

chemicals, the weather and mechanical impact," explained a spokesperson.

Challenging requirements

SIPOS Aktorik has supplied its SIPOS 5 HiMod actuators for essential valve control automation for a double-strand continuous caster for the Dillinger Hütte steel plant in Germany. Known as Continuous Caster 6 (CC6), the line will

supply slab to both high-capacity heavy plate rolling mills in Dillingen and to the company's wholly owned subsidiary, GTS Industries in Dunkirk, in addition to fulfilling the requirements of the company's sophisticated product mix.

Commenting on the actuation solution, Tino Raschke, SIPOS' regional sales manager said: "Cooling regulation at CC6 requires extreme accuracy to ensure the

high quality of the plates. This is aided by the actuator, which has been designed to address the most challenging valve control requirements with high end modulating duty, precision and longevity. Key features of the actuator for this project included a high-precision position encoder that can offer accuracy and Modulation to Class D (continuous duty) according to DIN EN 15714-2."

Solving cavitation problems in plugged needle valves

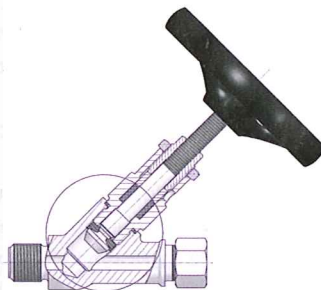
AS-Schneider's S371 Series Y-Pattern needle valves are designed for use as shut-off valves in impulse lines, where a low-resistance passage and less deflection of the flow are important, or where the valve must be easily rodded.

A flow generally does not occur in impulse lines – except when blowing off or flushing the lines. However, specifically while blowing off steam lines, the small flow cross-sections and high pressures can result in high flow velocities. When combined with significant

deflection of flow this can lead to cavitation, which can damage the valve tip and the valve seat.

The S371 was developed specifically for this application and features a truly straight-through design without any deflection of flow.

Another advantage of the valve is said to be the space-saving arrangement of the valve head unit relative to the impulse line – and the fact that it can be rodded. The valves are available for pressures of up to 160 Bar and temperatures of up to 550°C



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