

PRESS RELEASE

GEA adds a hard valve seat seal to the D-tec® valve range

Düsseldorf (Germany), September 12, 2017 – GEA is celebrating the launch of the TEFASEP® gold valve seat seal at drinktec 2017 (Hall A3/ Stand 313). As well as the previously available standard elastomer materials, such as EPCM and FKM, now a hard seal option is available with the TEFASEP® gold. It consists of a specially developed thermoplast that is so resistant to temperature and chemicals that it can withstand sterilization processes of 121 °C up to 160 °C which is vital for highly hygienic or aseptic processing of, for example, UHT milk, baby food and soft drinks. Another advantage of TEFASEP® gold is that it can easily be applied in traditional ultraclean processes with simple hot cleaning without sterilization. Valves can therefore be coordinated better with customer processes – from ultraclean to aseptic.

Growing trend for hard seals

The new seal is designed for the D-tec® range of rod membrane valves that stand out because of their very high contamination protection. “Since the GEA D-tec® was launched onto the market in 2015, we have constantly further developed and added to the valve range,” explained Pascal Bär, Product Manager for [aseptic valve technology](#) at GEA. “More and more customers are seeing the advantages of a hard seal that also easily copes with sterilization processes at high temperatures and handling abrasive media without any problems. Therefore we modified the material of the established TEFASEP® valve seat seal from the Aseptomag® valve range in such a way that the D-tec® valves, including their wide range of applications, can also be fitted with it. With the TEFASEP® gold we have created a genuine all rounder.”

Focus on process requirements

The hard, stable material compound is impressive not only because of its high temperature and chemical resistance but its robustness also prevents the cold flow familiar with other thermoplasts and as a result contributes significantly to process stability. Together with the valve design, the material ensures a minimum contact surface between the housing and the seal which, in turn, increases the cleaning capability of the process system. Unlike an elastomer seal, the thermoplast uniquely requires a cleaning cycle of 80 °C. As a result the O ring adjusts to the valve seat and seals the system hermetically.

Optimized operating costs

“We are convinced that, with the TEFASEP® gold, we have found an ideal combination of technical performance and profitability. Looking at the operating costs over the whole service life of a valve played an important role during the development of the new seal option,” asserted Pascal Bär.

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The new TEFASEP® gold valve seat seal differs from the tried and tested TEFASEP® model in appearance because of its bronze gold colour and is available for all valve types in the D-tec® range. The material meets the international standards of the FDA (21 CFR § 177.1550), the EC (1935/2004 and 10/2011) and the 3A standard (numbers 20 – 24). In addition, TEFASEP® gold complies with USP standards (USP Class IV –121 °C) and is thus suitable for pharmaceutical and biotechnology applications.

GEA at drinktec: Hall A3/ Stand 313

Pictures:



[Fig. 1](#) + [Fig 2](#): TEFASEP® gold has no cold flow and stands out because of its high chemical and temperature resistance. (Photo: GEA)

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Fig. 3: [TEFASEP® gold extends the options for valve seat seals for the hermetically sealing D-tec® rod membrane valves.](#) (Photo: GEA)

Further information at gea.com

[GEA at drinktec 2017](#)

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About GEA

GEA is one of the largest suppliers for the food processing industry and a wide range of other industries that generated consolidated revenues of approximately EUR 4.5 billion in 2016. The international technology group focuses on process technology and components for sophisticated production processes in various end-user markets. The group generates around 70 percent of its revenue in the food and beverages sector that enjoys long-term sustainable growth. As of June 30, 2017, the company employed about 17,000 people worldwide. GEA is a market and technology leader in its business areas. The company is listed on the German MDAX (G1A, WKN 660 200). In addition, GEA's stock is included in the MSCI Global Sustainability Indexes. Further information is available on the Internet at gea.com.

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