

HYCONTROL

LEVEL MEASUREMENT SOLUTIONS



Chemical Storage

Ultrasonic Level Application



outokumpu



Outokumpu continue to place their trust in Hycontrol

Leading specialist stainless steel manufacturer **Outokumpu** are in the process of upgrading vital ultrasonic level measuring instrumentation on chemical storage tanks at their plant in Sheffield.

The tanks are used to store concentrated acid, spent acid and acid-contaminated water. The original **Hycontrol** level measuring equipment fitted to the 15 tanks has provided sterling service over the past 20 years. The tanks vary in shapes and sizes resulting in a range of different Hycontrol instruments being utilised, consisting of separate transducers and instrumentation.

However during this time, level measuring technology has advanced significantly in terms of electronics, instrument interface technology and transducer design. Not surprisingly, given the highly corrosive environment, the original equipment was showing some signs of wear and tear. Although it still functioned satisfactorily, Outokumpu engineers decided it was time for an upgrade, giving them the chance to rationalise the instrumentation and connectivity to the site's central PLC.

Following a site visit, Hycontrol's engineers suggested installing their **Microflex-C** devices on all the 15 tanks. The Microflex-C is a compact ultrasonic unit with integrated transducer, offering Outokumpu a number of important benefits. The loop-powered units simplify inter-connection and the standard PVDF (Polyvinylidene fluoride) transducer face is compatible with 35% hydrofluoric acid, the most aggressive substance stored on site. With a measuring range of eight metres, the Microflex-C can be configured to display level or volume with set up carried out via the integral keypad.



To date Outokumpu have upgraded ten of the tanks and their Electrical Operations Engineer **Stewart Wilson** is pleased with the rationalisation: "The installation and calibration procedures for the integrated Microflex C units are very straightforward and connectivity has required minimal changes to our system. The use of a single type of instrument for all the different tanks is very beneficial and we expect to upgrade the remaining five tanks in due course."



Footnote: Outokumpu is a global leader in stainless steel production, employing more than 12,000 professionals in over 30 countries. Production facilities are located in China, Finland, Germany, Mexico, Sweden, the UK and USA, providing a cold-rolling capacity of approximately 2.6 million tonnes. The company, headquartered in Espoo, Finland, creates advanced materials that are efficient, long lasting and recyclable. The Sheffield facility, part of Outokumpu's Long Products business, includes a melt shop, continuous casting line, bar finishing facility and rod mill.

To read more of our applications in the chemical, food & beverage, nuclear, water & waste, recycling, quarrying and metals industries, please go online at hycontrol.com

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