

### Pressure meter updated

UK scientific instrument manufacturer Bristol Industrial and Research Associates Ltd (BIRAL) now has a new version of its hand-held DP Calc Micromanometer for measuring pressure drops across filters.

The Model 8705 TSI calculates flow rates using differential pressure and a K factor, or using a Pitot tube and a programmed duct shape. Nominal velocity measured with the Pitot tube can be corrected to actual or standard velocity. The use of a diaphragm based pressure transducer is said to minimise drift, providing stable readings regardless of orientation.

Up to 1000 readings with date and time stamps can be stored, and the monitor can be set to different logging intervals.

Model 8075 comes with a carrying case, static pressure tip, over 2 m of rubber tubing, alkaline batteries, manual, calibration certificate and LOGDAT software. This downloading software, which is compatible with Microsoft Excel, allows the user to store and organise test data.

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### Software speeds up HVAC solutions

The latest heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) air flow modelling software from Flomerics, Surrey, UK, incorporates an 'explorer-style' browser, and new solver technology to speed up solution times.

Flowvent V3.1 uses an enhanced computer aided design (CAD) interface to make it easier to import geometry from CAD tools and therefore reduce the time required to optimise an HVAC system.

According to the company, the Flowvent V3.1 directly calculates and plots parameters such as the local air change index (LACI) and the local mean age of the air (LMA) during post processing. The user can input reference thickness in the filtration model, and a 'contamination removal effectiveness' diagnostic tool helps to locate the region from which airborne contamination originates. The 'command centre module' allows engineers to create multiple

design variations based on an initial base line model.

The software is said to provide complete treatment of parallel or counter-flow heat exchangers, with options to specify thermostatic control for transient analysis and options to specify a dead band to model hysteresis. Gridding of designs, which solves heat transfer and air flow consistently across the whole model, is simplified to provide greater control for detailed calculations.

Flowvent's distributed processing is designed to take advantage of spare central processing unit (CPU) capacity on a network. The software can be used on NT, HP, SUN, IBM and SGI platforms.

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### Continuous compressed air filtration



The new 2000 Series compressed air filters from Parker Balston, Maidstone, UK, are compact and said to offer cost effective protection against contamination.

According to Parker, the filters remove 99.99% of particles and droplets down to 0.01  $\mu\text{m}$ . A continuous drain option allows the filters to operate for an unlimited length of time, and avoids pressure drop, reductions in flow capacity and down time.

Differential pressure indicators are incorporated into the front and the back of the filter to give all round visibility and ensure optimum filter element change. A sight glass fitted at the base of the housing allows the user to check oil and water levels.

No special tools are required for changing the filter cartridge because a quarter-turn, bayonet quick-release bowl equipped with a pressure release valve allow quick access.

The filters in the range, measure either 10 cm by 33 cm or 13 cm by 43 cm. All of the filters have modular fitting, which Parker says allows fitting at almost any point in the process with minimum disruption, as well as in small spaces.

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