

LOHSE valves in action

After a two-and-a-half-year hiatus due to Covid-19, the LOHSE Group recently invited its European sales representatives to Heidenheim-Oggenhausen for a training event that gave the participants an opportunity to share information and experiences. “The event served as a forum for presenting the latest developments, new installations and references within the paper industry and elsewhere,” explains Ulrich Sekinger, Managing Director of LOHSE. Because although the Corona pandemic made personal contacts across borders difficult during the past two-and-a-half years, it was not detrimental to the demand for LOHSE valves, as Sekinger ex-



LOHSE training at the Palm Group. The valves are used here in pulp preparation and in wastewater treatment.

plains. “The demand within the paper industry and elsewhere has remained constant,” he says.

The sales agencies in numerous countries not only received information about new developments from LOHSE, but also a tour of the production facilities where they could see the single production steps, as well as the opportunity to enter into discussions with LOHSE specialists concerning the requirements of the respective markets. However, the focus was not only on how the valves are manufactured, but also on where they are used, as well as their specific strengths. This is due to that fact that, just a few kilometers north of Oggenhausen, about 13,000 LOHSE valves are in use around the clock.

It was one of the biggest contracts in the past years: LOHSE developed and delivered numerous components for a paper factory of the Palm Group in Aalen-Neukochen, including slide gate valves, shut-off valves, ball valves, wedge gate valves, non-return valves, and condensate traps. “During this visit to a reference installation, our sales representatives were able to vividly experience the advantages of LOHSE valves in specific applications,” says Sekinger. Especially impressive are the CAW type gate valves, which were specially developed by LOHSE for use in



MARTIN LOHSE developed the CAW type gate valve especially for use in wastewater treatment. Non-corrosive materials make it possible to withstand the adverse conditions.

wastewater applications and installed in Palm’s new wastewater treatment plant.

The development of a valve for wastewater treatment applications is a complex matter, as Dietmar Parthum, a sales representative at LOHSE, explains: “The challenges of this application include the use of non-corrosive materials, which need to be resistant to toxic influences, as well as an efficient gate valve that remains fully operable even after long periods of inactivity, so that it safely reaches the ‘Open’ and ‘Closed’ positions.”

A core feature of this valve is the inner shell technology developed by LOHSE. Different plastic materials are used for manufacturing the inner shells, depending on the area of application. The inner shells function as a valve plate guide and are bolted to the two-part stainless steel body and the stainless steel valve plate. The main advantage: “Media-contacting components do not rust and are resistant to many chemicals. That eliminates both corrosion and fouling,” explains Parthum.

Another important advantage of the inner shell technology is

the sealing of the rounded valve plate in the ‘Closed’ end position. An 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,” explains Parthum. Even if foreign materials were to settle on the elastomer, they would simply be washed away by the reduced cross-section and increased flow rate before closing of the valve plate so that the valve plate always reaches the end position.

In addition to this construction, LOHSE also offers a mo-

dular actuator system that enables automated operation of the valves. Parthum emphasizes the large range of actuators that can be used: “The actuator can be a simple hand wheel, a stem square cap (for docking of a valve fitting wrench), a pneumatic cylinder or even an electric servo-mechanism.” The choice depends largely on the frequency of actuation and the reaction periods. For example: If a valve has to be actuated quickly in an emergency, where there is not enough time to wait for operating personnel, the process must be automatic. Parthum explains: “A high level of automation efficiency has been established here in recent years, with round-the-clock monitoring of processes, independent of personnel.” Automation is therefore immensely valuable, especially in times of impending shortages of specialists.



MARTIN LOHSE GmbH
Unteres Paradies 63
89522 Heidenheim
Deutschland
Telefon +49 7321 / 755-42
server.ab@lohse-gmbh.de
www.lohse-gmbh.de