

# **VALVE** *user*®

ISSUE SIX

## **Distribution**

- Delivering More

## **At Risk**

- Health & Safety



**British Valve & Actuator Association**



*Heaps  
More*



*Bill  
Whiteley  
Retires*



*Save £28k*



*CTI Expand*



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# The bigger picture



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# BVAA's 'award winning' Valve User magazine!



by BVAA Director,  
Rob Bartlett

We have a particularly interesting and wide range of articles and news items in this issue, plus of course all the latest updates on BVAA initiatives, services and activities. We also have a focus in this issue on Distribution, a vitally important but often unreported sector of the industry.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind our readers that Valve User is also intended to be your magazine, and to stress again that we welcome your views on all aspects of the industry via the 'Your VU' page.

My personal admiration this month goes to the IChemE's CEO, Dr David Brown, for speaking out on the excesses of the 'health and safety' culture, where real risks can be masked by trivia. Well done David! (see page 8).

## Do you have views on valve repair?

If so, BVAA would like to hear from you. BVAA launched a new Repair WG last month, and one of our aims is to try and establish the levels of satisfaction within users of both workshop and on-site repairs.

Given that some users are now seeking 'certified repairs', we would particularly like to know whether you feel some form of 'national standard' or scheme for valve repair and/or repair technicians would be desirable.

Our next meeting is scheduled for 9th September 2008 and we would be delighted to welcome users along or to receive their views. Contact rob@bvaa.org.uk



[www.bvaa.org.uk](http://www.bvaa.org.uk)

**Did You Know?**  
As well a printed copy, VALVE user magazine is also available as an email attachment, and as a download from BVAA's website, [www.bvaa.org.uk](http://www.bvaa.org.uk)

# BVAA Launch 'Business Shield' Service



On June 1st 2008 will launch a very important new service for BVAA members. Titled 'BVAA Business Shield', the new service is offered free of charge to all members of BVAA, and comprises three different but complimentary elements.

- The first is the Business Support Helpline - a telephone helpline to assist members with Tax, VAT, PAYE, Payroll, Employment & Personal, Health & Safety and Commercial Legal matters.
- The second is a related Commercial Legal Expenses Insurance.
- The final element is a dedicated web service entitled 'Coner-I', a comprehensive online service managed by Croners Consulting, providing HR and Health and Safety compliance information, sample forms and policies, key rates and data, etc.

BVAA Director Rob Bartlett commented "BVAA are one of the first associations in the UK to offer the full Croners package to our members, completely free of any additional charge. The BVAA secretariat's goal has been to constantly enhance the value of BVAA membership, and with so many of our members falling into the SME category, we recognise how incredibly useful this service will be to their management teams. Just one falling-foul of a HR or H&S issue can cripple a company, and our aim is to help shield our members from these risks so that they can focus on what they do best - servicing their customers."



Croner's Louise McGill and BVAA's Rob Bartlett sign contracts



Bill Whiteley with Peter France

## BVAA Chairman Bill Whiteley leaves Rotork after twelve years as Chief Executive Officer

The BVAA's new Chairman Bill Whiteley retired as the Chief Executive Officer of valve actuator manufacturer Rotork at the beginning of May. Bill's retirement was marked by the presentation of a specially commissioned crystal glass ornament featuring an embedded three-dimensional image of Rotork's market leading IQ electric actuator.

The presentation was made by Bill's successor Peter France in front of the Rotork workforce at the company's headquarters in Bath, where Bill first "signed on" in 1974. In 1977 he became the Financial Director of the newly created Actuation Division, beginning a succession of management responsibilities for Rotork's electric actuators that has been virtually continuous for 31 years. Between 1979 and 1987 Bill ran Rotork's operations in the USA before returning to the UK and becoming Managing Director of the Actuation Division. He was appointed Rotork Group Chief Executive Officer in 1996.

"My aim has been to capitalise on the opportunities and developments presented by the international valve actuation marketplaces" says Bill.

"In 1993 we launched the IQ - the world's first intelligent electric actuator with non-intrusive technology - which quickly became our flagship product. Our fluid power actuator business has also grown dramatically to become a world leading participant in this market. As the Managing Director of Rotork Fluid Systems my successor Peter France has played an inspirational role in this achievement. I have enormously enjoyed every aspect of my involvement with Rotork and feel privileged to have led it for the past twelve years. Rotork has always had a unique spirit which I feel confident under the talented leadership of Peter France will propel it to even greater success."



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## Still More New Members!

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



*Topworx: Sales Director Tony Stark receives his plaque.*

## Johnson Valves



*GJ Johnson: Johnson Valves MD Stuart Robertson receives his BVAA Member plaque from BVAA Director Rob Bartlett.*



**D&D**  
INTERNATIONAL  
VALVES

*D&D International: Jeremy Tattersall and Rob Bartlett outside D&D's impressive new facility at Bury St Edmunds.*



## BVAA 'Mad Hatters'

'How far can you go wearing a BVAA hat?'

**Back in time now it would appear!** This issue's competition is one for car enthusiast. VU reader Jerry Hughes is photographed – with hat – on the cancer charity fundraiser, the 'Regis Classic Tour' of Cornwall. There's £50 to the charity of your choice if you can identify, precisely, the make and model of the vintage car featured above. For the petrol-heads, there may even be a bonus if you can correctly identify the year of manufacture. Answers or free cap requests to [rob@bvaa.org.uk](mailto:rob@bvaa.org.uk)



### Calais

It looks like readers were stumped by the competition in Issue 5. BVAA Director Rob Bartlett was photographed in Calais! The neo-Flemish town hall of Calais was built for the occasion of the merging of the cities of Calais and Saint-Pierre in 1885 and the unique belfry is said to contain one of the most beautiful chimes in the north of France.





## 'Jobsworths' are Putting Lives at Risk

IChemE's CEO Dr David Brown



That's the view of Dr David Brown, Chief Executive at the Institution of Chemical Engineers (IChemE). He says that lives are being put at risk by 'jobsworths and killjoys' who hide behind health and safety legislation.

Speaking at the IChemE's recent Hazards XX conference in Manchester, Dr Brown said this misguided approach could result in health and safety professionals who highlight real hazards being dismissed as 'crying wolf' and added that repeated misrepresentation of Health and Safety rules encourages 'jobsworths and killjoys'.

Citing examples including the banning of Christmas lights and practical science in school classrooms, Dr Brown called on engineers to fight back against nonsensical interpretations of 'Health and Safety' law and insisted that safety management must be based on an understanding of real risks – not trivia.

"Should the misreading of Health and Safety law continue, there is a 'real danger' that when a genuine

hazard arises, those who draw attention to it will be ignored, putting lives at risk as a result," said Dr Brown.

"Engineers should protest loud, long and often against the abuse of health and safety by the jobsworth and the killjoy. The profession must reclaim balanced and rational safety management, based on engineering common sense."

Dr Brown highlighted the role of chemical engineers as professionals with the skills to interpret safety legislation with common sense and stressed that it was not the regulators or legislators who should be blamed, rather the people who repeatedly use the mantra 'health and safety says No!' as an excuse.

**NOTE:** Over 300 international chemical engineers and safety experts attended the Hazards XX conference in Manchester, UK, a biennial event organised by the Institution's UK north-west member group. For more information visit [www.icheme.org/hazardsxx](http://www.icheme.org/hazardsxx)

## Hydrogen Update

In our last issue Prof Keith Guy of the IChemE commented upon whether a hydrogen economy could ever become a reality. Well, that reality looked another step closer last week, following the installation by the University of Birmingham of what they claimed was the first hydrogen

gas fuelling station in England. The station has been installed to help facilitate research into the viability of hydrogen in transport. Furthermore the Chemical Engineering Dept has taken delivery of five hydrogen-powered vehicles as part of their hydrogen energy project which has receive Regional Development funding from Advantage West Midlands.

Prog Guy commented in Valve User last time that "Valves for hydrogen service will have to be reliable, intrinsically safe and 'idiot proof'." It appears that a mass-market for such valves might soon be a possibility.



# Grangemouth strike highlights chemical engineering importance

The industrial dispute at Scotland's only oil refinery has highlighted the crucial role played by chemical engineers in maintaining the 'day-to-day normality of life' according to Andy Furlong, Director of Policy at the Institution of Chemical Engineers (IChemE).

Furlong says that the often 'unseen' efforts of chemical engineers play a vital part in the UK economy and deserve greater recognition: "Chemical engineers can be found meeting challenges head-on, whether it's supplying energy, clean water or healthcare products. It's easy to take this fact for granted; until some kind of disruption occurs as the Grangemouth dispute demonstrates

*when suddenly, the absence of chemical engineering becomes headline news."*

Around 1,200 staff at Scotland's only oil refinery were on strike recently, closing BP's key Forties oil pipeline, which provides 30% of the UK's daily oil output from the North Sea.

Furlong's comments come on the back of a MORI survey revealing two-thirds of British citizens had either 'no idea' or 'only a vague idea' of what chemical engineering means, and only 1 in 3 adults under 35-years-old consider it to be important to the UK economy.

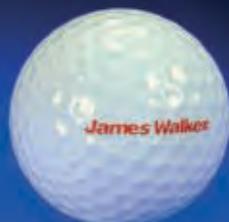


*"A better understanding of chemical engineering will encourage more investment and more young people to consider it as a university degree course and career. A better appreciation of the role played by chemical engineers will perhaps be one of the important lessons learned from this strike,"* said Furlong.

Source: IChemE

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## Golf balls to valve emissions



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Rotork's Shelley Pike

## Rotork appoints new Sales Manager for Network Systems

Rotork's Pakscan and open network systems activity has been strengthened by the appointment of Chartered Engineer Shelley Pike as Systems Sales Manager. Shelley is now responsible for supporting and guiding Rotork customers on the best choice of network system for their valve actuation applications and sales support for the Rotork network product range. In addition, Shelley will be actively involved in the definition of Rotork's future networks strategies.

Shelley joined Rotork on a four year electronic engineering apprenticeship in 1988, following which she successfully achieved a first class honours degree in Electronic Engineering at the University of Plymouth in 1995. After a year in Quality Control she joined the Electronics Department where she became a Senior Electronics Engineer. During this time Shelley's main activities involved the development of Rotork's network products, starting with Profibus in 1998.

When not busy with Rotork's network management duties, Shelley relaxes in another management role – looking after a motorcycle endurance racing team. Using Shelley's own 600cc Yamaha machine, her team won its class in the 2007 British Championships.

Shelley takes up her new duties at an exciting time for Rotork's network products. Sales of Pakscan doubled in 2007 following the launch of the P3 master station whilst new developments, including wireless technologies, promise to further extend the options available to Rotork's network customers in the future.

**Rotork, Tel: 01225 733 200**



## Shipham Valves acquires the Advanced Valve Technologies composite valve product range

Flow Group Limited are pleased to announce the acquisition by their Shipham Valves division of the intellectual property, trading name, and assets of Advanced Valve Technologies from receivers Abbott Fielding.

Over the last 10 years AVT have been developing and manufacturing a range of ball and butterfly valves manufactured from Glass Reinforced Epoxy (GRE). These valves offer outstanding internal and external corrosion resistance and up to 60% weight saving over metal equivalents.

AVT went into receivership in early February after hitting financial difficulties. By beating off competition from the USA to acquire these assets and keep this technology within the UK, Shipham Valves are demonstrating their commitment to maintaining their position as the world leaders in the manufacture and supply of valves for seawater service. The AVT product range will serve as an exciting add-on to Shipham's existing product range for the oil & gas, petrochemical and naval marine markets.

Flow Group Managing Director, John Wall, said "The composite product, whilst having limitations in terms of size range and class rating, does have applications within seawater, HVAC, and hazardous services, and as such complements the existing Shipham product range, which is already the most

Over the last three years, Flow Group sales have been growing at a compound annual rate of 30% to \$60M in 2007, with exports outside the UK accounting for a staggering 85% of sales.

This further acquisition should help to continue this impressive performance.

For more information on the Flow Group visit [www.flowgroup.co.uk](http://www.flowgroup.co.uk)



# ISO Standards

**BVAA's Peter Churm reports on the recent meeting in New Orleans of the ISO/TC153/SC1 sub-committee covering 'Valves – Design, manufacture, marking and testing'**

This latest meeting was also attended by experts from the USA, Canada, Netherlands, France, Italy and China. The

results of 2007 Systematic Reviews of existing standards were discussed and these reviews confirmed the continued use of the following:

- ISO 5752: 1982 "Metal valves for use in flanged pipe systems – Face to face and centre to face dimensions"
- ISO 6002: 1992 "Bolted bonnet steel gate valves"
- ISO 17292: 2004 "Metal ball valves for petroleum, petrochemical and allied industries"

The following standards will be submitted for Systematic Review by January 2009:

- ISO 5209: 1977 "General purpose industrial valves - Marking"
- ISO 7259: 1988 "Predominantly key-operated cast iron gate valves for underground use"

*diverse of any single manufacturer in the world considering size, material and type."*

AVT products, which have significant approvals and accreditations, are already in service in a wide range of applications including British Royal Navy vessels, chemical plants and offshore platforms and FPSO's, very often in applications where the pipework is also made from GRE.

The AVT range of composite valves will now be offered by Shiphams Valves as an extension to their product range. Due to the AVT business having briefly ceased trading, there will inevitably be some interruption in supply. However, through retaining the key relevant technical expertise from AVT, Shiphams Valves will be making the AVT range available as soon as is practically possible after transfer to the Shiphams site in Hull.

For more information on the AVT composite range, visit [www.advalve.com](http://www.advalve.com) or contact Shiphams Valves email: [avt@shiphams-valves.com](mailto:avt@shiphams-valves.com), phone: +44 1482 383336 or fax: +44 1482 383337.

**Revision of ISO/CD 10434** "Bolted bonnet steel gate valves for the petroleum, petrochemical and allied industries"

After much discussion it was decided not to submit the draft to DIS (Draft International Standard) enquiry temporarily. WG1 is to hold a meeting to continue to evaluate comments received on the CD (Committee Draft) and to evaluate the impact of the revised API 600 standard.

**Revision of ISO/CD 15761** "Steel gate, globe and check valves for sizes DN 100 and smaller, for the petroleum and natural gas industries"

It was also decided not to send this to DIS stage temporarily, in order that the impact of API 602 be considered.

The delay in submitting ISO/CD 10434 and ISO/CD 15761 for DIS was due to the deliberate consultation with API on their related standards - a significant development, worthy of note.

**Revision of ISO/DIS 10497** "Testing of valves - Fire type-testing requirements"

Two issues were identified. A modification to the introduction was proposed to make reference to the acceptability of previously fire tested certification for valves. Some concerns over safety related issues with procedure were also raised and discussions will continue.

**ISO 5752: 1982** "Metal valves for use in flanged pipe systems"

Although a Systematic Review of this standard originally proposed confirmation, the meeting was advised of a proposal to extend the standard to include a larger range of class designated valves and sizes, to include BWE dimensions using EN 558: 2008 and ANSI B16.10: 2000.

**ISO/WD 2891** "Industrial Valves – isolating valves for low temperature application"

This Working Draft (WD) had been issued for review and comment. Some specific key areas were reviewed during the meeting and a revised draft ISO/WD 2891 will be issued.

This particular ISO committee covers many more standards than are covered in this report. If you are affected by these, or would like to become involved in the development of valve and actuator standards, please contact BVAA, where we would welcome your involvement.

# spirax sarco

can save you  
£10,000



A flash steam recovery system from Spirax Sarco is helping Leighton Hospital in Crewe, UK, reduce its carbon emissions by around 95 tonnes a year, cutting fuel bills by over £10,000.

The skid-mounted system is fitted on the condensate return from the hospital laundry. Around 1,500 kg/h of condensate heads back to the boiler room from the laundry, but an estimated 14% of this was previously vented to atmosphere as flash steam. The new recovery unit retains all this useful energy within the system and uses the flash steam to pre-heat the feed water for the laundry boiler. The feed water used to pass directly from the hot well to the boiler at around 80°C, the

flash steam now heats it under pressure to between 120 and 140°C – a rise of over 40°C.

*“When we first calculated the potential savings, they worked out at over £17,000 a year,” says Adam Lane, Energy Engineer at Leighton Hospital. “As gas prices have fallen they’re more like £10,000, but that doesn’t alter the amount we’ve managed to cut our emissions by. We’re also reducing the amount of make-up water and dosing chemicals we need.”*

The condensate from the laundry passes first through a flash separation vessel. Steam leaves the top of the vessel and passes through a plate heat exchanger, where it heats the feed water and condenses. Meanwhile, the condensate from the bottom of the flash vessel passes through a second plate heat exchanger, where it also heats the feed water. The heated feed water only enters the boiler once it has been through both exchangers. The original condensate and the condensed flash steam are then recombined before returning to the hot well.

Spirax Sarco engineered systems are supplied skid-mounted and pre-commissioned, which enables straightforward specification, easy installation and they only use a small amount of floor space.

## How about £28,000 in potential energy savings?

Each Spirax Sarco steam trap survey is revealing potential annual energy savings of £28,400 on average. Even more remarkable, the average payback time on each survey, including the cost of replacement products and their installation, is about two months, when all remedial work is done.

The figures come from an analysis of the first 50 Spirax Sarco steam trap surveys complete in 2007, which together have highlighted annual savings of just over £1.4 million.

- Save energy, cut CO2 emissions
- Save water and treatment chemicals
- Cut downtime, boost productivity
- Focus maintenance resources

Typical problems uncovered by steam trap surveys include:

- Incorrect installation
- Wrong trap type installed
- Worn valves
- Damaged mechanisms
- Leaking unions

What Spirax Sarco customers have said:-

*“We have significantly improved our maintenance of the system by building in checks such as conducting a trap survey every three to six months.”* Mr. Phillip Bell, Engineering and Systems Manager, Cova Products, Cramlington, Northumberland.

*“We decided to have a full survey in light of our commitment to energy efficiencies and improvements. We decided to buy in the necessary steam system expertise by calling in Spirax Sarco.”* Site Environmental Compliance Manager, Heinz, Wigan.

Spirax Sarco, Tel: 01242 521361

# TA-Luft tests for BP Gelsenkirchen give top rating to Supagraf® Premier valve packing

**Gas emissions at 240°C would not fill a golf ball in a year!**

Supagraf® Premier, James Walker's world-leading compression packing, has beaten TA-Luft VDI 2440 emission control requirements by a significant margin to gain an outstanding rating in independent tests carried out at the Amtec laboratory in Germany. Recorded gas emission levels in tests at 240°C and 400°C respectively would not fill a golf ball or tennis ball in a year.

The tests on a set of 56mm OD Supagraf Premier rings were undertaken for BP Refining & Petrochemicals, which operates the Ruhr Oel Gelsenkirchen refinery in Germany. It needed to know the sealing efficiency of graphite valve packings from several suppliers in order to comply with the European Union's IPPC pollution prevention and control directive.

Targets of the investigation were to confirm TA-Luft leakage rates less than 10-4 mbar.l/(s.m) at sealing system temperatures below 250°C, and less than 10-2 mbar.l/(s.m) at above 250°C. The test cycle involved 1000 vertical valve stem movements of 40mm — without live-loading on the packing — whilst sealing helium at 25 bar for 24 hours.

Leakage measurements after 24 hours at 240°C showed  $7.0 \times 10^{-6}$  mbar.l/(s.m).

"You can visualise this as less gas than will fill a golf ball in a year, measured at ambient pressure", explained James Walker business development manager Brian Milford. "It also demonstrates that Supagraf Premier very easily surpasses TA-Luft requirements for a high grade valve packing."

After 24 hours at 400°C, the leakage rate was  $2.3 \times 10^{-5}$  mbar.l/(s.m).

Said Brian Milford: "This rate is exceptionally better than TA-Luft requirements for duties above 250°C. A year of emissions at this level would not even fill a tennis ball."



TA-Luft tests at 240°C for BP Gelsenkirchen in Germany show that a year's gas leakage past a set of Supagraf® Premier valve packing rings would not even fill a golf ball.

## History of success

Supagraf Premier has a 10 year record of beating fugitive emission control specifications. In 1997 it was subjected to over 12,000 valve operating cycles with methane at 40bar and kept emission levels below 500ppm.

In 1999, it came top of its class in comparative tests run by the Materials Technology Centre of Akzo Nobel. Leakage rates were between six and 100 times less than competitor's brands — and it lasted 12 times longer than the next best valve packing.

Since then it has twice been certified to TA-Luft requirements — by different customers — and third-party verified for emission control by CETIM to Shell SPE 77/321 Class A specification.

James Walker & Co Ltd is a member of the James Walker Group. This global manufacturing group, with an annual turnover in excess of £125-million (180-million), operates through two strategic business units: Sealing Products & Services, and Rail Systems & Products. It has 50 production, engineering, distribution and customer support sites worldwide and sells in over 100 countries.

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## Bestobell LNG highly commended in major international award

UK-based cryogenic valve manufacturer Bestobell LNG was highly commended for its contribution to innovation in ship operations at the Seatrade Awards on Monday 21st April, during a lavish ceremony at London's Guildhall.

Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal presented the Seatrade Awards, the leading scheme for recognition of achievement and innovation within the international maritime community. It seeks to promote excellence in maritime standards, and to reward outstanding contribution to safety at sea and protection of the marine environment.

Bestobell LNG was highly commended for its innovative Float Level Isolation Valve (FLIV), which overcomes a number of safety and operational problems experienced with traditional gate valves used on the cryogenic storage tanks on LNG cargo carriers.

Bestobell LNG Director Andy Brown said, 'Given that we supply equipment to just the LNG carriers, it is a real honour to have reached the final three of this prestigious award which relates to the whole maritime industry. It recognises the extensive research that has gone into the development of the FLIV.

'This product has revolutionised safety and efficiency on Liquefied Natural Gas carriers by completely eliminating the risk of cutting the tape of the secondary float level gauge fitted to each storage tank, and the enormous costs and disruption of recovering the float



Seatrade Award Winners

from the tank. It is also much simpler to operate than the previous solution, and only requires one man operation instead of two to take a level reading.

'The commercial success of the FLIV suggests the judges were right to shortlist such a specialist product since Bestobell launched the FLIV at Gastech 2006, it has already received orders to supply the product to 37 new build LNGCs and shortly expects to receive the first orders for retrofit to the existing fleet.

The ceremony, which marked the 20th anniversary of the Seatrade Awards, was attended by over 350 members of the international maritime community. The judging panel of leading industry personalities was chaired by the International Maritime Organisations Secretary-General Efthimios Mitropoulos.

Bestobell LNG is a division of Flow Group Limited, which also includes Conflow, and BVAA members Shipham Valves, Bestobell Valves, Leeds Valve and John Mills Valves. For more information visit [www.bestobell-lng.com](http://www.bestobell-lng.com) or [www.flowgroup.co.uk](http://www.flowgroup.co.uk)

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## BEL VALVES

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

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

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

### BEL Valves

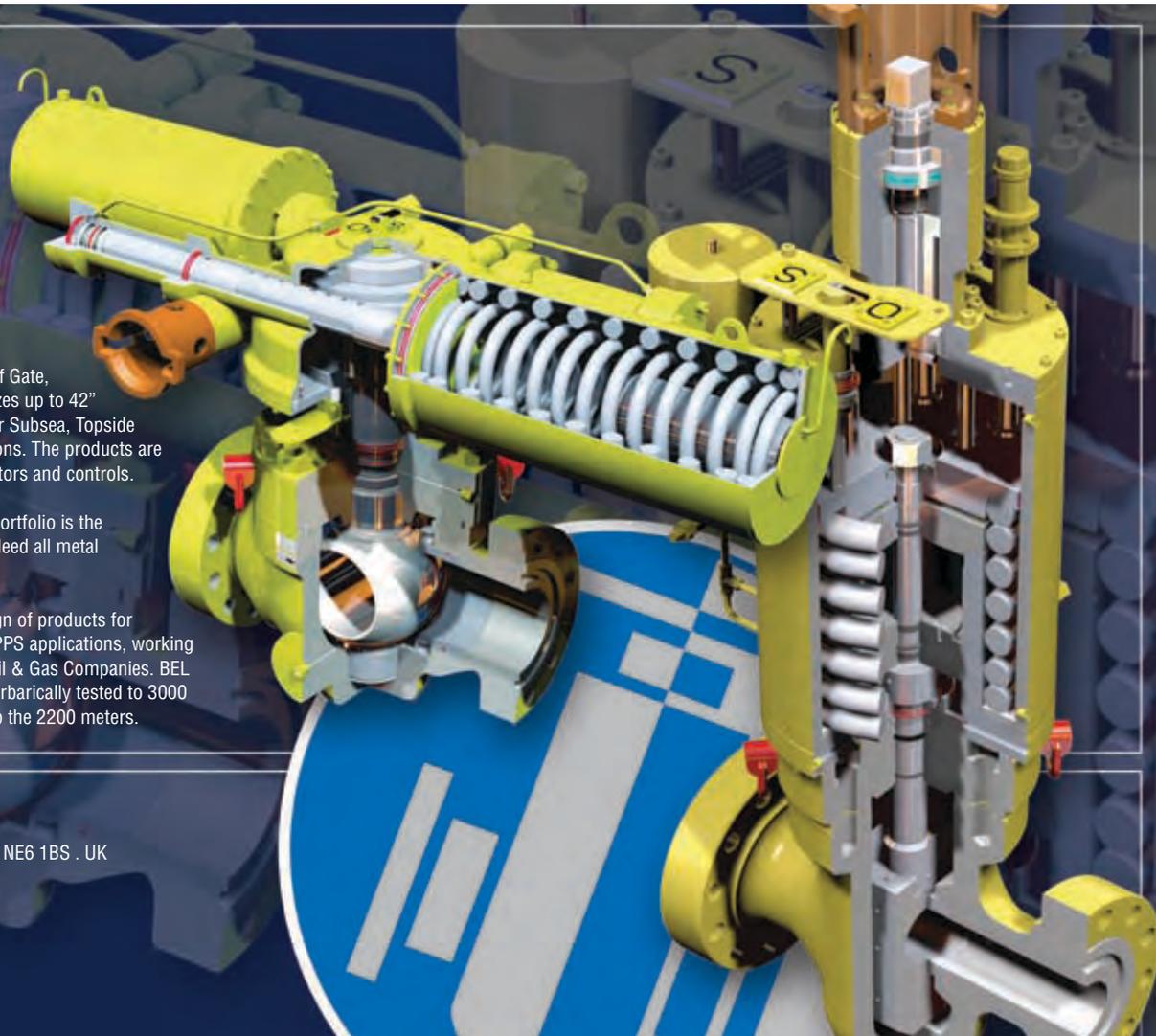
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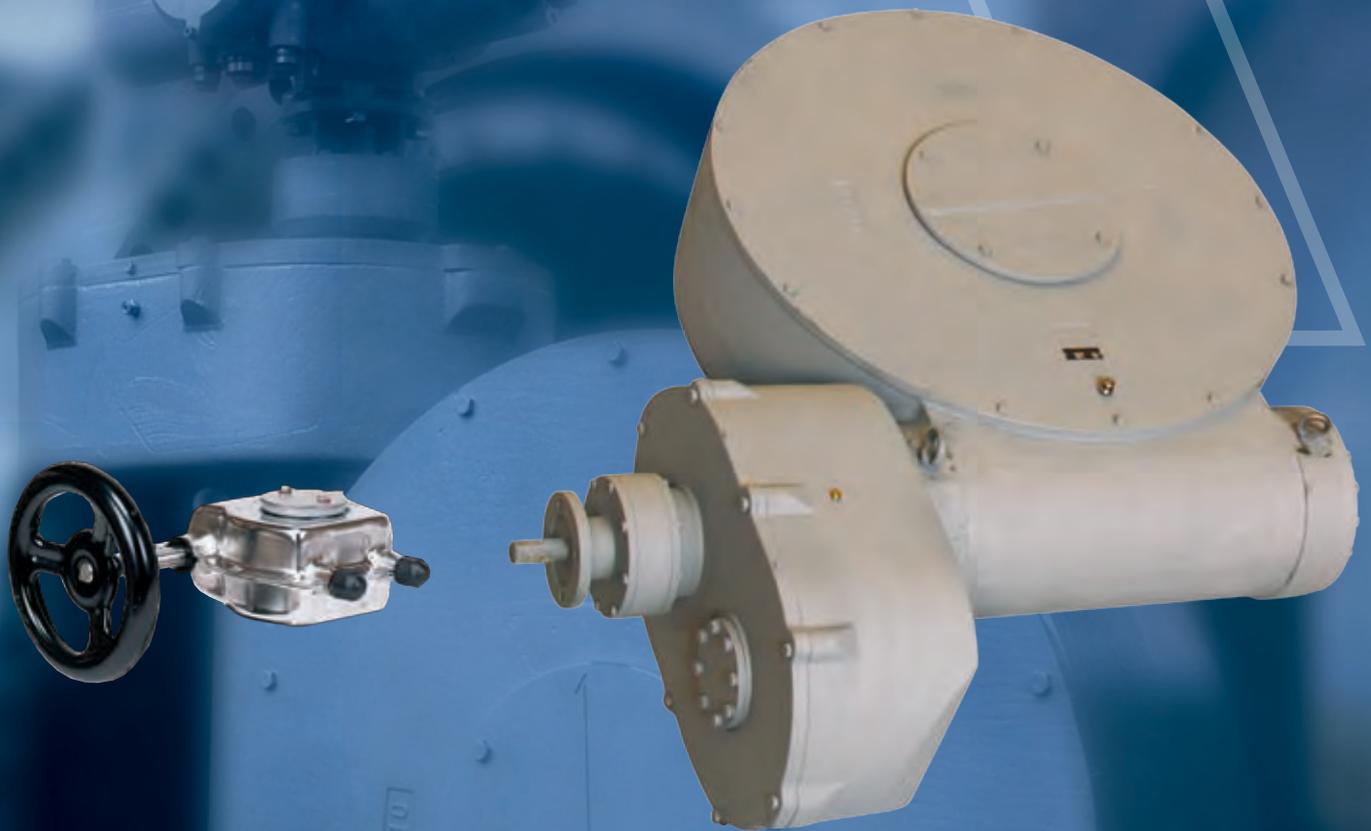
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# Flowserve Expands Valtek ShearStream Family

## Now Includes Both Standard and High-Performance Ball Control Valve Applications

Flowserve Corporation, a leading global provider of fluid motion and control products and services, has introduced the Valtek ShearStream SB segmented v-port type ball control valve, as well as the newly upgraded ShearStream HP with heavy-duty seat.

With these product introductions, Flowserve continues its commitment to providing superior technology in rotary control valve products. The broader family of Flowserve ball control valves offers the exceptional control, reliable engineering, and excellent support that are needed for demanding applications in the chemical, oil and gas, pulp and paper and power industries.

The new ShearStream SB control valve is the standard choice for segmented v-port ball control valve applications. Standardized designs provide the most cost competitive ShearStream solution in a rugged design.

### *The ShearStream SB offers:*

- Standard metal and soft seat options that provide tight shutoff for ANSI Class 150 and Class 300 service.
- V-ring stem packing with a combination of virgin PTFE and carbon-filled PTFE is the standard configuration for long-lasting, fugitive emission-tested, sealing protection.
- Turnex high-performance actuator. The actuator is direct mounted for better control and fewer parts, and has a double-acting piston and precision linkage connection for accurate control and high-torque output.

The ShearStream HP design offers a broader array of options, which allows for higher temperatures, higher pressures, unique materials, and special designs. The HP is newly upgraded with a heavy-duty seat option. For applications with high-pressure drops, the heavy-duty seat provides tight shutoff and reliability. The heavy-duty seat is available in metal (Class IV) and resilient UHMWPE (Class VI) seal materials.

### *The ShearStream HP offers the following options:*

- Several fugitive emission packing combinations.
- 300 to 1 rangeability
- ANSI Classes 150 to 600.
- Stainless steel, carbon steel, most cast alloys.
- One to four-inch sizes in heavy-duty metal seating.
- One to 12-inch sizes in heavy-duty soft seating.

For more information on the Valtek ShearStream family of products, or to request a brochure, contact Cris Sidwell at [csidwell@flowserve.com](mailto:csidwell@flowserve.com), or Jim Isaksson at [jisaksson@flowserve.com](mailto:jisaksson@flowserve.com).



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# NELES - THE VALUE OF SAFETY VALVES

Safety valves are used to protect processes, personnel and the environment against process disruption. Such valves are operated only in trip situations, but when they are required to operate, it is essential that they ensure that the valve is switched to the safety position. However, because these shutdown valves are rarely cycled, there is always concern over whether they will operate when actually needed.

*Safety valves are the most important components in the safety loop operating in very difficult environmental conditions.*

- Bespoke Control Systems
- Clean Build For Specialist Processes
- Condensate Return Sets
- Consultancy
- Extended Spindles
- Flow Test Rig
- Hindle Ball Valves
- Hytork Pneumatic Actuators
- 3M Flex Expansion Joints
- Kinetrol Pneumatic Actuators
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- Parker Nitrogen Generators
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- Stock Management
- Tomoe Butterfly Valves
- Tritac Triple Offset Valves
- TW Metals Instrument Tube
- Valve Actuation Packages
- Valve Safety Interlocking
- Wade Instrumentation



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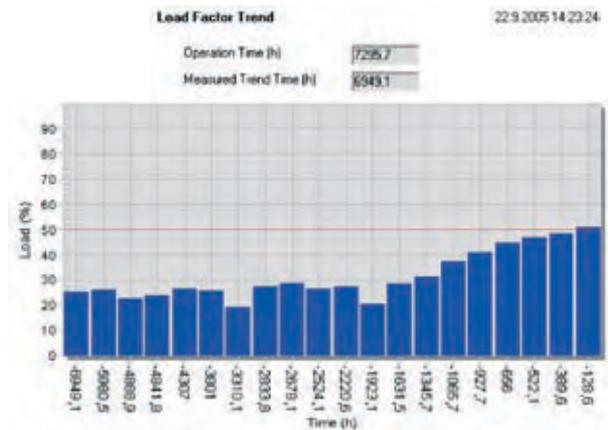
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The only source of knowledge is experience

# Introduction Of On-Line PST And Its Advantages

Partial stroke testing is technology whereby the emergency isolation valve is moved only slightly, so that it does not disturb the protected process, yet the movement is sufficient to detect the most critical problems with the emergency valve. When PST is carried out using an intelligent emergency valve controller, the test results can be analysed automatically after test implementation.

Partial stroke testing allows more frequent valve stroking without disturbing the process. In this way, the required SIL level for Safety Instrumented Functionality (SIF) can be maintained for longer periods. PST is designed to detect random hardware failures related to the final element. Detection is based typically on the change in valve dynamics, which can be seen when the latest PST results are compared to historical data. For example, Neles ValvGuard measures the breakaway pressure and load factor from PST and is one method of doing a historical comparison using an easily interpretable graph. Breakaway pressure indicates the pressure measurement level at which the valve starts to move during a valve test. Information can be used to analyse valve load changes.



Breakaway pressure measurement comparison

## Future Trends

One clear future trend seems to be the use of fieldbuses. FOUNDATION fieldbus and Profibus organisations are the most active in this area and are enlarging their specifications to cover Safety Instrumented Functionality. The reasoning is clear. Fieldbuses are used more often and have proved the technology.

New upstream processes are making more use of Fieldbus technology mainly because it reduces hardware, wiring and engineering costs and improves the asset management integration of final elements into the host system. Traditionally, on installation all control valves have fully supported Fieldbus communication technology, but emergency valve controllers are integrated into the asset management systems through HART communication, using separate communication hardware.

FOUNDATION-based emergency valve controllers would give much faster response times for the status information and easier integration of higher-tier diagnostic information into the host system, when compared to the parallel HART network. This would improve the cost efficiency of the project when additional communication hardware is not

required. At the same time, operation of the device is much easier for the end-user.

### Conclusions

The use of intelligent functions with safety valve controllers has created considerable interest in the recent past. Nowadays, automatic PST implementation is seen more often as a serious possibility, rather than as a possible source of spurious trips. Furthermore, the analysis results of PST implementation are being widely used as a part of the maintenance program. This trend raises the need for easier field-device integration up to control system level and expectations now lie in the wider use of fieldbus technology.



Metso Automation, Tel: 0870 606 1478

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# Australia's 'Droughtbuster' scheme chooses Rotork



**Water is front page news in Australia as it has become obvious that drought, climate change, population and consumption growth have combined to make the country's future water security a major social, environmental and political issue.**

The Northern Pipeline Interconnector is a key part of the Queensland state government's emergency drought strategy and will play an important role in the area's water distribution grid to connect dams, weirs and other water storage sites.

Australian valvemaker John Valves has been awarded one of the largest contracts on the project including the supply of fourteen 1000mm high pressure mainline gate valves. Manufactured at Ballarat, all are either motorised with Rotork IQ70/IB12 actuator and gearbox combinations or fitted with Rotork Gears IS11 / AS5 'dual input' manual gearboxes.

Jeff Quarrell, National Sales and Operations Manager for the valve division, describes the mainline valves as: *"arguably the most important in the pipeline structure. Rotork actuators have a long and successful track record for reliable, low maintenance service in the harsh extremes of the Australian climate. We especially like the speed and efficiency of 'non-intrusive' commissioning provided by the Rotork IQ, together with the ability to download and analyse valve operating data to minimise routine maintenance. These were all important considerations for us and the customer when we put together our total valve package for this project, which was won against stiff competition from other Australian and international companies."*

The Northern Pipeline Interconnector is being constructed by the Southern Regional Water Pipeline Alliance, a joint venture between Abigroup, KBR and McConnell Dowell Constructions. With the potential capacity to transport 65 million litres of potable water a day, the pipeline will link existing and potential future water sources throughout Australia's Sunshine Coast.

**Rotork Controls, Tel: +44 1225 733200**

## Need safety or isolation valves? Think Curtiss-Wright

**S**olent & Pratt is a manufacturer of high-performance and triple offset butterfly valves. Founded in 1961 Solent & Pratt has been a leader in the design, development, and manufacture of high-performance and triple offset butterfly valves specialising in exotic materials, high-pressure classes and larger diameters.

These valves are used in severe service operations in the oil and gas, petrochemical, power and utility industries.

### Butterfly valve product scope

The standard scope of the product encompasses sizes from 2" (50mm) through 84" (2200mm) with flange ratings from ANSI 150# class through ANSI 2500 # class with larger sizes manufactured to customer specifications. Flange standards available include ANSI, API, BS, PN and ISO. A full range of materials of construction are available, which include bronze, monel, titanium, zirconium, and aluminum-bronze.

The product design includes Double and Triple Offset with field removable zero leakage metal to metal and resilient seat

and seals. A recent addition to the product line is a Triple Offset, Metal to Metal Twin Seal design, which offers a double seal with cavity and drain. All models can be fitted with levers, gearboxes or actuators.

### Farris Engineering product scope

Farris Engineering is one of the world's leaders in the design and manufacture of pressure relief valves. We produce a complete line of valves in a variety of sizes, materials, pressure and temperature ranges. Our current product line ranges from small 1/2" valves with screwed connections to large flange types with up to 20" inlets. These valves have pressure ranges from 2 PSIG up to 10,000 PSIG depending on the valve size and design.

Our standard product line includes valves made from carbon steel, stainless steel, monel and hastelloy C. As previously mentioned, we manufacture both spring loaded and pilot operated valves. All of these valves are built in conformance to either A.S.M.E. Code Section VIII which covers unfired pressure vessels or A.S.M.E.

Code Section I covering power boilers. In addition to these listed materials, we also design and modify valves to meet specific customer requirements of design and material. As an example, we have built valves made from titanium and zirconium.

Farris Engineering has established a global network of independent assembly, repair and service centres to support the owner and user of Farris Valves. These companies maintain an inventory of new valves, and exchange product via our Web-based Assembler Exchange Program which gives access to, and exchange of inventory, on a 24/7 global basis. These assemblers have the authority to apply the National Board of Boiler and Pressure Vessel Inspectors V and UV stamp for assembly and VR stamp for repair of pressure relief valves. In addition we have factory-trained independent organisations as recognised repair centres. These organisations give us the ability to provide total after sales support of our products as well as to provide customers with local factory approved source of valves for quick delivery.

When ordering from Farris Engineering, you can trust that our expertise, history and extensive product line will be placed at your service to fulfill our mission: to provide innovative process system solutions. ●

# CURTISS WRIGHT Flow Control Corporation



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Solent & Pratt manufactures high performance and triple offset butterfly valves.  
[www.solentpratt.com](http://www.solentpratt.com)



**Farris**

Farris Engineering designs and produces a wide range of spring loaded and pilot operated pressure relief valves and steam safety valves.  
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# Cti Builds on Success

Castings Technology International (Cti) has announced plans for further expansion on the Advanced Manufacturing Park (AMP) in South Yorkshire – two years after relocating its headquarters to the Park.

Construction has commenced on a 40,000 sq.ft. building adjacent to the existing headquarters building. Three acres of land have been purchased as part of a £4.7 million project that will increase the workspace occupied by Cti on the AMP to 90,000 sq.ft.

Cti provides research and development, product and market development, and consultancy services in the field of metal castings to all market sectors. The new facility will house additional R&D equipment, production-scale 'technology demonstrators' and a major investment in state-of-the-art facilities for integrity assessment and product certification to the most exacting standards.

The expansion has been made possible through further finance from NatWest Bank, the sale of Cti's existing East Bank Road site in Sheffield, and support for capital equipment from Objective 1 European Regional Development Funds and Yorkshire Forward. This latest project will bring Cti's total capital investment on the AMP to just over £15m.

Cti's Chief Executive, Mike Ashton, said: *"The confidence to undertake another major investment on the AMP so soon reflects the success we've achieved in recent years and especially since we moved onto the Park. We're at the end of a five year Business Plan in which we have met, or bettered, the projections in terms of revenues and profit, achieving an average compound revenue growth of 11%, and projections for the next three years envisage further growth of more than 42%, requiring the recruitment of 30 additional people. This will ensure a sustainable future for Cti as one of the world's leading centres for research, technology and services relevant to casting supply chains and new markets"*.

Castings Technology International,  
Tel: +44 (0)114 254 1144,  
[www.castingstechnology.com](http://www.castingstechnology.com)

## BVAA Valve WG at BHR

BVAA's Valve Working Group met recently at BHR Group's facility in Cranfield. As well as the usual standards and Directives discussions, members received a presentation on the various routes to funding research. Members were given a tour of BHR's test and research facilities by Commercial Director Mike Butcher, and were also able to bid a fond farewell to committee member Peter Burnett of Weir Valves & Controls, who has moved on secondment to Dubai.



BHR Commercial Director Mike Butcher demonstrating reciprocating seal tests.



BVAA members view CTI's already impressive facilities

# ASCO NUMATICS Announces Series 298-398

## Process Valves for use in Aggressive Processes

ASCO NUMATICS introduces the Series 298-398 process valve, a new range of robust, piston operated valves for steam, superheated water, hot and cold liquids and inert gases. Available for use on positive pressure or vacuum service, the new range of valves has been designed to withstand the most aggressive of manufacturing processes.

With its innovative technology and stainless steel body, the compact and robust Series 298-398 valve offers exceptional reliability in the most challenging environments. Applications include the manufacture of tyres and rubber vulcanisation machines, and industrial processes including industrial autoclaves, foundries, heat exchangers, dyeing machines, laundry, food and beverage, chemical processing and pulp and paper. An ATEX 94/9/EC version is also available for use in potentially explosive atmospheres, categories 2 GD and 3 GD.

*The new Series 298-398 process valve from ASCO NUMATICS has been designed to withstand the most aggressive of manufacturing processes*

The range comprises DN 15-20-25-32-40-50 actuators in 2/2 N/C or 2/2 N/O and 3/2U styles, with a tapped body G/RP-NPT-RC, or suitable for socket welding. Alternatively the valves are available with DIN, ANSI or JIS flanges. The valves are suitable for a maximum 40 bar pressure drop and the balanced design enables them to be used with back pressures up to 40 bar. Highly versatile, the valves can handle fluids with a viscosity up to 5000cST and temperatures in

the range -10°C to +250°C. The ambient temperature range is from -25°C to +180°C.

*The Series 298-398 process valve is suitable for steam, superheated water, hot and cold liquids and inert gases*

The Series 298-398 process valves incorporate many cost saving features including low actuator volume for reduced air consumption, low thermal losses when used with hot media, low piloting pressure (from 1 up to 10 bar) and long life. The high performance stuffing box requires no servicing, and with different parts of the valve being easy to dismount, maintenance and cleaning is quick and easy. Designed for bi-directional operation, the compact and lightweight design reduces the installed piping cost. The valves dust and water protection system makes the valve suitable for mounting outdoors in any position.

The operator is designed for fast and high cycle duties, low air consumption and low piloting pressure, and the valves are unaffected by dirty steam. Process protection includes anti water hammer construction, fail safe function and back pressure protection.

The robust construction and use of high quality materials provides outstanding resistance to aggressive and hot ambient atmospheres. Designed to resist the thermal shocks caused by exposure to steam and cold water, the life of the valves is greater than two million operations on saturated steam.

ASCO NUMATICS, Tel: 01695 713600



# HARDIDE PRESENTS

## Hardide Coating to be Presented at 2008 International Conference on Tungsten, Refractory and Hardmaterials

Hardide-T, the unique tungsten carbide-based component coating has been selected for presentation by Dr Yuri Zhuk, technical director of Hardide Coatings, at the 2008 International Conference on Tungsten, Refractory and Hardmaterials being held June 8 – 12 at National Harbor, Maryland, Washington DC, USA.

The paper, entitled “*HARDIDE Nanostructured Tungsten/Tungsten Carbide CVD Coating as Enabler for Engineering Systems*”, details the unique combination of ultra-hard, tough, low friction and chemical resistant properties and applications of Hardide-T, one of a family of low-temperature CVD (chemical vapour deposition) tungsten/tungsten carbide coatings.

Hardide-T consists of tungsten carbide nano-particles dispersed in a metal tungsten matrix which gives the material enhanced hardness of between 1100 and 1600 Hv, and abrasion resistance up to 12 times better than hard chrome.

The coating offers an unprecedented combination of hard, tough and chemical resistant properties when applied to components made from stainless steel, some tool steels, Ni-, Co- and Cu-based alloys. Together with features such as its ability to coat internal surfaces, Hardide is proven to outperform competing technologies across many measures. The patented coating is applied to critical components in high wear and/or aggressive media environments including oil and gas downhole tools, pumps for abrasive and viscous fluids, valves and heavy-duty parts for earth moving equipment. Typically, the coating increases the life of precipitation hardened steel parts in abrasive conditions by a factor of 3.

Dr Yuri Zhuk, technical director of Hardide Coatings said: *“It is an honour for our coating to be selected for presentation at such a prestigious event. The properties of Hardide-T make it an ‘enabling material’ for advanced mechanical systems especially those operating in abrasive/erosive or aggressive media environments, or suffering from impact, shock loads or deformations.*

*“In several applications, Hardide-T has proven to be the solution which enables the feasibility of systems*



Dr Yuri Zhuk,  
Technical  
Director,  
Hardide  
Coatings

*designed to operate in extreme wear and erosive conditions. One example is a valve design which involved significant seat deformation during closing. Hardide proved to be the only material which could withstand the deformation and protect the seat from wear and erosion.”*

The coating has been developed by Hardide Coatings, which has manufacturing plants in Houston, Texas, USA and Bicester, Oxfordshire, UK. Hardide-T is one of a family of innovative CVD tungsten/tungsten carbide coatings developed under the Hardide brand, each with different key characteristics such as hardness up to 3500Hv with Hardide-H. Dr Zhuk’s presentation is taking place on the morning of June 12, in the session titled Nanocrystalline Tungsten IV.

[www.hardide.com](http://www.hardide.com)

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# Rotork completes major valve actuation upgrade at one of Severn Trent's water treatment works

Rotork IQ and IQT range intelligent electric valve actuators have been installed as part of a multi-million pound upgrade and modernisation programme awarded to Interserve Project Services at one of the Severn Trent Water Treatment Works.

A total of 136 actuators have been fitted by Rotork's Site Services Division to existing valves on Rapid Gravity (RGF) and Granulated Activated Carbon (GAC) filter beds to provide a more reliable, economical

and low maintenance alternative to the hydraulically operated system originally installed.

Nikki Holden, Interserve Senior Agent at the water treatment works, explains: "The actuators were specified for the upgrade application in line with the water industry's preference for electric actuation, through Rotork's framework agreement with Severn Trent. The choice of installer was the responsibility of Interserve as project manager and we selected Rotork Site Services for the work due to their specialist retrofitting skills and extensive experience of similar projects."



A Rotork engineer locally operates a newly installed Rotork IOT actuator during commissioning.

Each of the fourteen RGF and twenty GAC filter beds at the water treatment works has been retrofitted with Rotork IQ multi-turn actuators on 500 or 600mm inlet and outlet penstocks and IQT direct drive quarter-turn actuators on 200mm air scourer butterfly valves. Rotork Site Services' scope of supply encompassed an initial valve survey, the design and manufacture of new screwed valve stems and pedestals for the penstocks and adaptors for the butterfly valves, actuator sizing, installation and commissioning. Butterfly valve adaptors were sourced from Valvekits, the Rotork Group's dedicated valve accessory company.

*Using the 'non-intrusive' hand held setting tool, a Rotork engineer completes the commissioning of a Rotork IQ actuator at the Severn Trent site.*



Rotork IQ/IQT actuators feature 'non-intrusive' commissioning and data interrogation by means of a bi-directional infra-red link to a hand held setting tool. A data logger in each actuator stores historical valve operating data including torque profiles which can be downloaded and analysed using Rotork IQ-Insight software to minimise the requirement for routine valve maintenance.

# rotork®



Rotork's contract is part of an £8 million investment to upgrade the quality and efficiency of water treatment at the site for the benefit of customers in the Cheltenham and Worcester areas.

[www.rotork.com](http://www.rotork.com)

# Heap & Partners – More than just another distributor

Everyone knows the World valve market is a competitive place, and that goes doubly for UK distribution companies. Survival doesn't just take excellent service and high quality it requires a commitment to re-invest in all aspects of the business; training, stocks, test equipment, IT and design.

Heap & Partners have not only been in business longer than most (founded in 1866) they also have a long serving and uniquely experienced staff, having a combined experience of over 730 years in the valve market. Today they are investing heavily in all aspects of the business to ensure the service they offer is second to none.

Having their own Research & Development Department, in house Finite Element Analysis software, CAD/CAM as well as large stocks, enables Heap & Partners to offer a level of service way beyond distribution.



Figure 4



Figure 3 Heaps Extension tubes

### Design & Manufacturing

Using the latest release of Design Space enables the drawing office to quickly produce 3D prototypes. These feed automatically into the FEA software to ensure the design is fit for purpose and then the resulting code can be sent direct to the CNC machining centres. (Fig 2)

### Bespoke Designs From Standard Components

Heap & Partners specialise in solving complex engineering problems for customers using standard components. Figure 3 and 4 show 14" Tomoe Tritec double block and bleed valves fitted with Heap & Partners torque tubes.

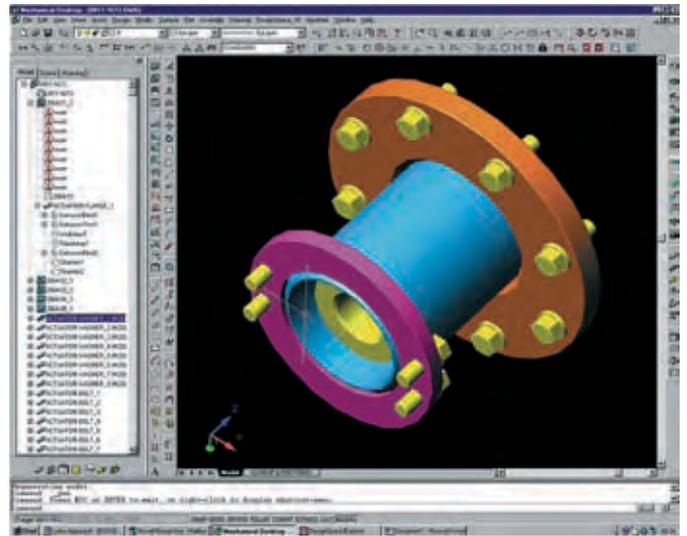


Figure 1 3D Solid modeling



Figure 2 Multi headed CNC machining centre

Figure 5 shows some examples of control panels designed to customer specification for nitrogen purging on an offshore rig. Figure 6 shows the inside of a panel designed and built to the American EXD standard UL Aexd.



Figure 5 Heaps panels for nitrogen purging



Figure 6 American spec explosion proof panel



Figure 7 Clean build valves

#### Specialised Services

Heap & Partners offer a number of specialised services. Clean build valves prepared for hazardous duties such as Hydrogen Peroxide, chlorine and air (see figure 7). One of the largest flow test facilities in the country, capable of testing valve Cv's to an accuracy of 0.1% (see figure 8).

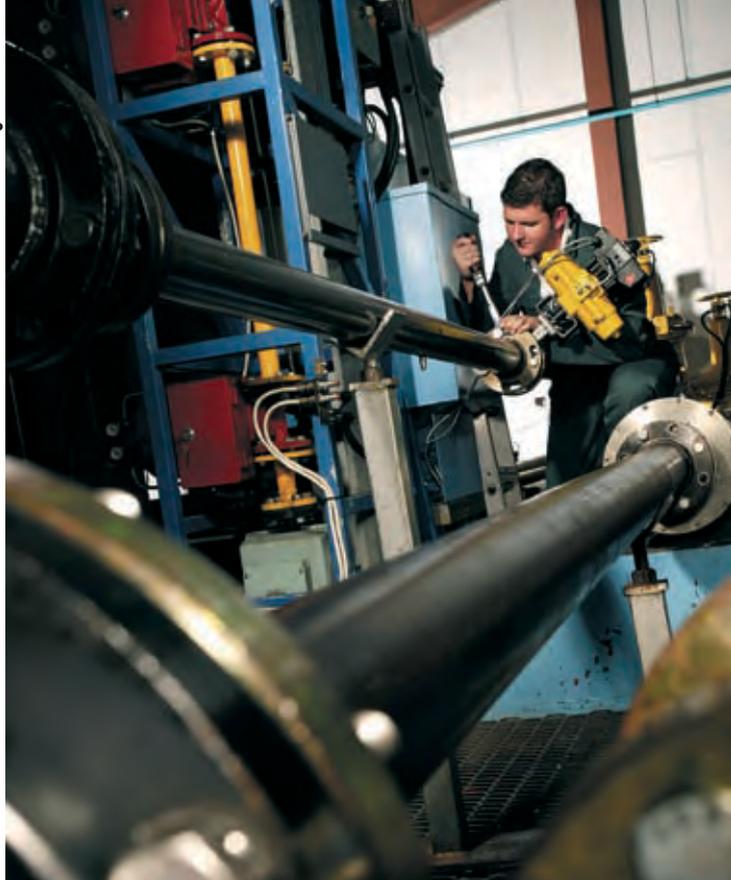


Figure 8 Flow Test Rig

Heap & Partners are approved under PED legislation to modify the pressure envelope of the products they distribute. Hindle ball valves destined for Hydrogen peroxide need the throat boring out to improve the porosity. Saunders diaphragm valves can be modified for high vacuum, provided you have the in house skills.

## Information Technology

Heap & Partners have been computerised since they first took delivery of a Phillips mainframe computer in 1970. Today they are still leading the way with a raft of IT projects including:

- New quotation Software
- Heaps Online Order Tracking Software (HOOTS)
- Heaps Online Documentation System (HODS)
- Heaps On Line Stock (HOLS)
- KPI Dashboard

All linked to a mobile delivery system that will make key components of all 5 projects available to their sales engineers on their Blackberrys, all via a Blackberry friendly intranet site already set up and hosted from their central server room. By making critical data available to their sales engineers, via their Blackberrys, they ensure their people have real-time information to help their customers.

## Conclusion

You don't get to be over 140 years old, by standing still. As David Millar, Managing Director points out "The average life expectancy of a UK company is 6 years. We treat every year as our first, so that we don't become complacent." In the words of Albert Einstein "The only source of knowledge is experience!"

# Emerson First to Offer WirelessHART™ Automation Products

Emerson is now taking orders for open, industry standards-based products in its Smart Wireless portfolio

Emerson Process Management claim to be the first process automation supplier to begin taking orders for WirelessHART™ enabled products, based on the recently approved open standard for in-plant wireless communications. These measurement and communications products are available as a core part of Emerson's Smart Wireless plant automation solutions portfolio.

Emerson's Smart Wireless range of pressure, flow, level, temperature, and vibration transmitters and gateways is available with WirelessHART standard communications

The WirelessHART standard specifies use of open wireless communications for process measurement and control applications. Emerson estimates the demand for wireless technology will exceed 1.5 billion Euros by 2012.

*"In my 39 years in Process Automation, I have never seen a technology with such compelling, immediate benefits,"* commented John Berra, president of Emerson Process Management. *"Emerson customers proved these benefits with installations of our pre-standard products. The WirelessHART standard opens the door to confident and broad implementation of wireless throughout the industry."*

*"We are pleased to be the first and invite all suppliers and end users to join us as we enter into this new era of process automation,"* continued Berra. *"Wireless simply means a better way to put more eyes and ears in the plant, to enable the plant to run better, safer, and greener. This is a truly wonderful day."*

Emerson's Smart Wireless range of pressure, flow, level, temperature, and vibration transmitters and gateways are available with WirelessHART standard communications, as is AMS® Suite predictive maintenance software and 375 field communicator. The continuous stream of future new products from Emerson will also use the standard, including the pH transmitter, discrete transmitter, valve position transmitter, the Smart Wireless THUM™ Communicator to unleash stranded diagnostics in legacy devices, and the DeltaV™ native wireless interface.



## EMERSON™ Process Management



*"With the official release of the HART 7 Specifications in September 2007, the WirelessHART standard became publicly available for manufacturers to begin implementing this new capability into their products and process solutions,"* commented HART Communications Foundation executive director Ron Helson. *"I am delighted to see Emerson moving quickly to release WirelessHART enabled products to the industry."*

*"The WirelessHART technology addresses the critical needs of the process industry for simple, reliable and secure wireless communication in the real world industrial plant environment,"* continued Helson. *"It is easy to use, easy to deploy, and fully backward compatible with existing instrumentation and host systems, preserving the investment in HART-enabled devices, tools, training, applications and work procedures used today."*

Extending PlantWeb® digital plant architecture, and through collaboration with Cisco, Emerson offers open-standard Smart Wireless process and plant management applications for measurement and control, asset optimisation, mobile workers, asset and people location tracking, voice and video, and IT integration and security. These customised solutions will provide end users with a competitive edge through open-standards wireless technology and a complete network platform that ensures they can start with any application and easily expand as the technology evolve.

**Note:** PlantWeb, AMS and DeltaV are marks owned by one of the Emerson Process Management legal entities. Other marks are property of their respective owners.

Emerson Process Management, Tel: 0870 240 1978, [www.Emerson.com](http://www.Emerson.com)

# Environmentally Friendly

In March 2008 international flow control equipment distributor, Transmark Fcx, successfully achieved accreditation to the ISO 14001 Environmental standard at the company's head office in Bradford, UK

ISO 14001 is an internationally accepted standard that sets out how you can go about putting in place an effective Environmental Management System (EMS) including the use of natural resources, handling and treatment of waste and energy consumption. The standard is designed to address the delicate balance between maintaining profitability and reducing environmental impact; with the commitment of the entire organisation, it can enable you to achieve both objectives.

For several years many of the leading manufacturing companies have themselves worked towards achieving this recognised environmental standard and they are now increasingly demanding that each of the links in their supply chain also meet the ISO 14001 standard.

Neil Wagstaff,  
Transmark Fcx Group  
Chief Executive presenting ISO 14001  
certificate to Chris  
Selley, QA Manager  
and Cuan Duffy, In-  
ternational Trainee.



## Transmark Fcx

Transmark Fcx were quick to realise the benefits that undergoing the process to achieve ISO 14001 would deliver to their organisation, their customers and the environment and they are now one of the few companies in their field to hold the accreditation.

Neil Wagstaff, Group Chief Executive of Transmark Fcx said: "We are very proud of this latest accreditation and it clearly demonstrates our commitment to working with the local community and protecting the environment. This, combined with the potential for cost savings resulting from better waste and energy management, makes a compelling commercial case for the implementation of ISO 14001 and whilst we have environmental management systems in place at all our locations, this is the first site to gain this prestigious accreditation.

The key benefits of achieving ISO 14001:

- Demonstrate high environmental standards
- Demonstrate compliance with legislation
- Reduce costs associated with waste
- Improve efficiency

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# BKW LAUNCH VALVE PERFORMANCE MONITORING & DIAGNOSTIC FLOW RIG



*Mick Beavers, Valve Business Manager for BKW Instruments Ltd reports*

Over the years we have been asked to check the sizing of customers control valves. In most cases the process conditions have altered from when the valve was first installed, which then leads to re-trimming of the control valve. Though this will greatly benefit the customer to have the correct sized trim, not only in controllability but also has huge cost saving benefits. With traditional methods of re-trimming being expensive and sometimes taking weeks to receive the parts from the manufacturing company, BKW have launched the control valve performance monitoring and diagnostic flow rig.

BKW's flow facility offers UKAS traceable calibrations for all makes and types of mass and volumetric flow meters. Through constant investment in our valves division we have adapted the flow rig to suit control valves. By looking at the customer's service conditions we are able to monitor the valve's performance and diagnose any problems that the specific flow, pressure or temperature may cause. Using Fisher's DVC2000 we are able to custom characterize the valve using a twenty-one point calibration, this means that the valve may not require a new trim. Customers are encouraged to come to our facility and witness these tests to gain a thorough understanding on what is achieved.

This facility was a huge success for one of our customers, a world leader in the pharmaceutical industry. By removing a well known make of an electro-pneumatic positioner and replacing it with a Fisher DVC2000, the customer's process has been improved and has resulted in a more efficient process and less down time due to process set-point alarms being raised. In addition to monitoring the performance of the control, we are also able to monitor packing failures. Selecting the correct packing system for the application is a crucial part to sizing and selecting the correct valve, a fact engineers sometimes overlook. Once the correct packing system has been installed we can set the valve up using the flow rig so that friction and stiction are eliminated from the performance of the valve, giving better controllability on site.

Training courses can be arranged at our facility and tailored to the customer's needs using our purpose built flow rig.

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# it's all about uptime

Most people probably know Induchem best as a specialised distributor of Crane Group products – especially Xomox process valves and Resistoflex plastic lined pipe and fittings.

It's certainly true that the exclusive UK supply of these high quality, market-leading ranges - together with nationwide support by trained and experienced technicians - make up an important part of Induchem's successful and growing operation.

But there's far more to the company than many realise – with an extensive product range, ISO9001 accreditation, a 10,000 sq ft dedicated service centre, on-site servicing and repair facilities, and a geographical reach that now extends into Europe and as far as Singapore through regular involvement in global OEM sourcing and development projects with leading front-end design houses.

The service ethos of the business is driven by the issues that are important to its customers, as General Manager Jeff Brown explains. *"We look after the needs of some major global companies – such as BASF, Ineos, Rhodia and Dow Corning in the chemical sector, Glaxo SmithKline, Novartis and Pfizer in the pharmaceutical industry, McCain in food, BNFL in nuclear, and Imerys and British Salt in the field of minerals.*

*"We recognise that the cost of downtime in our customers' operations can quickly escalate to exceed the value of anything we supply – so it's all about maximising productive uptime through product quality and performance in process applications, as well as ensuring our business reliability and speed of service."*

This regularly involves 24 hour working, and a same day service where valves are collected, refurbished and re-supplied with a new warranty. *"We're not afraid of working weekends," says Jeff. "We were recently called by a customer on a Sunday morning to help cope with a production crisis. We brought people in, produced a new spool, and they were able to collect it on Sunday afternoon."*



Induchem's Jeff Brown



## Combined experience

Depth of experience is one of the keys to being able to react so flexibly. The top five people in the company have over a hundred years of combined experience in valves, pipeline and actuators for process applications in the chemical and pharmaceutical markets. They're also able to draw on the twenty five years of expertise, financial strength and purchasing power of the Induchem group, based in Cork, southern Ireland.

Another key factor - and one that differentiates Induchem from others in the market - is exclusivity. *"We believe in the products we sell," says Jeff. "We believe they're the best. So we're as selective about our suppliers as they are about their distributors. This means that the products and services we provide are exclusive to us as a company, and validated both ways."* As a result, Induchem holds over twenty exclusive agency agreements with many of the world's leading process equipment manufacturers. They also carry an extensive range of stock to meet urgent needs and help facilitate the continuous process needs of their clients. Induchem's wide and growing portfolio extends from process valves and pipeline equipment to lined valves and piping systems, instrumentation and pressure protection, hygienic and purity products, and solids and powder handling.

Key products in the Crane range include Resistoflex lined pipe and fittings, and Xomox PTFE sleeved plug valves - tight seal process valves for use in safety-critical and corrosive applications in the chemical industry.

For plant steam and thermal applications, Induchem has recently developed a relationship with Ari Armaturen to supply boilerhouse and pressure control equipment, pipeline and control products, steam traps and isolation valves.

Powder handling products include ball segment valves with inflatable seal, spherical disc valves, and polished



and split-body butterfly valves. For many other general applications, customers have access to wafer check valves, strainers, pressure relief valves, gate valves, and a full range of butterfly valves including high performance, lined and resilient-seated.

## Successful projects

This extensive portfolio is backed by a range of professional services – often starting with pre-launch and production planning to ensure successful project management. Induchem engineers regularly assist with the interpretation of isometrics, and offer suggestions to improve layouts and configurations.

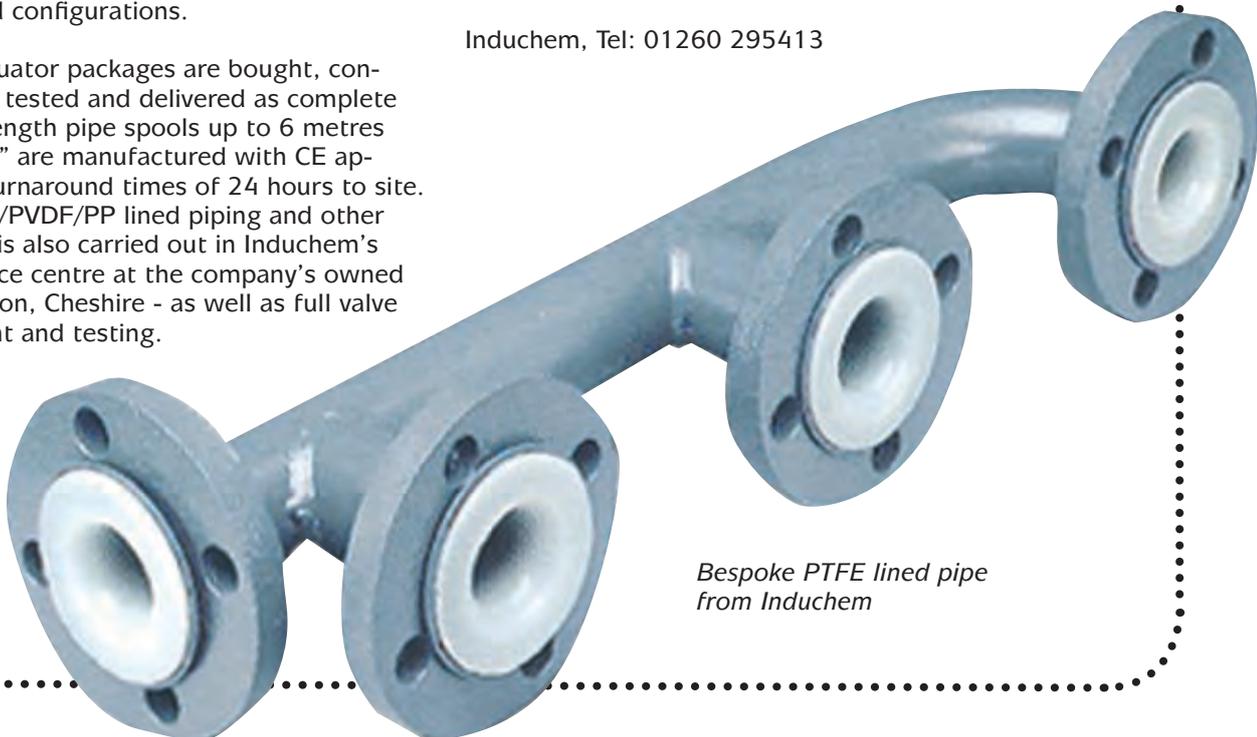
Combined valve/actuator packages are bought, configured, assembled, tested and delivered as complete systems. Custom length pipe spools up to 6 metres in size 1" through 8" are manufactured with CE approval and typical turnaround times of 24 hours to site. Fabrication of PTFE/PVDF/PP lined piping and other custom production is also carried out in Induchem's fully equipped service centre at the company's owned premises in Congleton, Cheshire - as well as full valve repair, refurbishment and testing.

This location was strategically picked to provide quick and easy access to customers anywhere in the UK. Service engineers work

nationally to provide on-site servicing and repair, and offer on-site management to ensure that controls are maintained in the receipt, handling and issue of components to mechanical contractors.

*"Performance is key," says Jeff Brown. "We work in a highly specialised and demanding field where precision, sophistication and attention to detail are always required. The combination of our expert people, reliable processes and best-in-class products ensures that our customers get exactly the engineering and technical support they need to achieve the best possible results."*

Induchem, Tel: 01260 295413



*Bespoke PTFE lined pipe from Induchem*



## Econosto UK to Stock Latest ECON Products

**Econosto UK Ltd, which started life as Ball Valves UK in 1984 continues to grow in more ways than one.**

A policy of continual improvement, reliable service and steady expansion into strategic locations within the UK ensured Ball Valves quickly established itself as a major supplier in the UK valves market. Acquisition by the Royal Econosto Group in 1998 opened up a wealth of opportunities to expand into other products and markets and, as Econosto UK, the company is now a market leader supplying direct to end users, OEMs, contractors and other distributors and holding over £2m of instantly accessible stock in its warehouses.



Becoming part of the Econosto Group brought easy access to additional stockholding and the distribution system in Europe and the Middle East.

It also enabled supply of the own-brand ECON range in addition to other globally recognised premium brands such as SRI, Douglas Chero, JC La Valvomeccanica and Goodwin valves. The ECON range is manufactured under strict quality procedures and the most recent addition is the Cast Steel Flanged ANSI 150, 300 and 600; Gate, Globe and Swing Check Valves, which compliment the recently introduced cast steel ball valve range.

The new valves, which are typically used in Process Plants and Refineries worldwide, are initially being stocked in a limited number of strategic locations which include both Econosto UK warehouses in Leicester and Aberdeen, as well as Barcelona and Rotterdam.

Held in sizes from 2" up to 24" in Carbon Steel (WCB with trim 5 or 8) and Low Temperature Carbon Steel (LCC with Trim 12) large stocks are available for immediate shipment



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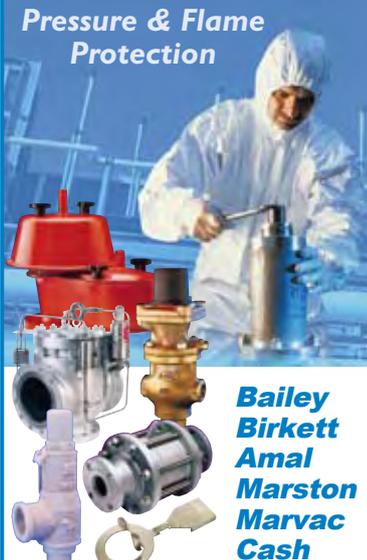
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Backing up the improved product range is a strengthened sales team under the management of Phil Downs which has seen the addition of Stuart Tyler for Wales and SW Area, Ron Critchlow North East Area, Mark Furlong North West Area, plus our long standing Murray Lee-Smith who covers the South East Area. Both Phil and his team have extensive knowledge of the valve industry and market needs, with many years of experience between them!

More about Econosto UK products and services can be found on the website [www.econosto.uk.com](http://www.econosto.uk.com)



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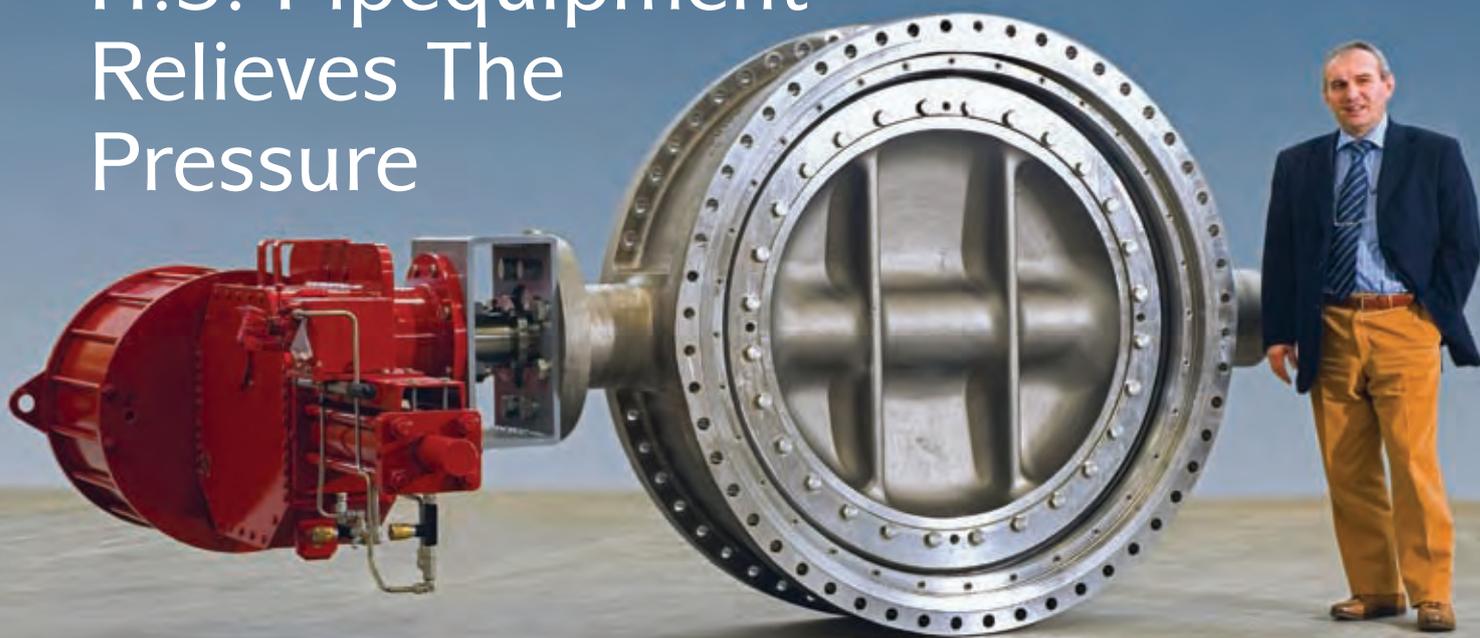
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**Increased capital and operational investment in the Oil, Gas and Petrochemical industry is creating unique challenges for procurement specialists. The location and size of projects and fluctuations in commodity prices and currencies are making procurement decisions increasingly complex. In addition, fast tracking of major investment programmes is affecting the availability of materials.**

As a result the role of distributors of key materials such as valves has become vitally important. The percentage spent on valves in new build projects and maintenance programmes is typically 5%, with valve procurement being critical to the success of any new investment.

Responding to these changes has been a key element in the growth of H. S. Pipeequipment (HSP), one of the UK's largest valve distributors in the Oil, Gas and Petrochemical market.

HSP has been operating for 30 years and provides complete supply solutions for piping and instrumentation valves. The company represents a wide range of the world's leading valve manufacturers and has built a reputation for being the leading manufacturers' representative within the engineering contractor market in London.

The company operates out of three modern, purpose built facilities each with a specific focus.

At the heart of any distributor, are of course, its manufacturers. HSP represents a number of world class and well-known international valve manufacturers including OMS Saleri, Bonney Forge, Audco, Orton, Maxseal and Larsen and Toubro. Some of these manufacturers are based outside of the UK, and have been working with HSP for over 10 years. However, HSP still heavily sources valves from many UK manufacturers. The

company has built up relationships of trust and mutual support with its manufacturers so that it is able to offer a seamless communication link between the manufacturers and customers. In many ways HSP works with its manufacturers as Partners in servicing its customers.

Today, HSP can fulfil orders of any size or complexity whether it is for the supply of a single valve or a multi-million pound contract. HSP's capability and strength covers the full supply chain from assisting in the selection and technical evaluation of valves through to order placement, expediting and delivery.

The loss of skills from the engineering sector in the UK in the past 10 years has been well documented. As customer technical and procurement resources within the industry have become stretched the role of distributors like HSP has become increasingly important. HSP has responded by increasing the skills base of its staff so that the company can provide technical and procurement support on all aspects of valves and actuation.

The company has also developed its on site support to customers. In some cases this is a result of clients operating in remote areas where infrastructure is not established (eg Kazakhstan). HSP's engineers are available 24/7 for their technical support.

From selecting the right valve for a particular service, through to identifying ways for customers to minimise their own valve holdings and thus releasing working capital; whether customers are looking to fit actuators to existing valves, upgrade valves or designing a



new plant, HSP can advise on what options of valves are available to suit individual needs.

As issues of Health and Safety become important, documentation of the procurement, manufacturing, and testing process of valves has become a service that must be completed shortly after delivery of valves. Over the last few years HSP has established a team of dedicated professionals who assemble data books for clients quickly and accurately. Whether it's PED, Heat Codes or Russian translation, HSP is able to provide documentation in accordance with customer requirements. The company has rapidly established a leading position in the industry for this aspect of its business.

When it comes to refitting plants there is always a need for shutdown planning and for the distributor to be close to staff at site. HSP works closely with customers and manufacturers so that valves get to site on time and to specification. In addition HSP will additionally boost stock levels above the anticipated demand to allow for a quick response in case of unexpected requirements.

HSP continues to enhance and grow its operations in response to the challenges being faced by its customers. As a result the company continues to be awarded many



Warehouse and inventory, HSP Tesside

fixed term, single source agreements and has seen sales growing to over £20m per annum.

For more information regarding H.S. Pipeequipment and their bespoke services please visit their website [www.hsp.co.uk](http://www.hsp.co.uk), or alternatively call +44 (0) 1635 201329.

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