



For **Severe Service** Control Solutions, Turn to Fisher Technology and Innovation

“GIANT” DESIGN EHT VALVES RELIABLY SERVE NORTH SEA PLATFORM

The record holder for heaviest valve built by Fisher Severe Service Group is a 20-inch, Design EHT valve that originally controlled the entire natural gas output of a platform in the North Sea.

Now serving as a standby unit, this “giant” valve weighs in at 23,500 pounds and features seven-inch-thick ANSI Class 1500 raised face flanges. It also contains noise-abating trim.

When installed, the EHT provided 100% greater capacity than its predecessor valve. This other brand valve created excessive operating noise and severe vibration, conditions that ultimately caused its failure after only one year in service. The valve’s failure led to a platform shutdown and loss of production valued at \$3M per day or higher.

After the Fisher Severe Service Group’s “record heavy” valve was installed, it operated so quietly that the platform personnel named it Silent Brigitte, after a Norwegian talk-show hostess. The customer was also quite happy with the valve’s consistent, reliable performance, as well as its ability to handle high flow rates.



Because of its large size, the valve was a challenge to manufacture. The Fisher Severe Service Group in Marshalltown, Iowa, USA provided valve body and trim designs and worked with Fisher manufacturing personnel to conduct radiography and magnetic-particle testing. While the average production lead-time for a valve with similar requirements is about 24 weeks, the Marshalltown manufacturing team shipped the valve within 11 weeks to meet a critical delivery deadline for the platform’s revamp.

The eight-foot tall valve body and its five-foot tall actuator shipped separately, traveling via jet from Chicago to France and then by train to Norway for final assembly and installation.

Two years ago, two more Fisher 20-inch, ANSI Class #1500 EH valves were installed on this North Sea platform to control two gas export lines that lead to Germany and Belgium. These newer valves provide 50% more capacity than the record holder, which now serves as a spare. No maintenance issues have occurred with any of these large Fisher valves.

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