



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

IMPROVING STEAM-VENT VALVE MONITORING AND SHUTOFF SAVES PAPER MILL \$50,000 PER YEAR

In 2003, one of the critical valves installed in a steam-vent application at a mill manufacturing recycled paperboard was experiencing very poor shutoff. Human error was the most likely cause of the leak; The loop was in manual at 2% open for an extended period of time. The steam-vent valve, installed in the mill's cogeneration facility, operates at low points in the travel sequence, which results in excessive wear at the valve's seating surface due to high-velocity steam. With the cost of fuel at a record high of \$6.30 per MMBTU, mill managers recognized the financial consequences of leaking 850 psi of steam to the atmosphere.

They turned to the Fisher Valve Division and its Severe Service group for help improving the HP (high-pressure) valve's performance. Personnel at New England Controls, Local Business Partner in Mansfield, Massachusetts, worked with Fisher application experts on a solution that included C-Seal™* trim and a FIELDVUE® Digital Valve Controller.

The DVC6000 instrument with Advanced Diagnostic (AD) capabilities not only limits the valve's travel and thereby reduces seat wear, but also monitors the valve's performance and reports any problems. When used in combination with ValveLink® SNAP-ON™ applications software, the DVC-AD instrument enables operators to generate "signature curves" on the valve's performance. Comparing these curves over time enables operators to improve troubleshooting and facilitate more predictive valve maintenance.

Since the valve revamp in August 2003, there have been no signs of any steam leakage nor has the valve required any maintenance. This HP valve revamp and resulting shutoff improvements have saved the mill an estimated \$50,000 per year. During 2004, plant managers expect to increase steam pressure and begin operating 365 days a year, changes that will make reliable valve performance even more critical.

For more severe service solutions, see us at www.fishersevereservice.com.



* C-Seal is a mark owned by Pressure Science, Inc.

