



News Release

Festo Reimagines Actuator Control Valve Design and Saves Customers Money, Time, Energy, and Space

New pneumatic actuator control valves feature up to three functions in one space saving unit – more than 50 percent smaller than valves with comparable functionality.

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HAUPPAUGE, NY, June 12, 2014 — Festo design engineers reimagined pneumatic actuator control valve design to create multi-functional units that are less expensive to purchase than comparable solutions, more than 50 percent smaller in terms of height, save energy, and are easier and faster to install, troubleshoot, and maintain. Festo now offers the new space saving VFOF, [VBNE](#), and VBQF multi-functional pneumatic control valve series.

If an OEM wanted additional control functionality for a pneumatic actuator, then traditionally multiple components would have been added. For example, the OEM would use a one-way flow control valve for speed control, an air-piloted check valve for stopping cylinder movement and maintaining position, and a manual override valve to release trapped air when servicing. This meant that three different components were purchased and bolted together. This

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added height to the actuator. Bringing together multiple components into the mix also made installation, trouble shooting, and maintenance more complex. Additional components increased the potential for compressed air leakage. And, there were issues of ordering and stocking multiple part numbers.

VFOF features three functions in one unit

The new Festo VFOF, model LE-BAH, adds control functionality without these problems by providing one-way speed control, manual override, and emergency stop functionality – holding a piston’s position even in the vertical position – in a single compact unit. The unit bolts directly to the actuator port and lies flat against the actuator for space savings in terms of height. The unit’s multiple ports are clearly labeled for fast, accurate installation, trouble shooting, and maintenance.

Another model of the VFOF offers straightforward speed control in one direction in the compact form of the new series.

The new VBNF control valve delivers emergency stop and manual override in one unit. The new VBQF offers two options – manual override with a silencer and manual override without a silencer.

“This new series of control valves demonstrates the power of functional integration combined with a keen eye for industrial design,” said Frank Langro, Director Marketing and Product Management at Festo. “From space savings and acquisition cost to installation, operation, and

maintenance, these units define a whole new way of approaching pneumatic actuator control.”

For more information on this new series of space saving multi-functional control valves VFOF, VBNF, and VBQF, call Festo at 800-993-3786 and visit <http://www.festo.com/us>.

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About Festo

Festo is a leading manufacturer of pneumatic and electromechanical systems, components, and controls for process and industrial automation. For more than 40 years, Festo Corporation has continuously elevated the state of manufacturing with innovations and optimized motion control solutions that deliver higher performing, more profitable automated manufacturing and processing equipment.

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