

Hazardous Area Portable Flow Meter Takes On Pharmaceutical Batching



Macfarlan Smith Limited, part of Johnson Matthey PLC's Fine Chemicals Division, is a world leader in the production of alkaloid opiates and other controlled drugs. As one of the world's oldest pharmaceutical companies, Macfarlan Smith has manufactured and developed active pharmaceutical ingredients and intermediates for almost 200 years, and today the company operates a state-of-the-art plant to the highest level of Current Good Manufacturing Practices.

At Macfarlan Smith's pharmaceutical manufacturing site in Edinburgh the requirement for a new batching

system was identified. During the specification and delivery process, Macfarlan Smith turned to ABL Instruments & Controls Ltd, as the only supplier able to provide a hazardous area portable flow meter, as a temporary measure, to minimise down time.

The batching system is used as a volumetric totaliser of solvent into a batch of product. Accurate measurement is required for product quality, batch consistency and prevention of increased energy consumption due to overfilling.

The new ATEX approved portable ultrasonic flow meter, available exclusively from ABL Instruments & Controls, provides up to 24 hours* of uninterrupted liquid or gas flow metering on a single charge. The optional "continuous flow" battery pack provides ongoing flow metering with minimal downtime during battery change.

With its newly designed power source and rugged aluminium case, this self-powered precision transit time flow meter has been engineered to provide usability in hazardous environments without the need to obtain a hot work permit. The compact flow meter weighs less than 25kg making it fully portable and suitable to carry onboard a helicopter for offshore service.

The quick install clamp-on ultrasonic transducers use award winning WideBeam® technology for accurate and reliable flow metering with high tolerance to wide flow velocities, fluctuating pressure and temperature, and entrainment. The flow computer provides all the features, data logging and outputs expected from the latest in ultrasonic flow metering technology.

Unique zero-matic® path software eliminates all zero drift and allows zero flow to be set without the need of shutting down the flow or blocking pipe lines making this new ATEX portable flow meter ideal for applications such as check metering, flow surveys, flow verification, and liquid flow analysis.

For further information regarding this press release please contact ABL Instruments & Controls Limited, email: flow@able.co.uk.

** Battery life depends on configuration and use*

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