



Extended cooperation of Sulzer and SGL Group for column internals

Sulzer Chemtech, a market leader in separation and mixing technology, and SGL Group, a leading global manufacturer of carbon-made products, are joining forces. The companies are expanding their cooperation in the field of column internals based on SGL's carbon fiber composite materials (CFC), which go by the brand name SIGRABOND®.

When do carbon and graphite products come into use? They are utilized whenever other materials such as steel, aluminum, copper or plastic fail due to material properties like, for example, temperature and corrosion resistance. The CFC structured packing has already been marketed successfully under the Sulzer brand name MellaCarbon™. The existing CFC column internals portfolio – mainly support systems – has now been expanded with liquid distributors, collectors and feed pipes made of SIGRABOND®.



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The new column internals are as corrosion resistant as graphite liquid distributors used to date, they are lighter, stronger, stiffer, more rigid and more temperature resistant than plastics. Also, they cost less than special metals. An innovative connection system enables the realization of larger diameters and allows cost-efficient production.

Ralph Spuller, SGL Project Manager for the cooperation project

Fig. 1 SGL and Sulzer extend their cooperation for corrosion resistant columns.

In recent months, more than 30 new CFC liquid distributors have been designed, manufactured and successfully commissioned for industrial applications – often with the associated MellaCarbon™ packings, support grids and feed tubes. This is the first time that a complete family of CFC-based column internals has been made available to customers of the cooperation partners worldwide. The often-difficult combination of materials, especially for corrosive applications, is no longer necessary.

Doubled capacity of high-voltage test-bed at Falkirk Service Center

Performance testing of high-voltage motors and generators is usually carried out to determine benchmark data following a major repair. However, increasingly, customers are requiring this information as part of a problem diagnosis or to verify performance figures for a component when its essential data has been lost. To keep up with growing demand, Sulzer has made a major investment at its Falkirk Service Center, UK, that will allow the test-bed load capacity to be doubled.

Until now, the Falkirk site has used a 1'250 kVA diesel generator that operates through two step-up transformers to provide 3.3 – 11 kV via high voltage switchgear to the test cell. This setup ensures a reliable power source for testing that is not affected by local demand on the power grid.

The new investment by Sulzer will add a 2'000 kVA and a 700 kVA generator to the site that will be synchronized through a 4'000 A LV switchboard, as well as a new 2'500 kVA transformer, that will double the capacity of the test bed.



The test area is equipped with the latest monitoring controls and safety equipment that provide the test engineers with remote visualizations of the sensor readings. A customer viewing area is also available, from where owners of equipment can watch to ensure that the entire process is transparent and straightforward.

Fig. 1 The new control center of the Falkirk test-bed.

The original capacity of the service center was 1'000 kW in load testing, of which 800 kW could be used for testing vertically oriented motors, across a full range of voltages from 400 V up to 11 kV at both 50 and 60 Hz. The installation of the new equipment will increase the load testing capacity to 2'000 kW for horizontally oriented motors, as well as an increase in voltage to 13.8 kV. The majority of the equipment tested in the additional capacity will be large, high-voltage, AC motors, but the possibility to test DC motors up to 600 V, with a loading up to 800 amps will still remain.

Furthermore, an additional test-bed area is now in place to allow multiple motors to be tested alongside each other. This means that if the testing of one motor needs to be extended, it will not hold up other projects. The new test-bed offers customers the possibility of load testing generators using a slave motor to turn the generator and connecting the output to a load bank. In this way, generators that have undergone major repairs can be tested to ensure that they are fit for purpose before they are reinstalled and recommissioned.

Sulzer acquired JWC – a leading supplier of wastewater equipment

Sulzer acquired JWC Environmental, LLC (“JWC”). JWC is a leading provider of solids reduction and removal products such as grinders, screens, and dissolved air flotation system for municipal, industrial and commercial wastewater applications. The acquisition strengthens Sulzer’s wastewater treatment offering through complementary equipment and improves its access to the key US municipal wastewater treatment market. The enterprise value is USD 215 million.



Fig. 1 The products of JWC are used for grinding and solids separation in wastewater treatment.

JWC, headquartered in Santa Ana, California, US, achieved revenues of USD 82 million in 2017. The company generates the vast majority of its revenues in North America with a growing presence in other world areas. The company employs around 230 people. JWC operates the main manufacturing site at its headquarters and three smaller assembling sites in Burnaby (Canada), Congleton (UK) and Hangzhou (China).

JWC is known for highly engineered, mission-critical grinding and solids separation equipment that protects and ensures the efficient operation of key downstream equipment such as pumps. The company has a fast-growing and recurring aftermarket business that provides a complete offering of parts and services to a large installed base that has been built up over the last 45 years. The transaction allows Sulzer to grow its wastewater treatment offering through complementary equipment as well as to improve its access to the municipal and industrial wastewater market in North America.

A single mixing tip — MIXPAC™ T-Mixer Colibri plus

The T-Mixer Colibri plus is a mixing tip with integrated 360° rotation and up to 180° bendability. It mixes and precisely applies multicomponent dental materials. It can be used for four different applications: reconstruction with root post and core buildup, impressions of root canal, cementation of root posts and post cores, and impression-taking of preparations and cavities.



Fig. 1 T-Mixer Colibri plus – the mixing tip allows 360° rotation and up to 180° bendability.

18-75 ml

is the cartridge size of the new T-Mixer Colibri plus.

For all these applications, dentists need now only a single mixing tip: the T-Mixer Colibri plus. Until now, the mixing tip was only available for smaller cartridges (2.5–10 ml). The flexible T-Mixer Colibri plus works with cartridges from 18–75 ml. The proven advantages of the mixing technology of the T-Mixer™ are now combined with the advantages of the bendable Colibri™ application cannula, which is made from medical stainless steel. The Colibri mixing tip allows dentists to work fast, ergonomically and in a highly professional manner on areas that are difficult to access. They save time, too, because there is no need to change the tip. Even bent, the Colibri mixer has a consistent inner diameter, resulting in consistent and homogenous dispensing results.

Sulzer continues to fight plagiarism for the benefit of both patients and dentists. “Thanks to our information campaign, dentists and medical buyers are increasingly becoming aware of the risks and drawbacks associated with using copied products,” explains Daniel Ferrari, Senior Head Business Segment Dental at Sulzer. He adds, “This not only concerns the safety of patients but also that of the dentist. It does not pay to jeopardize one’s reputation for such marginal savings.” Recently, Sulzer obtained a court ruling against eleven companies. The ruling stated that certain colored dental mixing tips infringed Sulzer’s trademarks. A label in the protected Sulzer “Candy Colors” is intended to further simplify the recognizability of the originals.

Mariella Devrient,
Haag, Switzerland

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Terms and conditions

The prize is an Apple Watch Nike+ (Series 3, GPS). The winner will be chosen randomly from all participants who subscribe to the STR newsletter between November 16, 2017, and April 15, 2018. The winner agrees to have his/her name published in the next *Sulzer Technical Review*. There is no written information about the contest. Limit one entry per person. Sulzer employees and their family members are excluded and cannot participate in the contest. Exclusive place of jurisdiction is Winterthur, Switzerland.

Newsticker

+ + + In 2017, Sulzer's order intake grew by 2 % organically and 12 % including acquisitions. Sales increased by 5 % on acquisitions. + + + The GEKA mascara brush burlesqueBEAUTY won the Innovation Tree award at the MakeUp exhibition in Los Angeles in February 2018. + + + Sulzer will expand GEKA site in Bechhofen, DE, and will generate more than 250 new jobs. + + + Awarded for the fifth time: T-Mixer of Sulzer Mixpac won the Best-Value Product Award from the independent testing institute The Dental Advisor. + + +