and water treatment. These latest product developments further expand the Schischek range of market leading explosion-proof control products, globally supported by engineers experienced in explosion-proof applications.

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Bestobell Marine Secures Major Chinese Contract

Bestobell Marine, part of the President Engineering Group, is celebrating after securing a major new contract with Hudong Zhonghua shipyard in Shanghai.

The new contract is to supply cryogenic globe and check valves and Bestobell's unique Float Level Insulation Valves (FLIV) for use on the four Teekay shipping vessels to be chartered by BG Group.

This latest order takes the total number of Chinese vessels using Bestobell's valves to 14, helping the company secure its position as a major supplier of cryogenic globe and check valves for Liquefied Natural Gas Carriers (LNGC) in China.

Duncan Gaskin, Sales Director of Bestobell Marine, said: 'We are delighted to have secured our third major contract with Hudong Zhonghua shipyard. Three years ago we had no market share in China and we are now a major supplier of cryogenic

globe and check valves for Chinese ships. The use of LNG as fuel for ships is rising rapidly in China and we are excited about the opportunities to further expand our market here.'

Bestobell's latest contract win is a result of its close relationship with its agent in China, Healthlead Development, which has well established connections with many of the major shipbuilding companies in China.

Mr Tommy Zhang, Head of Healthlead's Shanghai Office, said: 'China is a very special market for foreign companies to do business, and relationships and local knowledge count for more here than in any other market. We have worked closely with Bestobell to guide them in technical and commercial negotiations in China, resulting in a successful business outcome for all parties.'

Tommy continued: 'We see exciting opportunities ahead for both companies as many new shipyards in China begin to build LNGCs and Hudong expands its production capacity.'

China is expected to increase its market share of the new build market for LNGC over the next five years, as the Chinese Government signs contracts to import LNG, requiring the accompanying ships to be built in China.

This latest contract follows on from two separate Chinese contracts in the past two years, including the supply of valves to four Mitsui O.S.K Lines (MOL) vessels to be chartered by Exxon Mobil, and six China Shipping / MOL vessels to be chartered by Sinotrans for their Australia Pacific LNG project.

Bestobell Marine has been a world-leader in the manufacture of cryogenic valves for industrial gas applications for over 50 years and has over 10 years'



Bestobell's Float Level Insulation Valve

We see exciting opportunities ahead for both companies as many new shipyards in China begin to build LNGCs and Hudong expands its production capacity.'

experience in supplying to the LNG marine markets. Bestobell's valves are widely used on LNG Carriers, FPSOs (Floating Production Storage Offshore) and FSRUs (Floating Storage Re-gasification Unit). The company designs and produces valves to meet specific requirements and has supplied to all the major shipyards building LNG Carriers around the world.



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MPs view workforce enrichment initiatives at SMC



Mark Lancaster MP meeting two of SMC's current apprentices, Rhys Lloyd (2nd from left) and Jeffrey Sambadzai (right)

Both of the Members of Parliament for Milton Keynes – Mark Lancaster and Iain Stewart – visited **SMC Pneumatics** in November to find out first-hand how the company is working to expand and enrich its UK workforce.

The company, which employs some 200 people at its manufacturing, logistics and administration facility in the west of Milton Keynes, manufactures components for use in factory compressed air automation systems and counts many global household brand names amongst its customers.

As a result of a recently-announced £1.7m capital investment the company is recruiting skilled as well as apprentice CNC millers and turners, as well as recently-graduated and experienced sales engineers to join SMC's 300-plus UK team.

On their tour of the Crownhill facility, Mark Lancaster and Iain Stewart met the company's existing apprentices to hear first-hand how working with a world-leading expert has given them a fantastic start to their careers.

The MP's also spoke briefly at a seminar that SMC hosted for 'Autumn Years', which is advising the company's staff on how to handle the multitude of challenges that could be posed to them and their families by dementia.

Hayley Walker, Head of Human Resources at SMC commented: Modern apprenticeships are very much an area of focus currently, and SMC is very proud to be able to give young engineers a head start with hands on experience at a global manufacturer, where they can learn the latest techniques and combine them with tried and trusted lean manufacturing philosophies.

'Combine our apprenticeships offer with our Graduates programme and the ongoing recruitment for CNC machine operators and sales engineers, and it's currently good news all the way for SMC!'



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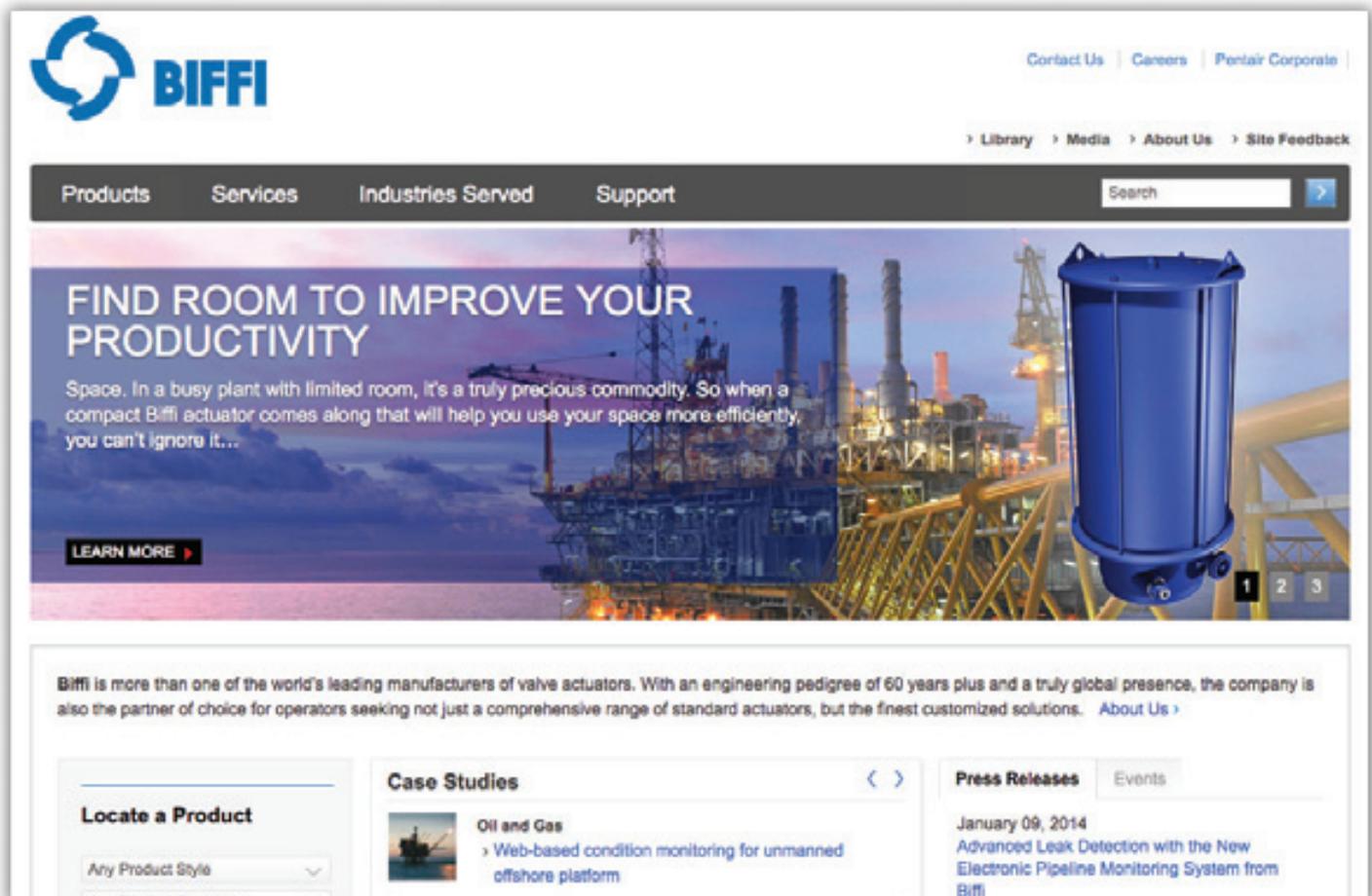
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Pentair Launches Biffi Website To Support Effective Actuator Specification



Pentair has launched a new website under its Biffi brand, part of its Actuation & Controls solutions. Designed to provide a useful resource to plant engineers across a range of sectors, such as oil & gas, power, industrial processes, mining and water & waste water industries, the website helps actuator selection through comprehensive product and services pages and a user-friendly interface.

Paolo Baroni, global marketing manager for Pentair Actuation & Controls, comments: *'In designing the new website, we listened to customers to better understand their technical support needs, which enabled us to develop a site that will help guide users and aid product selection. This, combined with supporting data and an enhanced user experience, will help our customers access the information they need more quickly and easily.'*

Key features of Pentair's Biffi brand website include details relating to the brand's various technical support services, including installation, training, and maintenance and repair, as well as information outlining the benefits of using Biffi solutions to help overcome industry-specific challenges. The website also showcases news stories and case studies with up-to-date material on Biffi products

help our customers access the information they need more quickly and easily.'

and projects. Plus, with a comprehensive document library, users can access product information and manuals for additional technical support, along with industry practices and standards.



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Interlocking in Harsh Environments is Easy with **Smith Flow Control's New Ellis Key**



Smith Flow Control (SFC), specialist in mechanical valve interlocking equipment, has re-designed the key for its well-known Ellis interlocking range. Recognised worldwide, Ellis interlocks are used for critical process applications in oil and gas, petrochemical and water industries.

The new Ellis key is suited to the most aggressive industrial environments. Featuring a spring-loaded rubber seal, which helps prevent ingress of sand, dust and water or any other foreign matter, its robust body has an ergonomically designed grip, ensuring improved handling.

The re-design allows markings to be displayed on both the top and side of each key flag, making tags much easier to see. If a key tag is damaged during operation, the tag plate can be easily removed without needing to replace the complete key.

The key is also compatible with existing plant key cabinets – all that needs replacing are the individual base plates, which clip in effortlessly. There is no change to the coded section of the key.



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Pneumatrol received Excellence Award from Manufacturers Alliance

Pneumatrol Limited, the Lancashire-based specialist manufacturer of pneumatic control products for use within both hazardous and safe area environments, was awarded Member of the Year 2014 by the Manufacturers Alliance in North West.

Manufacturers Alliance is a network of leaders and managers in the manufacturing industry sharing their knowledge and experience on how to grow and sustain a high performing business.

Pneumatrol was recognised for achieving the most significant progress towards Operational Excellence during 2014.

While presenting Jamie Dummer with the certificate of Excellence Award (in picture), Gary Sheader, Group Chairman of Manufacturers Alliance commented, *'Pneumatrol has achieved enormous improvements over the year of 2014 – from significant work place improvements in many areas of the factory, through improved operation processes for planning and controlling their work, to presenting themselves to customers in a much more professional way.'*

Jamie Dummer, Managing Director of Pneumatrol added, *'We are proud of ourselves for what we have achieved in 2014. However we won't be complacent and in 2015 we will continue the process of undertaking the next changes and improvements to take the business forward.'*



Gary Sheader, Group Chairman of Manufacturers Alliance; Jamie Dummer, Managing Director of Pneumatrol

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BVAA's Technical Hot Spot



BS EN 12516 Shell Design Strength

Three updated parts of the 'Industrial Valves - Shell Design Strength...' standard were recently updated and published. These include:-

- Part 1: Tabulation method for steel valve shells
- Part 2: Calculation method for steel valve shells
- Part 4: Calculation method for valve shells manufactured in metallic materials other than steel.

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Celebrating a Decade of 'Quality & Service'



The Quickkits team

Quickkits Ltd the UK'S largest independent manufacturer and supplier of valve & actuator mounting kits & associated products, sees in 2015 celebrating an anniversary providing 10 years of 'quality and service with excellence'.

Ten years ago when the company was founded the business operated from a small, 800sq.ft rented industrial unit with 4 employees handling everything from sales orders in to final dispatch. It didn't take long before Quickkits needed to expand and in 2006 the business relocated to larger premises, two units totalling 4000sq.ft.

It was two years later in August 2008 when Managing Director & business owner, Rob Smith decided it was time for the business to relocate once again. It was at this time that an investment was made with the purchase of Unit 3, Drakehouse Court which is where the head office of Quickkits remains today.

Rob Smith explains why they made the move;

'Due to a continuous and sustained business growth year on year the decision to purchase unit 3 enabled the business to create a bespoke design, manufacturing and office facility which has since become the heart of the business. This investment was a key event in the history of Quickkits and we have since purchased and occupy a further 3 industrial units providing us with a total floor space of over 20,000sq.ft.'

Throughout each stage of expansion the business has made key investments in machinery notably in September 2012 a substantial £350,000 investment which included the XYZ 1100XL lathe with its colossal 1100mm diameter turning capacity. Other notable investments include the Solidworks 3D CAD/CAM software in November 2012 and the Faro Prime CMM (Co-ordinate Measuring Machine) in December 2013.

It's no surprise then that the company has also invested in people employing a total of 46 full time, highly skilled and experienced personnel.

Recent success in Düsseldorf at the December 2014 Valve World exhibition enabled Quickkits to showcase the products and services that are available and has since proven to be an important business decision. During the first week after the show Quickkits sales achieved a record week with over 20 new customers placing orders in that same week. Further information regarding the exhibition can be found in this issue of the Valve World magazine or on the news feed at www.quickkits-online.co.uk

The future looks set to be fruitful with further expansion plans and exciting new products and services in the pipeline. The Quickkits team are looking forward to the future and the next 10 years of providing; as their motto reads; 'quality and service with excellence.'



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New Sales Team at IPL

Oversee Growth in Enquiries



Sales Manager John Dady and Modern Apprentice Holly McLean



Valve and process technology business **International Procurement Ltd** is targeting a growth in sales, following a move to new premises earlier this year.

Celebrating its first 10 years in business, IPL has appointed John Dady, 49, from Accrington, in Lancashire, as its new Sales Manager.

No stranger to the valve industry, Mr. Dady spent the past 12 years as sales manager at Rotork Valve Kits, having joined from a pneumatic valve manufacturer. IPL has also added modern apprentice Holly McLean, to its sales team of seven individuals.

Mr Dady's first target is to increase orders from the industrial valve sector in the UK, while sales director Dave Speight will remain responsible for maintaining current business and growing valve sales in the British nuclear industry. The company's managing director, Colin Wilson, will continue to oversee IPL's continuing growth in overseas markets.

Mr Dady said: *'I'm currently visiting potential customers of IPL across the UK, and talking with them about their plans for the future. The next year looks like it could be a very good one for IPL's UK business, as many potential customers are drawing up their own growth plans.'*

IPL currently distributes customised valves and associated equipment for some of the biggest valve manufacturers in the world. They include, Valvtechnologies, Velan, Vortex, ABB Technologies, and SMC.

IPL has seen a 55% growth in enquiries since the launch of a new website, and several overseas visits. The company now has a number of new European clients and an Egyptian sales agent.

Mr Wilson said: *'Our investment in the development of a website, and a brochure to complement it, has most certainly accounted for a growth in the number of enquiries we have received. Enquiries have come from Pakistan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Dubai, Brazil, Vietnam and Canada.'*

Recent successes for IPL's world-wide business include an agreement to distribute Igema's range of level and boiler monitoring equipment. The business, based in Münster, near the German border with Holland, is a world-leader in the heat and steam monitoring sector.

IPL has also added to its growing and impressive range of products, by introducing those manufactured by HH Valves. Based in the UK HH Valves are the only company manufacturing the genuine Hattersley Heaton design of cast steel gate globe and check valves to the requirements of BS EN ISO9001 and the European Pressure Equipment Directive 97/23/EC.

A further recent addition to its portfolio has been the Canadian based *'Hughes'* Industrial Insulation Systems who design and manufacture removable & reusable valve insulation systems for all valve types and pressure ratings, across all major industrial applications.

IPL's recent growth is testimony to the success it has enjoyed over the past three years, a period which has seen the company make significant progress in terms of sales, contacts, new customers, and a continued increase in annual turnover.



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The product launch process: an insight into the introduction of a new electric actuator range

In this masterclass report for Valve User, insight is given by **SIPOS Aktorik** into the processes, considerations and development steps involved in bringing a new actuator range to market.

Using the example of the launch of the new SIPOS SEVEN actuator series, expert commentary is provided from the company's heads of R&D, Project Management and the Sales / Marketing divisions.

Research and Development:

With Michael Molle at the head of the R&D team, market needs were evaluated through inputs from staff, international colleagues and customers. Personnel working at the 'coal face' reported on advancements that would benefit users; focus groups were organised for controlled assessment of market requirements and the company's R&D division used state-of-the-art analysis and equipment.

Michael emphasises that any significant step-change in technology has to go way beyond a mere cosmetic enhancement or quick fix. The upgrade has to offer real progression with genuine features that offer authentic new capabilities. R&D for a new product launch is therefore a lengthy process that requires years of development.

With user needs forming the backbone of a new product introduction, long hours of testing and analysis are needed to challenge traditional thinking – this is flagged as essential to avoid any 'me too' products.

Environmental issues are a further consideration that are key to a new product's development along with design ergonomics: any advancement has to be intuitive for use in the field, with due respect given to the challenging conditions faced by many actuator operators.

Prototyping and Project Management:

At the heart of a new product introduction is Project Management. Peter Müller, who headed this activity for the SIPOS SEVEN, explains that Project Management oversees activity from idea to implementation. As a result, Peter and his team are committed to Gantt charts, deadlines and schedules.

The length of the new product launch process is reiterated by Peter who reports that concepts, testing and prototyping took over a year.

While planning is key, Peter stresses that an open mind is needed – it is important to be focussed but not blinkered: concepts evolve



Top: The new SIPOS SEVEN electric actuator – targeted appeal for designers, OEMs, contractors and end-users. Bottom: Michael Molle, head of R&D at SIPOS Aktorik.

through comprehensive test and trialling processes and it is essential to consider options.

Team work is imperative. A new product should not be one person's 'baby' – representatives across the company should be involved. Assumptions should be challenged and expert input provided including mechanical engineering and electronics. This ensures a fully functioning product that meets real market needs backed by a workforce that is fully equipped to champion the launch.

Marketing Methodology:

A comprehensive range of information sources are required to support any new range and, when it is a technical product, this needs to provide features and benefits in an objective and practical format. Over hyped claims without the backing of facts are not what this market requires.

Focus needs to be placed on engaging, informative materials that are easily accessed and readily digested by all sectors of the target market including designers, OEMs, contractors and end-users.

Resources need to encompass online data and printed materials. Electronic communications are becoming the default and SIPOS supports this need, but hard copies of essential literature are also produced as many people in the industry appreciate having the information to hand and being able to take a break from their screens to digest the data.

With regards to segmentation, SIPOS has adopted an approach to its marketing that differentiates user's requirements highlighting features and benefits for each sector. The company believes that marketing messages shouldn't be buried and that product capabilities / USPs should be clearly presented.

Sales Strategy:

The sales strategy is all important in bringing a new product to market. Using the example of the SIPOS SEVEN, a launch platform of the Valve World Expo was chosen. This gave focus to the development of marketing materials and ensured the company's international sales team was fully briefed from the outset.



(Top) Peter Müller, head of Product Management for the new SIPOS SEVEN
(Bottom) SIPOS SEVEN advancements include a full colour display (pictured), Drive Controller and USB interface

The result – A new generation of variable-speed electric actuators

After over two and a half years of development, the SIPOS SEVEN has successfully been brought to market. The new generation of variable speed actuators were extensively researched to provide enhanced functionality and the product has been comprehensively tested to ensure it is simple to install and operate. A portfolio of information sources has been developed to ensure that the company's global sales team is supported in its sales of the new product.

The SIPOS SEVEN can be ordered with immediate effect for delivery from July 2015. The SIPOS 5 actuator will continue to be available, along with spare parts.

SIPOS Aktorik is a member of the AUMA Group.

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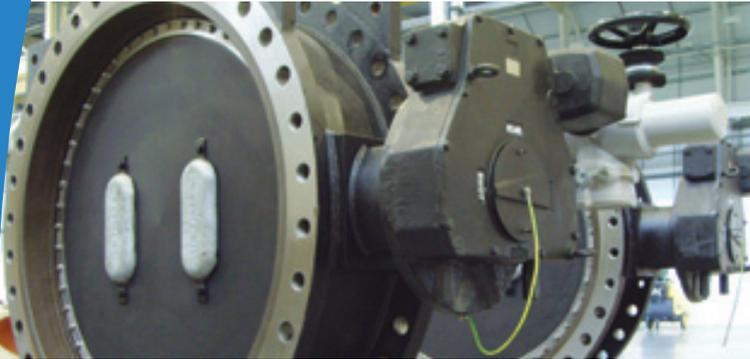
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Valve Solutions 'In the Pink'

Valve Solutions of Shipley, West Yorkshire have recently completed two orders for the Murchison Platform with the supply of two control valves and 2 pressure regulators for the CNR Murchison decommissioning programme.



Valve Solutions has been awarded accreditation to OHSAS 18001. OHSAS 18001 is a framework for an occupational health and safety management system internationally accredited by external accreditation body QMS. The decision to implement OHSAS 18001 was taken by the management in early spring 2014. The development of policies and procedures were developed in the following months with a gap analysis audit in the autumn. The gap analysis audit identified the inevitable shortcoming in our development of the system and signalled the transition required to implement the policies and procedures that had been developed. A full day audit was performed in early December following minor recommendations and it was proposed that Valve Solutions be awarded 18001 certification.

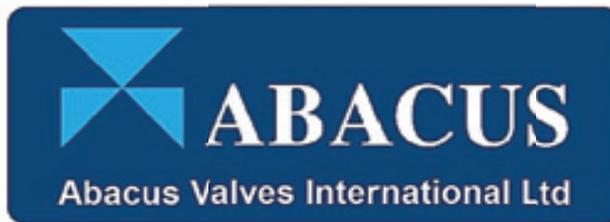
'Health & Safety is our priority at Valve Solutions' said, H&S Officer, Johanne Wright. *'Achieving certification will open up even more business opportunities for the company.'*



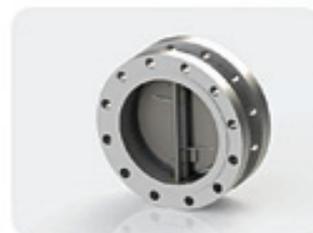
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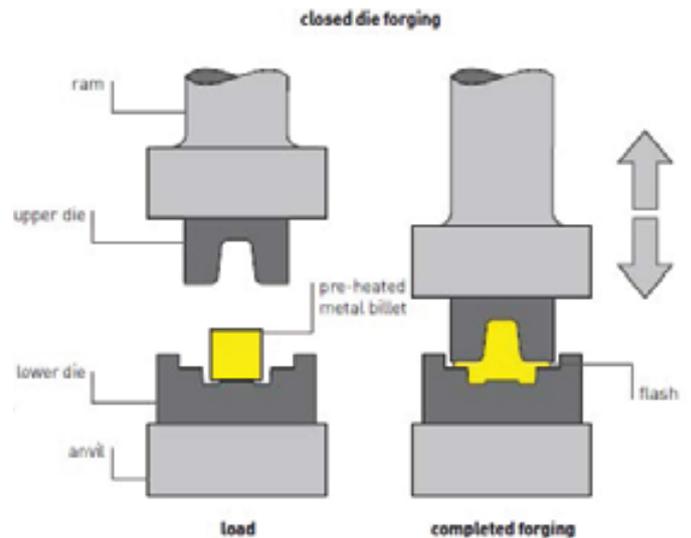


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Closed Die Drop Forgings Deliver Numerous Advantages – W H Tildesley Ltd



Left: Hot Forging from WH Tildesley
Right: The closed die forging process

Closed die drop forging - sometimes referred to as “near-net-shape” or “impression die” forging - offers numerous technical advantages, saves on material usage, and carries an upfront tooling investment that’s not nearly as expensive as some people think.

Improved Strength to Weight Ratio

In the closed die drop forging process, metal bar or billet is heated before being placed in the die then hammered until the metal completely fills the die cavity.

During this process the material’s grain structure becomes compressed and aligned to the component shape which imparts greatly increased directional strength with reduced stress concentrations in corners and fillets. Components manufactured this way are stronger than their equivalent machined-from-solid or cast parts.

Structural Integrity

Forging a component greatly reduces the possibility of metallurgical defects such as porosity or alloy segregation as found in some castings. This leads to reduced scrap, a uniform response to heat treatment and predictable component performance in the field.

There is virtually no possibility of porosity being introduced during the forging process. Even this can be checked with a low cost

ultrasonic test after manufacture. The possibility of small surface cracks can be managed with a simple crack detection procedure towards the end of the process.

Economic Advantages

Moving from machined-from-solid to forged components generates a saving in raw material usage. Starting from a near-net-shape forging can also reduce machining times. This means companies moving from machine-from-solid to machine-from-forging can generate enough capacity on their existing plant to save capital outlay on new machinery, as their business grows.

Customers often assume that the initial tool cost required for near net shaped forging is prohibitive. In fact, forging dies and tools are quite simple in construction and are relatively low cost, making them viable even for jobs with low production quantities. This cost can be further mitigated by amortisation into the component piece price and even reclaiming pre-used die materials.

W H Tildesley Ltd is a leading UK drop forging specialist and specialises in producing components for the oil & gas, petrochemical and process industries.

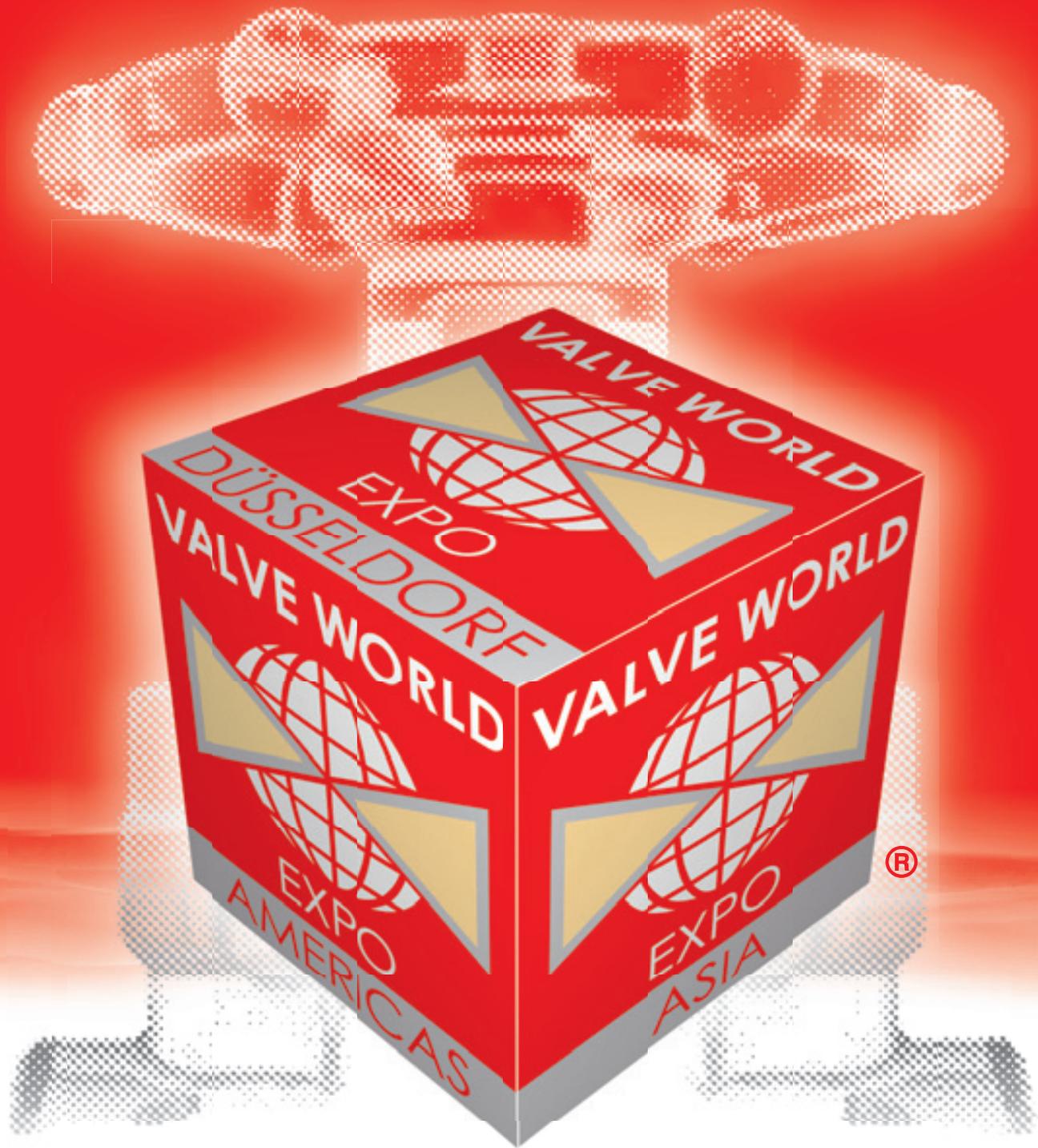
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Emerson Introduces Intelligent Electric Valve Actuator With Compact Profile And Simplified Digital Controls

Lightweight and space-saving Bettis™ model 500 electric actuator couples proven valve automation technology with enhanced electronics for reliable operations decision-making



Emerson introduces intelligent electric valve actuator with compact profile and simplified digital controls

Emerson Process Management has introduced a new high-performance electric actuator, the Bettis™ Model 500 with TEC2 Electronics. The Model 500 builds on decades of electric actuator innovation while adding state-of-the-art electronic control technology for use in rotary and linear valve applications. The TEC2 electronics provide the visibility, insight and reliable control needed for effective plant operations

In today's plant environment, getting timely information on valve operation in process units is key to reducing costly downtime. The TEC2 electronics provides ready information on actuator status and diagnostics that help operations avoid unscheduled maintenance.

The Model 500, with its compact size, light weight and advanced electronics, automates small valves used in tight piping configurations and can be utilised with a Remote Display Module for difficult-to-observe applications. With increased stem acceptance, the Model 500 accommodates a wide variety of valve mounting options. Maintenance and set-up are simplified with a non-intrusive design that eliminates the need to open control compartments.

Model 500 actuators utilise an open network control architecture allowing a wide range of topologies and protocols including Modbus, HART®, Profibus, FOUNDATION™ fieldbus, DeviceNet™ and Ethernet, to integrate into existing or new communication networks. It also offers the convenience of Bluetooth™ operation while maintaining an intrinsically-safe capability.

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- 'They tested and decided...'
- 'They met recently and discussed...'

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West Special Fasteners, the Dronfield based manufacturer of high integrity fastening products to the oil and gas industry, pumps and valve industries has been gaining approvals during 2014 from Major companies and is looking to continue the trend by recruiting a quality consultant.

'Our BVAA membership is helping new oil and gas end users find our company,' said Director James Hawkins 'and so recruiting an additional quality consultant to help with the analysis of complex specifications is the next logical step to help our existing team.'

Sandra Tomlinson, joined the company on the 5th January 2015.

'Sandra has over 34 years experience in the fastener industry and has focused on quality and approvals for the last 15 years. Sandra also brings a new angle on production methods and testing which will complement and enhance the procedures and systems already in place' said Managing Director Paul West.



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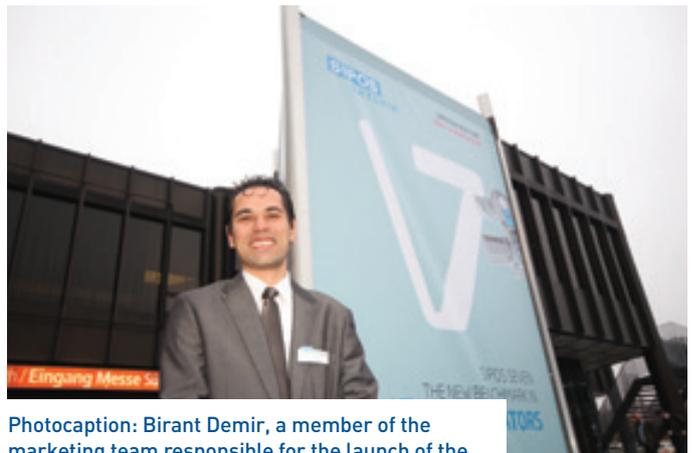
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SIPOS SEVEN Information Services

A comprehensive range of information sources have been produced to support the launch of **SIPOS SEVEN**, a new electric valve actuator range. Resources produced by **SIPOS Aktorik** to enable customers to understand the actuator's state-of-the-art design and user benefits include a dedicated brochure and website.

Extensive R&D, including input from industry user groups, enabled SIPOS to produce the new product series and the actuator's capabilities are fully detailed in the dedicated materials produced for the SIPOS SEVEN.

Under the headline of 'Welcome to Visual Reality', SIPOS' resources summarise features and benefits for designers, OEMs, contractors and end users. Details include the intelligent operating concept that is at the heart of the actuator's breakthrough Drive Controller. Recognising the importance of communication, the product's innovative USB interface is described and its advanced full colour display, which is supported by animation, is detailed.



Photocaption: Birant Demir, a member of the marketing team responsible for the launch of the new SIPOS SEVEN electric actuator series.

Orders for the new SIPOS SEVEN can be made with delivery from July 2015. The SIPOS 5 actuator will continue to be available, along with spare parts.



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- Maria Palonen, Sales Manager, Vexve Oy

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YPS Launches New Nozzle Check Valve

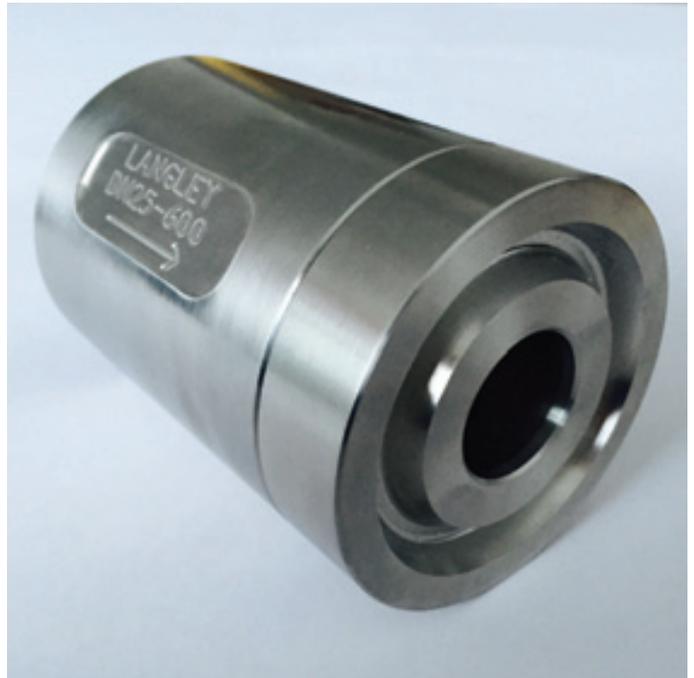
YPS Valves, a leading designer and manufacturer of valves for the hydrocarbon processing, chemical, nuclear and off-shore industries worldwide has developed a Nozzle Check Valve, 0.5" to 2", which is now available to order. The firm has also confirmed that larger sizes will be available from spring this year.

YPS says the Nozzle Check Valve has been produced to provide customers with an alternative to Swing Check Valves.

Managing Director, Rachel Wormald, says: 'We have introduced this valve to our range in response to customer demand. As well as being competitively priced, they are also very efficient and easily maintained, and can be manufactured from both castings and bar material.'

The first major consignment of the Nozzle Check Valve has already been completed and despatched to a client in China, for liquid oxygen fluid service.

YPS has also invested £120,000 on a new improved dye penetrant testing facility at its manufacturing base in Leeds, West Yorkshire. The new facility increases the capacity to conduct additional DPI tests with more efficiency and is used to confirm the integrity of castings and welds.



The Nozzle Check Valve is now available to order at sizes 0.5" to 2"

The on-going investment in equipment has also included the recent addition of a new CNC milling machine capable of producing very large high pressure valves particularly for oxygen service, which is now fully operational.

A high capacity ultra-sonic degreasing machine (pictured) is also in use after being commissioned at the end of last year. The machine can degrease valves up to a 16" 900 Globe Valve, making it suitable for a range of applications, including oxygen service.

YPS says the strategic investment in equipment is aimed at keeping the firm at the forefront of the valve industry.

'We are continually looking to improve efficiencies and enhance the range of services we offer our customers,' says Mrs Wormald.

In staff news, Matthew Hattersley has been promoted internally to Test Supervisor for hydro and special test facilities. The newly created role is aimed at improving current testing facilities. Meanwhile, Khahin Lee joins as a Sales Engineer. He has considerable industry experience and a detailed knowledge of the YPS product range, and will be responsible for developing the Far East market.



YPS Valves Ltd

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K Controls enables AS-interface® or DeviceNet™ to be taken into hazardous areas

ISO 9001 accredited valve control specialist K Controls has now obtained a variation to their Exd ATEX and IECEx certificates to enable AS-interface® or DeviceNet™ to be taken into areas where hazardous gasses or combustible dusts may be present.

The 007-120 valve position monitor also has provision to back wire one or two remote mounted solenoids. As is the case with all Exd equipment, Ex cable glands and armoured interconnecting cable have to be used and no live maintenance or calibration is permitted.



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K Controls
Tel: 01895 449 601
Email: sales@k-controls.co.uk

Saudi Aramco validates Severn Leeds' emergency butterfly valve sealant

An emergency butterfly valve sealant system developed by **Severn Glocon Group** company Severn Leeds has been validated by Saudi Aramco.

The Sealant Pressure Injection Reserve Endurance System (SPIRES®, patent pending) is a progressive technology that overcomes the challenge of resealing damaged valves without a cavity. It mitigates risk of leakage following damage to a butterfly valve's primary seal caused by abrasive particles. Saudi Aramco's validation testing provides assurance of its effectiveness prior to wider adoption.

SPIRES® involves the incorporation of an emergency sealant system as a fundamental design feature of butterfly valves. Should the primary seal fail, a secondary sealant is injected into a runner behind the disc to compensate for any seat leakage when the valve is set to 'closed' position. Tests showed that bubble-tight shut-off can be achieved, even if the seat is badly damaged, avoiding the need for unplanned downtime.

Mark Breese, Group Product Development Manager – Butterfly Valves at Severn Glocon Group, explains: 'This ground-breaking technology enables damaged butterfly valves to be resealed quickly and efficiently without removal from the line. Once the sealant is deployed, the valve can remain operational until the next period of scheduled maintenance.'



The Sealant Pressure Injection Reserve Endurance System from Severn Leeds

A report on the validation testing of SPIRES®, authored by Saudi Aramco's Omar Al Amri, appeared in the November issue of Hydrocarbon Engineering.

Technical innovation is a defining feature of Severn Glocon Group. The firm employs more than 800 people worldwide and was awarded the Queen's Award for Enterprise in International Trade for the second time in 2014.



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BVAA's Technical Hot Spot



BS EN 60079-1: 2014 published

BS EN 60079-1: 2014 'Explosive Atmospheres – Part 1: Equipment protection by flameproof enclosure "d"' was recently published by BSI.

Scope

This part of IEC 60079 contains specific requirements for the construction and testing of electrical equipment with the type of protection flameproof enclosure 'd', intended for use in explosive gas atmospheres.

This standard supplements and modifies the general requirements of IEC 60079-0. Where a requirement of this standard conflicts with a requirement of IEC 60079-0, the requirement of this standard will take precedence.

You can obtain copies of BS EN 60079-1 from BSI <http://shop.bsigroup.com/> or your regular standards outlet.

Functional safety - SIL workshop hosted by AUMA



AUMA's April 2015 workshop will assist anyone impacted by functional safety working in valve automation.

Functional safety, a key current topic in the process automation industry, will be addressed on 29 April 2015 at a workshop hosted by **AUMA** Riester GmbH & Co. KG at the company's Muellheim headquarters in Germany.

As one of the world's leading manufacturers of electric actuators, AUMA understands the comprehensive nature of functional safety, which extends from the DCS to the field level. Electric actuators play a key role in the field supporting automation processes and AUMA has made major investment into R&D for functional safety issues.

The workshop is designed to assist anyone working in valve automation that is impacted by functional safety

AUMA devices have been subjected to safety-related assessments to determine the required safety figures, and specialised SIL devices have also been developed. Additionally, the company's expert technical team is supported by personnel recruited to support the topic.

The workshop is designed to assist anyone working in valve automation that is impacted by functional safety. Subject matter will be tailored to update all audience members from service technicians and sales personnel through to project managers.

The workshop's main focus will be on the role of actuator/valve units in safety systems. In-depth knowledge of functional safety is not required. The workshop will be held in English.

For further information, please contact caroline.arnold@auma.com

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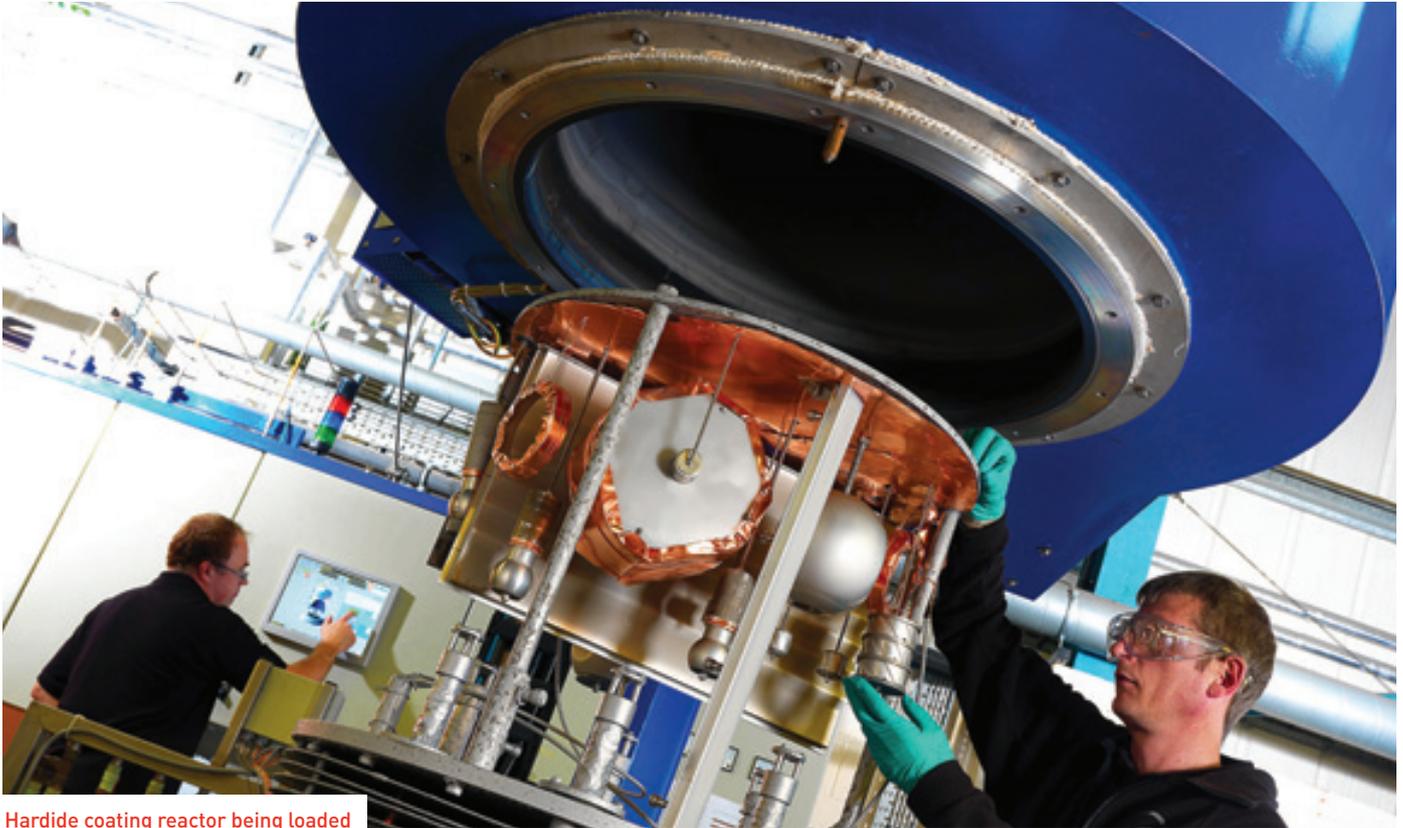
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Hardide Coatings installs third large reactor in UK in response to growing demand



Hardide coating reactor being loaded

Hardide Coatings, provider of advanced surface coating technology, has invested a six-figure sum in its UK manufacturing facility - increasing its installed capacity by nearly 50% to cope with growing demand for its range of nanostructured tungsten carbide coatings.

The installation of a third large capacity reactor is part of an investment programme which will also recruit up to three additional operations staff to meet increasing demand from existing and new customers at its plant in Bicester, Oxfordshire.

Hardide coatings provide a unique combination of features; they are extremely abrasion, erosion, corrosion and chemical resistant while at the same time being tough, ductile and impact resistant. Applied by low temperature chemical vapour deposition (CVD), they can coat internal surfaces and complex shapes and are ideal for highly toleranced parts.

Philip Kirkham, CEO of Hardide Coatings said: *'The installation of a third large capacity reactor at our plant in Bicester will enable us to increase production volumes while continuing with the development of new coating technologies and applications.'*

As industries move in to more challenging and harsher environments, there is an increasing need for technologies which protect and extend the life of equipment and our coatings are proven to solve difficult problems while delivering dramatic improvements in component life.'

Hardide coatings are also an excellent alternative to hard-chrome plating (HCP), which is under increasing restrictions due to its use of hexavalent chromium salts with a REACH 'sunset date' on their use of September 2017. This has seen the company involved in discussions with various OEMs within the aerospace industry to replace HCP and consider its use on other potential problem applications.

Hardide Coatings recently undertook its first application for a remotely operated vehicle (ROV) on behalf of Seatronics. Since using the coating on a critical part of the thruster system, the Predator ROV manufactured by Seatronics has increased in performance and power, with critical wear issues vastly reduced.



Hardide Coatings

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PLUG 'N' DISPLAY



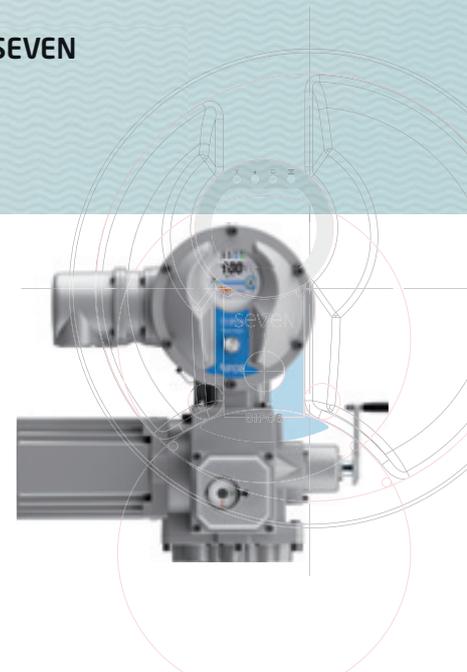
The easy to read display of the SIPOS SEVEN valve actuator makes power plant operation and maintenance much easier

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Partnership takes on the future of engineering



CAPTION: (From left to right) Paul Hudson, Prof. Kambiz Ebrahimi, Dr Antonios Pezouvanis, Evangelia Tsalgiakou, Chris Woodhead

Yorkshire-based hydraulic engineering firm, **Advanced Actuators** has partnered with the University of Bradford to take part in one of the UK's largest graduate recruitment schemes.

Yorkshire-based hydraulic engineering firm, Advanced Actuators has partnered with the University of Bradford to take part in one of the UK's largest graduate recruitment schemes.

Advanced Actuators, a leading manufacturer of electro-hydraulic and hydraulic actuators, showed its commitment to developing the future of hydraulic engineering by partnering with the University of Bradford on a Knowledge Transfer Partnership (KTP) to employ a graduate on a two year, part-funded government project.

KTP is a national programme supporting UK businesses to innovate and grow by partnering with UK universities and colleges to gain access to the technology, expertise and skills available.

Chosen graduate, Evangelia Tsalgiakou has been hired as a mechatronics development engineer to work on the design and prototyping of power generators for remote valve actuation. Evangelia said she is thrilled with the progress of the project and is enjoying her time working at Advanced Actuators.

'Advanced has provided my first step onto the career ladder and for that I am very thankful! It's a competitive world, and experience is vital,' she continued.

'innovation and research and development'

Chris Woodhead, managing director of Advanced Actuators, said: *'We are pleased with the results that have come from partnering with the University of Bradford. There was such a high calibre of graduates who applied for the project and I believe we can provide work place training which will advance their specialist skills. Recruitment schemes like KTPs are essential for the future of our industry.'*

He added: *'The partnership has also allowed us to develop our business by linking with academia. We have full access to the University's facilities and can tap into their knowledge by meeting with academics and testing their machinery.'*

Business partnerships manager at the University of Bradford, Melanie Powell, added: *'We were delighted when Chris approached us about our academic and research facilities. Their current project will last two years and there is funding in place for a second graduate to work for the company in 2015 for another two years.'*

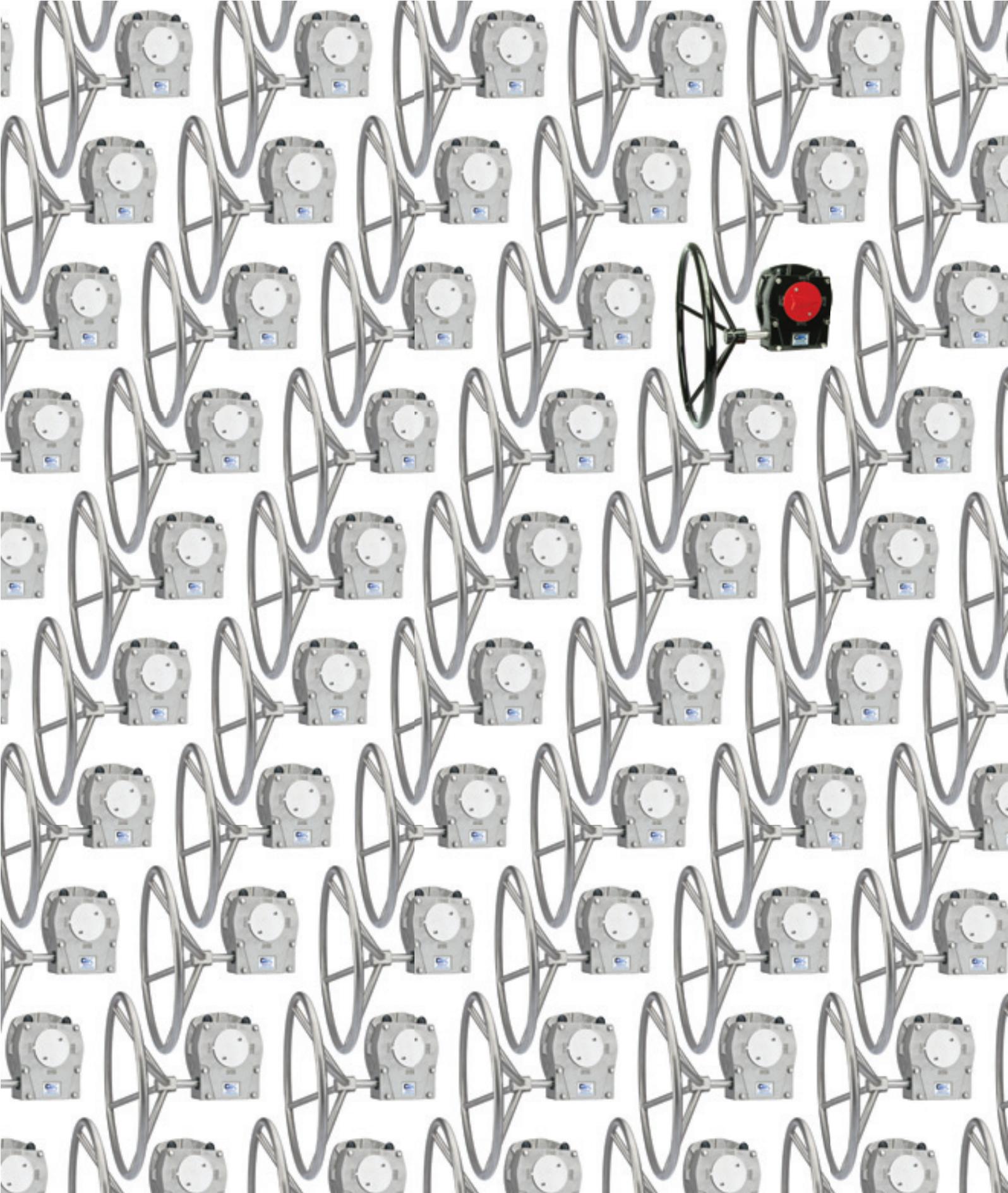
'Advanced Actuators has also worked with us through Yorkshire Innovation Fund projects. The company has run both small innovation and research and development projects at the University.'



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