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HVP SERIES VALVES MEET DEMANDS OF MOLTEN-POLYMER APPLICATION

A nylon fiber producer in Virginia needed to replace seven critical control valves that were causing numerous operational and maintenance problems. The valves controlled the flow of molten polymer, heated to 480-degrees Fahrenheit, and used to produce nylon yarn and chips. Like other producers in this niche industry, they had designed (in-house) jacketed control valves with a Limitorque® actuation package. After years battling this less-than-optimal design, they finally came to the experts for a valve specifically designed to meet these demanding process requirements.

Their local Fisher representative (Control Dynamics) asked the Engineered Products' group in Marshalltown, Iowa, for assistance with the specification. Fisher engineers recommended High Viscous Polymer (HVP) control valves with forged and fabricated bodies made of #304 stainless steel. To maintain the liquid state of the polymer, the HVP Series valves include integral body passages (finished to 0.1 to 0.4 micro-meters) through which a heat-transfer fluid is pumped. This design maintains high temperatures and assures the free flow of the polymer fluid.

Fisher supplied seven HVP valves for this specialty chemical facility. All assemblies included PD-level FIELDVUE® DVC6000 Digital Valve Controllers. These instruments provide Performance Diagnostic (PD) and monitoring capabilities as well as detailed data for predictive maintenance.

The Fisher-Marshalltown Manufacturing team also met an aggressive delivery schedule, enabling the customer to install these valves during a planned outage. After passing all the visual, hydro, and non-destructive tests, all seven HVP valves shipped in 18 weeks, two months faster than the standard delivery of 26 weeks.

Startup occurred in May 2003, and the customer is very satisfied with the valves' performance to date.

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