

SOLUTIONS FOR METERING STATIONS WITH NO INFRASTRUCTURE

EK230 or EK260 in the hazardous area

New:

FE230 extended function unit
– relies on **battery power!**



Since the remote data readout of volume correctors has become more and more standard, the question has frequently been raised as to which technology can be used to call up the stored information.

Normally, in order to carry out a remote data readout, you need at least a power supply. If the volume corrector is connected to analogue and digital networks, then a telephone connection is also necessary. If a GSM modem is to be used, then you need a suitable SIM card instead of the telephone connection. If a mains power supply is not available, it is possible to use solar energy. This might solve the problem but it also entails other disadvantages such as relatively high capital costs and the danger of vandalism.

Volume correctors that are used in hazardous areas also require the interfaces to be physically separated from the explosive area. In the ELSTER Profiles issue, Vol. 1, 2002 we introduced the compact FE230 extended function unit, which helps to solve the problem of the physical separation at the same time as providing an in-built GSM modem. This guarantees a permanent data transfer connection to the volume corrector without the need for a cable telephone network.

Does this also work when the operation is battery-powered?

This is also no problem for the FE230 extended function unit, which can be combined with the EK230 or EK260 volume correctors. This means

that all of the problems we have mentioned have fallen by the wayside. The FE230 is battery powered, provides the physical separation for the data interfaces and is equipped with a GSM modem. The housing blends in nicely and the GSM antenna is inside the device, which helps to reduce the danger of theft or wanton damage.

It is not normally necessary to communicate permanently with the volume corrector and if there is a sensible data call-up strategy thus reducing the energy consumption of the system, then the operating life can be extended to at least five years. In this context, the modem can be activated regularly within a pre-defined time frame, e.g. once a week or once a month for one hour.

This period of time is quite sufficient in order to call up the data and offers enough leeway for repeat call-ups if the connection should be interrupted for any reason, for example due to an overloaded network.

A data collection system, e. g. WinCOMS II, can then be configured in such a way that the volume corrector can be read out within this period of time. When the task has been carried out, the modem can then be switched off again.

We've been working hard on these new solutions and are now in a position to offer the right products or product combinations for a wide variety of applications.

We look forward to being able to help you, too ...

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