

HYCONTROL



with



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Bitumen is a key ingredient in many of the products produced on site, but its properties dictate that it is delivered and stored at elevated temperatures. Bostik's investment in the Hycontrol overflow safety systems endorses their steadfast commitment to ensuring the safety of their employees, tanker drivers and last, but not least, the environment. Hycontrol have extensive experience in the supply, commissioning and maintenance of dedicated safety systems for hot bitumen and have worked closely with the Refined Bitumen Association (RBA) to define their industry recognized recommendations on the design of failsafe overflow protection systems for bitumen tanks.

The Bostik safety systems are based around Hycontrol's RF admittance level switches and ATEX vibrating probes. Together with their associated alarm panels, these act as overflow protection safety level switches to prevent hazardous overfilling during product discharge from delivery tankers. In the event of impending overfill problems, audio and visual alarms warn drivers and operators of any potential dangers, allowing ample time to shut down the fill process.



The versatile RF admittance switches can be used on liquids, solids, slurries, pastes, granules, powders and pellets in high temperature, high pressure and corrosive environments. A key design feature is their ability to totally ignore product build up on the sensing probe, making them ideal for products such as hot bitumen. Their unique design utilises a protective insulation electrode between the conventional main electrode and the grounding sleeve, which enables the built-in electronics to distinguish between coatings and actual product.

There are four RF switches installed on the vessels in the Bitumen Cutback Tank Farm connected through to a four point alarm panel. (Cutback bitumen is bitumen whose viscosity has been reduced by the addition of a suitable volatile dilutant). A further four RF switches and their associated twin alarm panels are fitted to a bank of four bitumen tanks which feed the manufacturing processes. A single RF switch and single point alarm panel protects a latex storage tank. Again the capability of the RF switch to ignore product build up is vitally important for this notoriously difficult to measure sticky product. Finally, a solvented bitumen tank is fitted with an ATEX intrinsically safe HYCTF high temperature vibrating probe and special hazardous area single point alarm panel with an integral ATEX Namur barrier.



Specialist electrical panel design and build is a key part of Hycontrol's total level measuring system capabilities and the company claim this versatility sets them apart from most of their competitors, ensuring customers receive comprehensive tried and tested systems specifically designed for their application.

Hycontrol's involvement with such projects doesn't end once the equipment is installed and commissioned: their ongoing comprehensive service and support contracts are designed to ensure the integrity of such systems is maintained, especially with regard to safety issues.





Bostik

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Hycontrol Limited
Larchwood House
Orchard Street
Redditch
B98 7DP

Tel: 01527 406800
Fax: 01527 406810
www.hycontrol.com
sales@hycontrol.com