



BIP Perolo footvalve with pneumatic operator

Making 2021 the year of safety

Safety has always been of paramount importance in the bulk industry, especially when it involves the transport of dangerous goods. Lately this issue is being discussed more and more.

When talking about safety in relation to dangerous goods, the first items that spring to mind are the safety of the tank or tanker in which the goods are transported and the quality of the valves and fittings that are installed on this tank. However, in recent years a new shift focuses on the safety of the operators and drivers of the tanks.

To limit casualties and human errors, it is key to inform and train operators. There is already qualified training required within some regulations, such as ADR. But nowadays we can see several initiatives popping up outside the regulatory context taking this a step even further. The International Tank Container Organisation (ITCO), for instance, has published several guides for working on top of a tank container and safe entry into a tank container.

Training of the staff is only one part of the safety equation. We can also see various innovations and efforts from valve suppliers to make the operations more ergonomic and thus improve operator safety.

BIP Perolo is a leading valve supplier with its R&D department based in France and a member of ITCO.

In BIP Perolo's valve range, there are solutions for operating the top valves from ground level. Indeed, remote control systems have been developed for the entire range of ball valves and butterfly valves that can be installed on top of a tank container or road tanker. These remote control systems are either manually operated with a push/pull cable or pneumatically operated by an actuator depending on the specification of the tank.

But it's not only the top valves that are subject to innovation to enhance safety, but also the bottom valves. On all the major bottom valves for an ISO tank container and road tanker, there is the possibility to have a pneumatic operation with an actuator. Furthermore, the bottom valves have been recently equipped with an ergonomic offset handle that has a dual purpose. With the modified ergonomic profile, the handle offers extra grip for the operator. With the offset aspect of the handle there is no interference with the tank or the other handle of the three-closure bottom discharge. All of these innovations contribute to the operator's safety and will help



An airline and a top discharge valve operated from ground level thanks to a manual remote control

avoiding any possible injury while manipulating the bottom discharge.

For Pierre Surman, Perolo's technical director, the source of inspiration for these technical modifications is quite straightforward: "These innovations are the result of a dialogue with customers working in the field," he said. "After all, they have the best risk assessment for operators and when expressing their needs and exchanging ideas with our R&D department, we always find the best solution that we can then roll out to the rest of our range."

Operator safety is the drive for several innovations at BIP Perolo and this trend will only become more important in the upcoming years. It can only be expected that other valve suppliers will soon follow BIP Perolo's example and that the industry will become a safer place in the near future.

www.perolo.com



Bottom discharge with a new ergonomic handle that offers more grip



WWW.TANKCONTAINER.COM

Worldwide UN and IMO Portable Tank
2-1/2 and 5 Year Periodic Testing
New Construction Certification



- ✓ E-Test Approval & Scheduling
- ✓ Global 24/7 Report Database Access
- ✓ Cloud-Connected Reporting Devices
- ✓ Automated E-mail Reports

- ✓ On-Hire/Off-Hire Inspections
- ✓ Estimate Verifications
- ✓ Cleanliness Inspections
- ✓ CSC Inspections

Worldwide Staff and Permanent Personnel Using Common Global Quality System

AMERICAS	americas@silvercims.com	JAPAN	japan@silvercims.com
AUSTRALIA	australia@silvercims.com	KOREA	korea@silvercims.com
CHINA	china@silvercims.com	SINGAPORE	singapore@silvercims.com
EUROPE	europa@silvercims.com		(and other far east)
INDIA	india@silvercims.com	UAE/SAUDI	uae-saudi@silvercims.com