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Press Release

Optimized Rotary Valve Ideal for Fragile Food Materials

Design Innovations to Coperion's ZVB Rotary Valve

Weingarten, Germany (September 2018) – In response to the high demand for gentle handling of food and pet food products, Coperion has optimized its ZVB rotary valve design. The modifications have been engineered to provide the gentlest mode of material handling, while maintaining the strict sanitary standards of the food and pet food industries. The improvements include the lower overall weight while maintaining the same robust design, optimization of the housing wall thicknesses, increased inlet cross section, and especially an optimized inlet geometry for fragile food materials such as pet food kibbles, roasted coffee and finished cereals.

This unique combination results in a much gentler handling and introduction of product to the rotary valve. The increased "anti-chopping" inlet deflects the product into the rotating rotor chambers of the rotary valve and avoids that the product is damaged by the metering vanes. Several tests with customers have shown a significant reduction in product degradation of fragile and sensitive materials such as pet food kibbles, compared to common rotary valves with standard inlet geometries. Furthermore, an improved overall capacity through the valve is realized by the larger, optimized inlet cross section.

Ideal applications include positioning the rotary valve to meter and load finished product into big bags or supersacks, or for filling of finished product packaging lines. All automated transfer of product is then done without degradation or "chopping" of the finished product or ingredient.

In addition to the modifications outlined above, the Coperion ZVB rotary valves are also available in Coperion's innovative design for wet cleaning (e.g. Clean in Place). The overall design is engineered to provide optimum operational reliability for sanitary production. In addition to including materials of construction and design for use with cleaning agents or hot



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water flushing, the valve can be equipped with flush end sealing at the inlet and outlet and between side covers and the housing.

Coperion is the international market and technology leader in compounding and extrusion systems, feeding and weighing technology, bulk materials handling systems and services. Coperion designs, develops, manufactures and maintains systems, machines and components for the plastics, chemicals, pharmaceutical, food and minerals industries. Within its four divisions – Compounding & Extrusion, Equipment & Systems, Materials Handling and Service – Coperion has 2,500 employees and nearly 30 sales and service companies worldwide. Coperion K-Tron is part of the Equipment & Systems division of Coperion. For more information visit <u>www.coperion.com</u> or email <u>info@coperion.com</u>.

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The Coperion ZVB rotary value is a stainless steel rotary value for gentle handling of the most fragile food and pet food materials.

Image: Coperion, Weingarten/Germany