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LARGE V260 BALL VALVE BOUND FOR DEEP WATER PLATFORM

One of the world's largest oil producers plans to spend \$15 billion over the next ten years developing vast deep-water oil reserves in the Gulf of Mexico. With four decades of success in the region, Fisher Controls International LLC and its Texas-based sales representative office, Puffer-Sweiven, will supply equipment and services for four, new oil-production platforms in the area.

The deep-water project includes \$8M worth of control valves. The first and largest of these platforms will utilize a 24-inch Design V260 ball valve made of AVESTA 254 SMO super-austenetic stainless steel. Designed and built to resist corrosion in seawater service, this V260 will be the largest valve of its kind produced to date. It incorporates a dual Hydrodome™ attenuator to provide two-stage pressure reduction as protection against excessive operating noise and vibration.

Called a seawater recycle valve, the Design V260 will be applied in a 30-inch line within the lift pump area of the platform.

While operating temperatures and pressures will be low, the valve is expected to control an estimated 736,000 barrels of seawater every day.

A FIELDVUE® Digital Valve Controller, AD (advanced diagnostic) version, will monitor the performance of this critical valve and provide data for its predictive maintenance.

The platform is scheduled to start producing oil by 2005, with predicted pumping rates of 250,000 barrels per day.

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Severe Service