

DelTech Controls: Leading the In

Recognizing that the dependable and controlled flow of fluids through pipelines in a process plant is vital for its safe and continuous operation, DelTech Controls offers high quality ball valves, butterfly valves, quarter-turn actuators and valve automation systems. With over 1 million valves and valve automation packages being delivered since the company's inception, and the number of satisfied customers growing in all parts of the world, DelTech Controls continues to be driven by its mission of providing their customers with superior performance flow control products delivered efficiently.

Valve World Americas had the opportunity to speak with Chip Lee, President of DelTech Controls to discuss the company's commitment to providing high-end products, their drive to always meet customer needs and the importance of controlling all aspects of the manufacturing process to ensure the highest level of quality.

By Sarah Bradley



Formed in 2005, DelTech's plant in Pune, India and head office in Geismar, Louisiana have all the resources required to design, develop and supply world-class products to any demanding application in a wide spectrum of industries such as Oil & Gas, Chemical Process, Food Process, Pharmaceuticals and Water. Formed through a partnership between Len Bordelon and Arun Shiroor, both veterans in valve design and manufacturing, DelTech Controls and its Indian counterpart, DelVal Flow Controls, were formed to service the world's growing demand for high quality, engineered solutions for process flow control. Today, DelTech continues to grow with the vision to build products that will be installed in all plants worldwide as a preferred brand, instill unrelenting enthusiasm and energy in the company to build new products with a higher "Performance Quotient" (PQ) and seek new opportunities, year after year.

Quality is Key

The Pune facility is a state-of-the-art manufacturing plant measuring 60,000 square-feet. The facility is replete with a team of over 120 engineers with excellent product design capabilities and strong manufacturing know-how. A strong emphasis on robust designing and manufacturing of all DelTech products ensures that they meet

demanding industry requirements and international specifications.

DelTech products are manufactured under strict quality standards from the raw material stages through to the finished products. All products are tested 100% for performance as per international standards prior to shipment to ensure that the customer receives the best product quality always. This control of the product from start to finish allows DelTech the confidence to ensure that their clients receive a high quality product every time.

"We wanted to control the process from A to Z. We wanted to oversee the engineering, the development of the product, the manufacturing process and the testing. We wanted to be sure that a DelTech product is a DelTech product by having control over all aspects of the process and having that accountability," explained Chip. "Being able to control every part of the manufacturing process, we are able to ensure that every product that bears the DelTech name is of the highest quality. We have a great quality, top of the line product, with a competitive pricing structure. We have good people and good processes and now it is important to let the industry know how diverse we are from a market standpoint and how wide our capabilities are."

DelTech believes that quality and dependable performance of a product begins with efficient design, and to ensure that product designs are safe and meeting international industry standards, the company has invested in advanced computer aided design software which helps in designing products by simulating the pipeline flow and stress conditions.

"One of DelTech's competitive advantages are the unique features and benefits designed into every single product. We can sit down with high-level engineers and discuss why a valve or actuator is going to perform to their expectations," said Chip. "That is one of the advantages of having control over the quality, over the engineering – having control of every stage of the manufacturing process to where we can incorporate our own features and benefits. We make quality a number one priority."

Investing in research is an important way for the company to stay on top of technology and innovation and ensure that their products remain on the cutting-edge. This focus on product upgrades and a proactive approach to product development is how DelTech is able to fulfill ever-changing customer needs.

"We are continuously upgrading our products. For instance, for our high performance double offset valves, it took about four years to finalize the design, because it is a constant progression. Once we come up with a base design and it passes testing, even after it has been brought to market, it is a constant mission to work to up-

grade and always strive for improvement," said Chip. "For the high performance butterfly valve, we recently came up with a new seat material. It is a Teflon blend we call Ultra and it is good to 500° Fahrenheit. It took us about 2 years to come up with this compound. It is an upgrade over your standard RTFE which is the common material in other high performance butterfly valves. We found a new material and we had third-party testing done and reached 400,000 cycles at 500° Fahrenheit. We also determined a better bearing material was needed, because during that test we saw that our standard bearing material was wearing out at a couple hundred thousand cycles, so we found a new material and incorporated that. Even after 400,000 cycles the bearing material was still intact and wasn't worn. For DelTech it is a continuous life cycle improvement effort. We are always working towards improving all of our products and giving our customers the highest quality."

The mission to provide customers with superior performance flow control products that are delivered by efficient people and processes, guides the company in all their efforts to deliver total customer satisfaction. DelTech Controls' manufacturing and quality assurance processes and robust quality management system is compliant to ISO 9001-2008 for quality management, ISO 14001 for environment management and OHSAS 18001 for occupational health and safety. DelTech's product conformity certification includes API 6D, API 609, ABS, CRN, European Conformity Certificate (CE), under Pressure Equipment Directive (PED), Atmosphere Exposable Directive (ATEX) and Machinery Directive (MD).



Industry with Innovation by Design



for the customer. We have a complete and diverse range of products because we want to make sure that we do have everything the customer needs so that they don't have to go anywhere else – we can offer them the complete package,” explained Chip. “This is important for the distributors and the end users. Many times if the package is assembled in the field, they will have one brand of valve and another brand of actuator and when there is an issue, they don't know if the issue is valve or actuator related. With us, it is one manufacturer, one brand – it isn't outsourced, it is ours. If you have a complete valve and actuator package, if there is an issue, it is a DelTech issue.”

“Quality management is very important and at every stage of the manufacturing process, we have our own procedures and our own quality control measures in place to ensure that every component is meeting our expectations. We are an ISO 9001 plant, and we audit the facility from a quality standpoint, testing standpoint and we really go above and beyond. We test for leakage of course, but we even do 100% torque testing on all of our valves,” Chip revealed. “The first thing that we did when we started DelTech and was assemble a very experienced core group strictly for quality and we decided how to make sure that quality will live on in our products. No matter the age of the product – even if we have been building it for 10 years, we still need to make sure that every component every time, of every valve is perfect every time.”

A robust quality management system ensures that each valve is tested for seat and shell leakage and integrity as per approved international standards. A wide range of tests for product validation, life cycle and cryogenic temperature are conducted by simulating the severe conditions. Critical fire safety tests and fugitive emission tests are conducted in-house. DelTech's ball valves are API monogram certified to API 6D.

“One of the things that we are doing now, especially on high-level products is having the MTR come with the product or made easily available on our website. The client can take the serial number from the product, and the paper trail is searchable on our website. We believe having that traceability is incredibly important and a valuable feature to the client, so we make sure that this is available for every DelTech product,” said Chip.

Continuous improvement and upgrading of all products is ensured by performing life cycle tests of valves and actuators under simulated loads. Prototypes and product samples are continuously cyclic tested under severe loading and data collected is used for improvement of the designs.

Delivering Value Always

The facility in Geismar, Louisiana, USA has more than 25,000 square-feet of inventory space and assembly area. With a large inventory and experienced, well-trained staff, DelTech Controls, USA is able to satisfy the needs of a wide range of customers. In-house products testing and full valve automation capabilities ensure that all DelTech product meet the demanding expectations of all industries. DelTech controls products lines are offered in a variety of sizes and pressure ratings, and a wide range of materials for the body, trim, seats and other components are available.

“We have an extensive distribution network throughout the world. The product is manufactured in India, and from that location we service Europe, Asia, Australia and Africa. In the United States, our Geismar, Louisiana facility serves as a distribution center for North and South America where we maintain a significant inventory, and we have a strong network of distributors throughout the continent, who also maintain inventory of DelTech products,” he said. “We like to work with engineering specific distributors, automation houses and the places that are working with the plants to solve the issues they encounter and believe in DelTech products to help find that solution. We believe it is very important to align ourselves with distributors and sales people that will stand behind our brand.”

Prime Products

DelTech Controls proudly presents a range of world-class flow control valves and valve automation products produced with one simple goal in mind - customer benefit - believing that all actions, from concept to the performance of the product, must deliver uncompromising value to the customer.

These products include ball valves in trunnion mounted and floating ball designs for the industrial and oil and gas industries, butterfly valves suitable for all types of industries in different designs such as resilient seated, teflon lined, and high per-

formance double and triple offset, and actuators in both electric and pneumatic types for automation of all types of quarter turn valves and automation accessories including limit switches, solenoid valves and positioners. This makes DelTech one of the most comprehensive manufacturers in the world for flow control products and solutions.

“One of the other competitive advantages of DelTech is that we have both valve and actuator product offerings. This has been a conscious decision from inception to be able to act as a 'one-stop-shop' and provide our customers with a complete package. This is more efficient and convenient



88" DelVal Butterfly Valve for a Steel Plant



USA Headquarters in Geismar, Louisiana