

Responding to growing demand: PTT Calibration Centre to boost its capacity

Last year, Thailand PTT Public Company Limited (PTT, formally called Petroleum Authority of Thailand), the state-owned gas explorer and transporter, decided to expand the gas meter proving capacity of its calibration centre in the Chonburi Operation Centre in order to cater to the annually increasing demand for gas meter tests.

For such a vital facility, PTT has imposed strict selection criteria, which include the manufacturers' design experience, design technology, production capability and track records of gas meter provers. The PTT management team has carefully evaluated, selected and visited two internationally renowned gas meter prover manufacturers – Elster-Instromet and Actaris.

Working together with the local agent, Synergy Intertrade Co. Ltd., Elster-Instromet has successfully won the tender in December 2006 to supply a new PTB certified gas meter proving system with

a proving capacity of up to 6,500 m³/h. This new system is capable of testing gas meter sizes 2" to 12" in fully automatic mode – from meter clamping, air leak tests and meter proving up to generating reports. It consists of three calibration streams with different flow capacities – a sonic nozzle master meter stream using state-of-the-art technology for low flow rates, a 6" G650 turbine master meter stream for medium flow rates and a 12" G4000 turbine master meter stream for high flow rates. Besides the master meter, each calibration stream comprises a filter, a blower, pneumatically controlled isolation valves and electronic sensors. The streams can be operated alone or to-



Fig. 1: The huge 12" G4000 turbine master meter

gether with adjacent streams. The central computer system automatically selects and controls the meter streams depending on the G-rating of the meter being tested. In addition, both a pneumatic clamping system and a hydraulic clamping system are supplied with the system, enabling quick and convenient hook up of the meter being tested.

The production of the gas meter proving system in Mainz (Germany) is currently in its final stage and the FAT (Factory Acceptance Test) is scheduled for the end of May 2007. In Conjunction (Thailand), PTT has chosen a new site and is currently renovating the new calibration centre, preparing it for the new gas meter proving system due to arrive in July 2007.

By September 2007, upon successful completion of the SAT (Site Acceptance Test) and PTB Certification, PTT will proudly operate the most up-to-date gas meter proving system in the South East Asia region.

KC Tan

kctan@elster-amco.com.sg

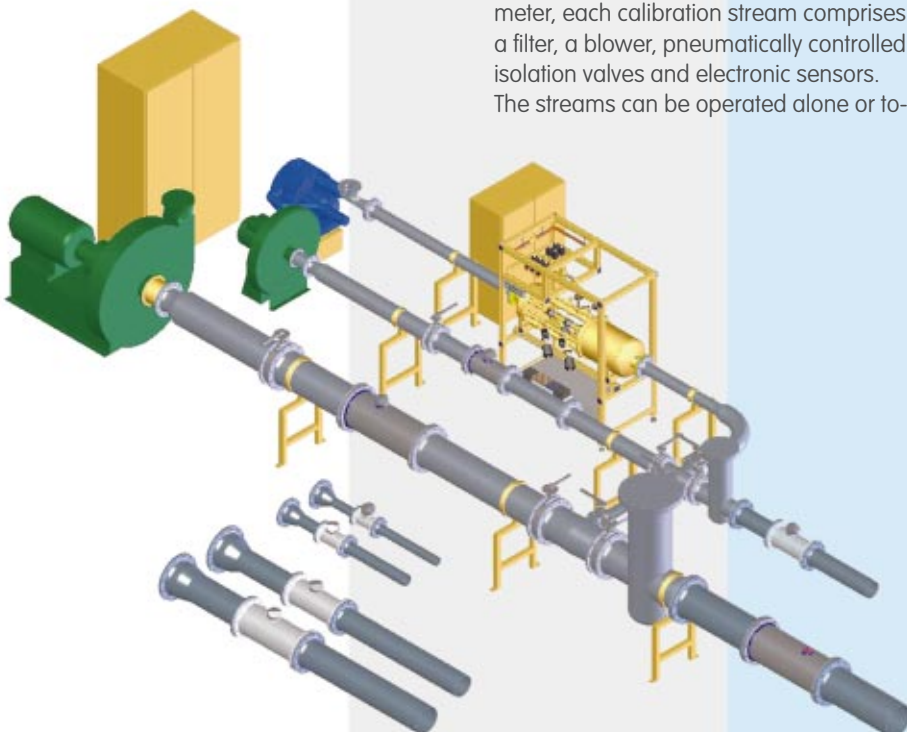


Fig. 2: Key element of the gas meter proving system, assembled at Elster-Instromet in Silvode, NL