

INNOVATIVE VALVE

Conductive FDA-compliant ball valve can prevent explosions

Kempen, 1st March 2022 - SAMSON
PFEIFFER has now developed the first
conductive FDA-compliant ball valve and
delivered it in triplicate to a customer. The
BR 20a LF FDA type valve developed by
PFEIFFER Chemie-Armaturenbau GmbH
now serves as a safe and reliable shut-off
device for the production of food colouring
for one of the leading German

pharmaceutical companies in the Hessen



Thomas Hielscher with one of the three BR 20a LF FDA ball valves.

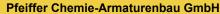
region. "The special feature of this conductive ball valve is that it has the required FDA conformity of the sealing and lining material. As a result, FDA-compliant applications with lined ball valves can now also be implemented in explosive mixtures," reports Thomas Hielscher. The SAMSON PFEIFFER outside sales representative recently handed over the modified ball valves to the customer for industrial use.

"The FDA ball valve is used in a test plant," says the state-certified technician in the field of mechanical engineering. FDA stands for Food and Drug Administration - that's the name of the US quality authority. The primary goal of the authority is to ensure and promote public health. The FDA certificate is

PFEIFFER Chemie-Armaturenbau GmbH has its main factory with 220 employees in Kempen on the Lower Rhine. PFEIFFER sells valves exclusively engineered in Germany. PFEIFFER manufactures butterfly valves and ball valves made of stainless steel and special materials such as titanium and nickelbased alloys. An additional field of activity is turnkey pigging installations. The company specializes in producing valves with high-grade linings made of PTFE or PFA. Founded in 1974, the company has been part of the SAMSON Group since 1995. SAMSON is known for its comprehensive product line in instrumentation and controls as well as for the most modern integrated automation systems. SAMSON operates wherever there is controlled flow of vapors, gases or liquids.

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This conductive FDA ball valve of the series 20a LF FDA series from SAMSON PFEIFFER is now providing reliable service in the pharmaceutical industry.

recognised worldwide when it comes to the approval, control and monitoring of products in circulation such as food ir drugs. This means that the Made by PFEIFFER valve has a quality that sets standards and adds a decisive element to previous standards. This is because the FDA also makes products globally marketable, after the trade inspectorate, health authorities and food monitoring authorities in Germany have already put a tick behind it.

The reason why PFEIFFER technology is state of the art for this fitting: the carbon fibres in the conductive PTFE made FDA conformity difficult for granulate manufacturers for a long time. When the material became available, SAMSON PFEIFFER promptly executed the BR 20a LF FDA ball valve. "The market was already waiting for this shut-off device," reports Product Manager Klaus Kremer. FDA applications with lined valves in potentially explosive media or areas can now also be realized - such as in the premiere use for food colors.

Like all PFEIFFER innovations, this valve is also not off the shelf. The criterion "conductive FDA ball valve" refers to the integrated carbon content, among technicians it is also called "black conductive". "This further development is a decisive help for customers from the pharmaceutical sector in operating their systems more effectively, without problems and at a high level," says Thomas Hielscher, who has been with SAMSON since 2010 and has been working for PFEIFFER sales since 2016.

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PFEIFFER has used the ball valve of the 20a LF series as the basic device. This has been expanded and modified for use in FDA-compliant applications. The BR 20a ball valve, which is lined with the polymer PTFE, is characterised by the fact that it closes tightly and is therefore ideally suited for process engineering and plant construction. "This applies in particular to aggressive media", explains Thomas Hielscher. Ball valves of this quality can be flown through in any direction (bidirectional) with full bore.



Product manager Klaus Kremer proudly shows off the new ball valve.

The newly developed conductive FDA ball

valve also puts all these positive properties on the quality scales, which have long been standard specially in the chemical industry. The special plus is that, on the one hand, aggressive substances in an FDA-compliant environment do not affect the device. On the other hand, electrical dynamics of any kind are also eliminated. With conventional linings, high electrical potentials can arise which cannot be dissipated due to the high resistance of the lining. This is different with low-impedance conductive linings, where these potentials can be dissipated in a targeted manner. This is a must for use in explosive media.

Thomas Hielscher: "Here, the LF-FDA valve is the solution. Our new device is unassailable in two respects and can pursue its functionality in the industrial process undisturbed."

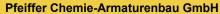
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