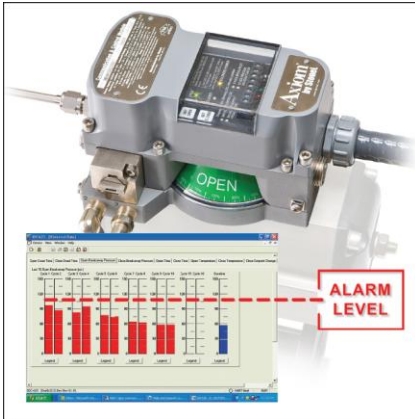


AXIOM® valve monitor with on-board diagnostics cuts downtime and repair costs

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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April 23, 2010 – STONEL®, a leader in valve communication and control technology, announces the availability of a new addition to the field-proven AXIOM series. The AXIOM series features integral valve monitoring with non-contact position sensing and discrete control capabilities for automated on/off valves.

The **AXIOM® with Diagnostics** predicts potential automated valve problems, thereby reducing process downtime and maintenance costs.

The system offers several remote and local diagnostic alerts, as well as key variable trending, to warn personnel of impending trouble with the pneumatic supply, control solenoid, or valve/actuator system. Alerts may be triggered by a drop in pneumatic supply pressure below operational levels, or when a shorted or opened solenoid circuit is detected. Additional alerts are activated if the AXIOM pneumatic spool or pilot valve stick due to air line contamination or other causes, or if the automated valve stalls in mid-stroke due to a jammed valve or actuator. Alerts are automatically cleared as soon as normal operating conditions are restored.

With the AXIOM HART® communication, stroke times, torque levels, dead time, and other critical variables may be recorded and trended. These parameters, trended over multiple strokes, provide clues whether valves need repair or replacement; thereby preventing unplanned down time and enabling maintenance to be performed during scheduled shut downs.

Using the AXIOM's intelligent communication capabilities, "Open" and "Closed" settings can be initiated using on-board push buttons, or remotely from a control station. Also, the automated valve's location can be confirmed by remotely initiating a "wink" function, which flashes on-board LEDs for clear identification without interrupting valve operation.

AXIOM models are available for single drop conventional applications using a 4 to 20mA feedback with HART protocol using EDDL or FDT technologies, or in multi-drop bus applications with the AS-Interface protocol.

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STONEL®, a Metso business unit, is a leader in process networking and valve communication technology. STONEL's VALVEPOINT® valve communication and control and FIELDLINK® process networking products include a full array of solutions enabling quarter-turn and linear discrete automated valves to be controlled, to think, and to communicate. STONEL is certified to ISO 9001:2008 and EN 13980. For more information please visit www.stonel.com.