



Automated valve control and monitoring

Valve-top control and indicator units



Valve automation right where you need it

Sanitary valves play key roles in processes throughout the food, dairy, brewery and pharmaceutical industries. There are almost countless different makes and types.

The most cost-effective ways to reap maximum benefit from such valves is to control and monitor their action as accurately, reliably and economically as possible.

Alfa Laval provides a full range of easy-to-install, easy-to-use valve-top control and indicator units that do exactly that.

Better control

Traditional indicators are rarely capable of maintaining pre-set parameters for valve operation. Alfa Laval units solve this by using a state-of-the-art “no touch” sensor system, pre-configured with a tolerance band.

This does away with adjustments during the unit’s service life, providing you with a time-saving “set and forget” solution that also keeps production downtime to a minimum.

Cost-effective combinations of ThinkTop® and IndiTop units give you full control over fluid handling processes – with the exact degree of automation you require.

Easy to install

These units fit onto all Alfa Laval sanitary valves fitted with actuator “mushrooms”, in an easy, straight-forward procedure that requires no special expertise or costly adaptors. This makes them ideal for retrofitting and updating your existing processing plant and for increasing flexibility.

Once fitted, the initial set-up is done manually using a rapid, foolproof “5-push setup”. You can then virtually forget about valve settings.

Alfa Laval valve-top control and indicator units benefit your operations by ensuring:

- Better control and monitoring of processing operations
- Full insight and documentation about what happens
- Greater safety and reliability
- Low cost of ownership due to savings on time and manpower, and avoiding downtime and mistakes
- Easy upgrading, expansion and reconfiguration of existing installations, with no adaptors required.





Low cost of ownership

Alfa Laval control and indicator units give you a remarkably low cost of ownership via savings on time, manpower and installation costs, as well as by boosting production uptime throughout the service life of the unit.

ThinkTop and IndiTop units feature modular, fully encapsulated (potted) designs that are extremely robust and only have a small number of components. This saves on spare parts inventory and maintenance costs throughout their service life.

Built to last

Alfa Laval control and indicator units are built for maximum durability, providing long-term service both indoors and outdoors. They comply with the stringent IP66 and IP67 standards for protecting electronic equipment against penetration by dust particles or liquids.

ThinkTop units are completely watertight and suitable for use in any known operating environment. They are also fitted with GORE™ protective venting technology that gets rid of any accumulated moisture.

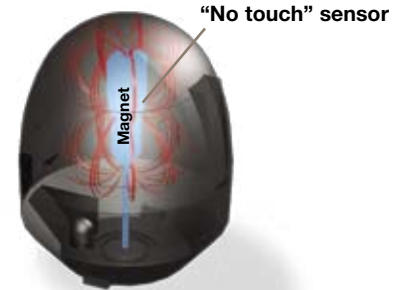
All the materials used help protect against the effects of physical impact, UV radiation and working environments in which grease, oil and chemicals may be present.

Data about the settings for each valve is automatically stored in the unit's own memory. This important information is therefore fully protected against the effects of any power failure.

Safe and rugged

Alfa Laval control and indicator units have well-proven features designed to ensure maximum safety during production by making sure that each valve is doing exactly what it is supposed to – regardless of conditions.

The “no touch” sensor system is less sensitive to the effects of temperature and vibration because they are moulded directly into the valve-top units.



The sensor detects valve stem movement with extremely high accuracy. This means these units can be set up with individual tolerance bands for detecting any deviation in the opening/closing of the valve plug. This helps prevent any operating errors that might result in wasted production.



LKB
butterfly valve

Unique SSV
single seat valve

Unique
mixproof valve

ThinkTop

These top-level control and indicator units give you access to the full range of electronic interfaces available for operating solenoid valves, transmitting feedback signals and ensuring the operator full benefit from the many technical features of Alfa Laval sanitary valves.

ThinkTop units make it possible to fulfil all the requirements for automated valve monitoring and control. They also provide reliable, real-time data that paves the way to full traceability for each production batch.



ThinkTop Basic

These are mid-level units that fulfil basic requirements for the automated control and monitoring of sanitary valves, with a reduced number of digital inputs and outputs.

Installing ThinkTop Basic units is both quick and easy, and helps provide a cost-effective degree of flexibility in controlling both automated and semi-automated processing set-ups.

IndiTop

IndiTop indicator units are designed to transmit small amounts of data as feedback about the current position of any sanitary valve. No solenoids are used, eliminating the need for adjustment over time and, making this a true “set and forget” system.

These units are ideal for cost-effective use in either new or existing installations where only low-level digital signals are used.



Side indicator brackets

Certain Alfa Laval valve types are available with special side indicator brackets for mounting a range of different sensors and monitoring switches.

Getting the message across

Alfa Laval control and indicator units are designed to provide you and your staff with accurate, reliable information about the exact operating status of your sanitary-standard valves at any given time.

This important information is always provided in visual form, with colour-coded LEDs that make sure your operators can see the current valve position and whether the power is on or off.

Alfa Laval control and indicator units can also provide digital electronic feedback by relaying sensor data about the exact valve position to a PLC (Programmable Logic Controller), via a range of different industry-standard configurations. These include traditional digital interfaces, the relatively simple AS-Interface system and the more advanced DeviceNet™ fieldbus interface

Combining bus systems and digital technologies

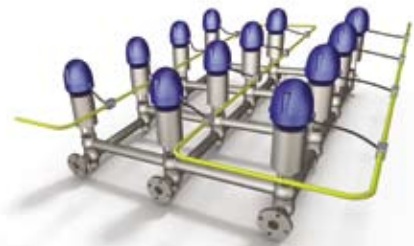
Alfa Laval equipment is compatible with all major PLC digital input/output cards and gateways for communication via other fieldbus systems. This makes it easy to combine different types of control and indication units and data communication interfaces to meet your particular valve control needs at any given time.

Alfa Laval valve automation technology enables you to combine different valves, different control equipment and different communication protocols as you see fit, to deal with your changing requirements.

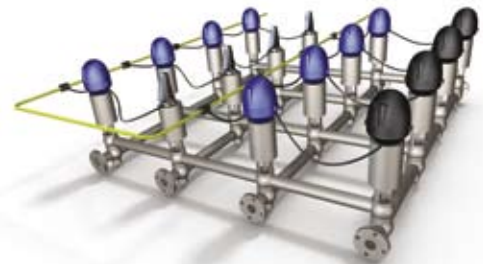
Alfa Laval solutions also let you streamline interface and wiring configurations by connecting feedback signals from multiple control or indicator units into one. This greatly reduces the investment required to implement efficient, future-compatible valve control and monitoring set-ups.



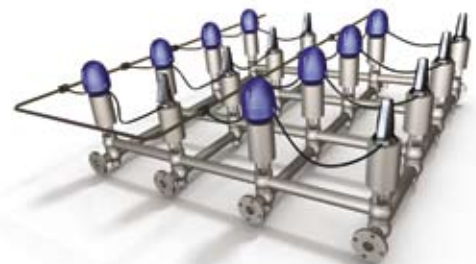
Cable



AS-Interface



Combination
of different
communication
protocols



DeviceNet

Alfa Laval in brief

Alfa Laval is a leading global provider of specialized products and engineered solutions. Our equipment, systems and services are dedicated to helping customers to optimize the performance of their processes. Time and time again.

We help our customers to heat, cool, separate and transport products such as oil, water, chemicals, beverages, foodstuffs, starch and pharmaceuticals.

Our worldwide organization works closely with customers in almost 100 countries to help them stay ahead.

How to contact Alfa Laval

Up-to-date Alfa Laval contact details for all countries are always available on our website at www.alfalaval.com

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