LOHSE delivers new record-breaking valve



LOHSE was present at IFAT.

IFAT in Munich is the world's leading trade fair for environmental technologies. Exhibitors included the Heidenheim-based LOH-SE Group with products from its two divisions Mechanical Engineering and Valve Engineering. "The trade fair was a complete success" explains Managing Director Ulrich Sekinger. "We had more than 40 intensive contacts, the industry is booming. One sign of this: All of the halls were full."

LOHSE has good prospects in both divisions. For the Swiss ARA Group, for example, the mechanical engineers at LOHSE built an ultra-modern organic waste wet processing plant, which attracted the interest of numerous trade fair visitors. Valve engineering at LOHSE also benefits from an additional development.

The online trade is booming, resulting in good business for packaging companies and paper

factories. As the industry association confirms, the production of paper, cardboard and cardboard boxes in Germany increased in 2021 by 9 percent, or 1.1 million tons. "More and more paper manufacturers are converting their production to brown paper," says Sekinger. LOHSE valves are used for example to control the processing of the material flow of recycled paper. The company will soon deliver two gate valves with a diameter of 1800 millimeters to a customer, according to Sekinger "the biggest valve we have ever manufactured." The previous record was held by a valve with a diameter of 1.6 meters.

Due to the booming industries, the order books at LOHSE are full, as Sekinger explains. "We have survived the past two pandemic years with no problems," he says. Neither short-time work nor potential cutbacks were an issue. On the contrary: "Our orders on hand continue to be very good. We are optimistic about the future," Sekinger explains. New employees will be hired to meet future demand. "We are seeking qualified specialists especially in the areas of production planning, internal sales, production and assembly," the managing director

But LOHSE customers are not limited to the paper industry. The

company has developed innovative solutions for waste water applications, where the challenges of the customers are likewise complex. Water treatment companies increasingly have to deal with toxic components in waste water, in addition to a shortage of personnel in the sector. "Our solution is to provide state-of-theart valves that defy both of these adversities," Sekinger explains. In addition to offering extremely robust components, LOHSE also ensures that the valves are fit for automation.

LOHSE developed the type CAW gate valve especially for the waste water sector. The special feature of this valve is the slide cups technology. These slide cups can be manufactured



Gate valves from LOHSE control the flow of waste water, for example

from different plastic materials, which are selected based on the requirements of the particular application. The slide cups function as a valve plate guide and are bolted to the two-part stainless steel housing and the stainless steel valve plate. "The advantage of this in the waste water sector is that the media-contacting components do not rust and are resistant to many chemicals, which prevents corrosion and fusing," says LOHSE field sales employee Dietmar Parthum. Another important aspect of this technology is the sealing of the rounded valve plate in the "Closed" end position. The elastomer insert, which fills the flow-through area of the valve without undercuts and dead space, "prevents swirling and deposits of sand and suspended matter." Parthum adds.

In response to increasing automation and personnel shortages LOHSE offers a decades-proven solution: the modular drive system. Parthum explains: "The choice of actuators ranges from a simple hand wheel, a stem square cap – for docking of a valve fitting wrench – to a pneumatic cylinder or electric servo-mechanism." This depends very much on the frequency of actuation and the reaction period. If a valve has to be actuated quickly in an emergency, for example, the process must be



Valve from LOHSE.

automatic, since there is no time to wait for operating personnel. Parthum: "In recent years a high level of automation efficiency has emerged, with round-the-clock monitoring of processes, independent of personnel."

OHSE

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