



Valve World 2016: a learning and

Held from 29th November to 1st December, the Valve World Conference & Expo 2016 proved to be another superb forum for learning and networking. The combination of a huge expo with 725 standholders plus a top-class conference with plenaries, workshops and paper sessions, drew well over 12,000 professional visitors from quite literally around the globe.

By David Sear

Showcase for new technologies



Metso was just one of many companies who used the Valve World Expo to showcase their latest products and innovations to an appreciative trade audience of over 12,000 people. Commenting, Metso's Eva Martin said: "there are a number of emerging mega trends affecting manufacturers and customers in the flow-control arena. We are therefore always looking for new and better ways to interact with clients and continue to focus on innovation, such as our new NDX valve controller."

The good, the bad and the ugly of valve inspection

Marc Simoens from Dow Benelux gave a well-attended plenary lecture on the certification of valves – an end user's perspective. He had the audience's complete and undivided attention when discussing actual valve problems he had identified during intake examinations.

In fact, you could have heard a pin drop when he showed the results of dye-penetrant tests performed on a batch of brand new valves...



Axial isolation & control



On the Wednesday afternoon Goodwin International organised a superb reception in Hall 4 which was the perfect opportunity to network with professionals from the UK and further afield. Highlight of the reception was a technical presentation by Paul Root on advances in axial isolation and axial control valves. Paul touched on innovative features such as the rack-and-pinion gear train, the three-piece body, the body seals and the fast-acting characteristics.

networking gala

VALVE MAINTENANCE AN ONGOING TOPIC

Valve maintenance in all its forms is an important issue for many valve professionals, with quite a number of paper presentations addressing this subject. Saudi Aramco's Mohanned Waleed Tarabzouni, for example, gave a superb plenary lecture on enhancing pipeline integrity through the proper preventative maintenance of valves. During his presentation, he touched on failure modes that can cause internal leakages. These include handling and storage, commissioning factors, operational procedures and finally pipeline debris which, he indicated, is probably the most common reason for leaks. "A proper maintenance programme ensures valves will run as intended," he noted. His opening speech set a positive tone which endured for the rest of the conference as it elicited plenty of comments, questions and positive feedback from the audience.



A world of experience in a single room



Nigeria LNG's Ayo Kilani was just one of the many international delegates who took full advantage of the paper sessions to gather feedback from the speakers and fellow peers on valve issues. His question to a speaker about how to set priorities for condition monitoring met with replies and comments from delegates from Saudi Arabia, Canada, India, Finland and the UK.

QUOTES

FROM SHOW VISITORS

"If left unprotected on the job-site, valves may corrode and need repairs even before they are taken into service."

Wojciech Zmudzinski, McDermott

"We have around 40,000 valves in our LNG facility, so are keen to talk to others about establishing best practices."

Kingsley Onuorah and Ayo Kilani,
Nigeria LNG

"If you put grease on a ball valve, this can cause a build-up of debris at the six o'clock position"

Simon Jeeves (MRC Solberg &
Andersen)

"Up to 80% of Iran's future valve needs could be met by foreign suppliers."

Mrs Halle Bakhteyar, Godakhtar

NEXT SHOW:

VALVE WORLD MIDDLE EAST
20 - 21 FEBRUARY 2017
IN TEHRAN, IRAN.

FOR DETAILS:
WWW.VALVE-WORLD.NET/
VWME2017/

OR TURN OVER AND READ PAGE 49



Conference Delegate I: Tony Lambert

Asked why he had travelled all the way from the US to attend the Valve World Conference, VanAire's Tony Lambert gave a clear and direct reply that probably rings true for many of the delegates: "I'm here to learn more about the industry." Tony was also looking to raise awareness about mounting brackets which, he said, are an underestimated link in flow control packages. "End users should ask themselves what the weakest link is in their valve assemblies. The selection and specification of the valves, the actuators and the positioners are often considered in great detail, but all that energy may be wasted if the components are incorrectly mounted. Inadequate bracket design can cause premature valve failure. That's why we put a lot of engineering thought into our brackets to ensure they last as long as customer expects it to." For an article by Tony on mounting brackets, please see:

www.valve-world.net/pdf/vanaire.pdf

Conference Lounge: informal setting encouraged plenty of interaction

The conference lounge was designed as an informal get-together where a panel of experts could freely and openly deliberate on topic issues and respond to questions from the audience. And what a panel it was! The photo shows the panel about to take their seats in the lounge, including (standing, left to right): Gunter Spiegel (BASF), Ron Merrick (Fluor Enterprises) Fergus Harrison (ExxonMobil), Carl Neeskens (INEOS) and Paul Clements (BP) along with (seated, left to right): Matt Hartfiel (Sunbelt Supply) and Roar Landevaag (MRC Global)



KEY CONFERENCE TOPIC: SEALINGS

The second session on sealing was held on the Thursday morning and lead by Fluor Enterprises' Claire Dwyer, who commented that she genuinely enjoyed taking part in technical platforms such as the Valve World show. She noted that delegates in the session would learn much about technical improvements as regards sealings and that they would also get a good overview of the latest innovations, especially in the areas of low temperature and LNG applications. Lined up to deliver presentations were

Thomas Ritter (Technetics Group - back right), Andrew Douglas (James Walker – back left) and Christophe Valdenaire (Saint-Gobain Performance Plastics – seated left).



“To sponsors, committee members, speakers and delegates: thank you!”



In a personal message, the Conference Manager James Hoare says:
“At Valve World, a lot of thought and energy goes into the conference and we trust that this effort contributes to a professional show that is engaging and informative. However, it is you, our community, who make the conference come alive. We are therefore highly indebted to all our sponsors, to the steering committee, to the speakers, to

the workshop moderators and last but by no means least to all the delegates. It is you who give ideas about topics for the event, who write papers, who present lectures, who find space in your busy schedules to attend and it is this willingness to share your professional time which makes the show happen. I sincerely appreciate everybody’s time and input and hope to meet you again soon.”

Photo shows James thanking Saudi Aramco’s Mohammed Tarabzouni for his excellent plenary speech.

Conference Delegate II: Geoff Lewis

Geoff Lewis of DuPont flew to the Valve World conference from the UK to learn and to gauge valve customers’ interest in the latest Kalrez® and Vespel® offerings for valves. He described the conference as being “a very worthwhile event; my colleagues and I are pleased we have attended”



Conference Chairman’s job “very enjoyable”

Asked about his time as conference chairman at Valve World 2016, Fergus Harrison from ExxonMobil replied that he had really enjoyed both the preparations as well as the event itself. “Overall I am very pleased and impressed with the variety of the presentations as well as the level of audience participation throughout.”

He does, however, encourage more end users to take part. “This is a show where end users stand to gain a lot. Of course we all have to justify taking three days out of the office but in that time you can hear the latest insights into valve and actuator technology, discuss problems and solutions with your peers and meet up with many of the world’s leading manufacturers. So this is a very efficient place to network and learn!”

Fergus had a busy schedule throughout the three-day conference but did find time to pass on a few words of encouragement for his successor. “My advice is simple: keep an open mind. No one can be proficient in all subjects so do listen to the experts in the steering committee. And the role is not that demanding as the team at Valve World do a lot of work behind the scenes.”



David Anderson “at my tenth Valve World!”



Score’s David Anderson is one of many people who have been involved with the Valve World show right from its first outing in 1998. “The early shows were in The Hague, then we moved to Maastricht and later to Dusseldorf. If I’m right, this is about my tenth time at Valve World,” he stated whilst on his way to take part in the Tuesday morning session on maintenance with a paper on condition & performance monitoring.

David is spot on – this is indeed the tenth Valve World event, so it’s the perfect time to thank the people and companies who have supported the show for so many years.



Expertise on tap

EXPO I – KNIFE GATE VALVE



The Valve World Expo drew over 12,000 professional visitors who were treated to a veritable host of valves, such as the actuator-operated knife-gate valve being admired here.

It's an acknowledged fact that many people enjoy life-long careers in the valve and actuator industry. People like Ian Turner who, over the years, amass an amazing wealth of experience and an almost encyclopaedic product knowledge. And what's also true is that Ian and his peers are more than willing to share their expertise with others in the field. Ian (shown here on the right) has been a regular, long-term exhibitor at the Valve World Expo and is regularly consulted about valve actuation and control.



Find yourself on FaceBook



Our editors took hundreds of images during the Conference and the Expo, and they can all be found on our FaceBook pages. If you spot yourself or a colleague and would like a copy, just let us know, via d.sear@kci-world.com. The photos can be found in our FaceBook photo library at: www.facebook.com/pg/valveworld/photos/

EXPO FORUM BLOCKS THE AISLES

Many suppliers used the Expo Forum in Hall 5 to good effect to deliver presentations on a wide range of topics, such as valve maintenance, reducing emissions, rupture disk detection, check valves, and the wonderfully named "valves in the cloud". The Forum was deliberately designed as an open platform, meaning that conference delegates and expo visitors alike could easily drop by to catch presentations of specific interest. And, as this editor observed, many casual passers-by also paused for a minute or two to learn more, in some cases stopping traffic in the aisles! The photo shows Hans Gustorf from NOREVA discussing a nozzle check valve for critical gas applications.



EXPO II – RISING STEM BALL VALVE



The Valve World Expo was the place to be no matter what type of valve you were looking for. In addition to the more standard gate, globe, check, ball, butterfly and plug valves, manufacturers were also showing some of the more unusual designs, such as the rising stem ball valve on the Arflu booth.

WELCOMING THE NEXT GENERATION

Some ten years ago, this particular editor travelled to China for a meeting with Mr Gu Lidong who proved to be an expert on valve manufacture for projects and also a very agreeable host with a taste for Chinese theatre. Today, Mr Gu's enthusiasm is as enthralling as ever, whether he is conversing on the project market "still very conservative" or the influx of new talent into the valve sector "there are so many talented young people entering the valve sector in China, which I would say is very encouraging and good for our industry as a whole". If you'd like to know more about Mr Gu and KCON, why not check out his recent cover story available online? (www.valve-world.net/pdf/201608.pdf)



The world of valves under a single roof

The Valve World Expo was again the place to see, touch and above all learn about flow control equipment such as valves, control valves, safety valves, pilot valves, actuators, positioners, solenoids, gaskets, sealings, packings, components, etc etc etc. The people in this particular photo are discussing solutions available from the Bifold Group.

EXPO III – MULTI-PORT ACTUATORS



Your editor had another trip down memory lane when bumping into the familiar faces of Paul Hopkins and Paul Gough at the Auma stand. What he hadn't seen before, however, was Auma's actuator designed for use on so-called multiport valves.

Such valves are used in the oil and gas industry and fulfil a dual role: they act as a manifold for incoming pipelines and also enable the plant operators to select an individual pipeline for sampling.

"This actuator is one of our new products and is based around tried and trusted Auma technology," they both said.

Magwen already receiving inquiries



Whichever way you look at it, this triple offset valve from Magwen Valves is a not just technically sound but also a work of art! According to Magwen's Thomas Talarczyk, it functions as both a control valve and an on/off valve in one and can replace ball, butterfly and gate valves. He added that the show was interesting and had generated nice leads and good discussions. "Inquiries are starting to come in already so we are looking forward to winning orders soon," he said.