



TM

CHESTERFIELD SPECIAL CYLINDERS

CONTINUING OVER A CENTURY OF INNOVATION IN HIGH PRESSURE CYLINDERS



Maintenance approval clears the way to the civil aircraft market

Exciting new opportunities are opening up for our aircraft cylinders business now that the company has achieved the approval of the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA Part 145).

This progress enables Chesterfield to provide a range of maintenance services on cylinders and ancillary parts for use on civil aircraft. No equipment can be carried on such aircraft without the manufacturer or maintenance organisation having approval for the site in which the parts are produced or serviced.

For us, the specific operations will be – overhaul, testing and filling of aerospace oxygen cylinders and valve assemblies

This is a role which dovetails well with our 40 years of experience in retesting and refurbishment of military aircraft cylinders.

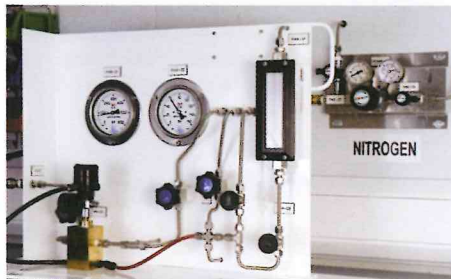
The small cylinders team has worked long and hard to achieve this approval and the company has invested £1/4 million in setting up a dedicated 14,000 square foot bay in the factory for these operations to be carried out. This includes a new clean room for inspection of the cylinders, together with flow, pressure and leak testing processes.

A new oxygen filling facility, capable of use with a range of cylinder sizes has also been installed, with all the necessary controls to ensure the purity required for their use as breathing cylinders.

On civil aircraft, the main applications for such cylinders are either as part of the fixed

emergency breathing system, or in carry-on and portable kits for use by aircrew and cabin staff.

Specifically for those Newsletter readers with a professional interest in this area, the CAA Approval confers compliance to Part 145 of EC Regulation 2042/2003 for C15 oxygen. Because manufacturing new cylinders is not involved, the effort by our team to gain the Approval was as much to do with establishing proper systems and procedures as it was with installing new facilities and equipment.



New testing and filling equipment has been installed.

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Astute - that's us



MAJOR ORDERS FOR UK NAVAL PROJECTS

After a period of uncertainty, awaiting confirmation of continued funding of naval projects by the UK Government, the company has won two significant orders for the supply of high-pressure air cylinders - the combined value of which exceeds £2 million.

The first order is from BAE Systems for the fifth 'Astute' class nuclear-powered submarine type SSN which is currently being built at Barrow-in-Furness. The go-ahead to commence construction was given by the Ministry of Defence in March 2010.

Chesterfield has supplied cylinders for the previous boats in this class, holding off competition from overseas manufacturers. Due to their complexity, these submarines take several years to build. The second, named 'Ambush', was floated only in December.

A further order has followed for the Royal Navy's two new aircraft carriers, 'Queen Elizabeth' and 'Prince Charles', the first of which is now being built at Rosyth on the Firth of Forth.



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> CAA approval continued from front page

John Moscrop, Business Manager for Small Cylinders, says: "it has been a considerable team effort to achieve this Approval which requires very exacting standards of compliance. This enables us to enter a new area of what is known as maintenance, repair and operations market (MRO)."

According to 'Aviation Week', the worldwide MRO market is worth in excess of \$40 billion and is expected to increase by almost 5% over the next 5 years. While cylinders only account for a small proportion of this expenditure, there is still plenty for Chesterfield to target. We already enjoy good commercial contacts and house approvals with a number of civil aircraft constructors and aircraft pressure systems designers and suppliers. Those connections should provide a sound basis, together with other collaborative ventures already being discussed, in this valuable but competitive market

The Approval is a further step in broadening our base as high-pressure gas containment specialists.

> Naval contracts continued from front page

Both contracts are for forged steel cylinders. In the submarine, they are used for the storage of ballast air, for breathing systems oxygen and for emergency back-up equipment actuation systems – all vital facilities, when you consider that the class is designed to circumnavigate the globe without the need to surface.

On the aircraft carriers, the cylinders will provide bulk storage of breathing air to replenish the aircraft flying from the ship. Both orders will be delivered during 2011. Chesterfield has a history of supplying the Royal Navy with their marine air storage requirements for almost 90 years. In recent years, the company has also won contracts from the French and Spanish navies for similar products. The photo below shows a whole range of different sizes of cylinder which Chesterfield has supplied to Spanish shipbuilder Navantia for the new S80-A class submarines being constructed for the Spanish navy.



A strengthened management team

There have been some key management changes at the company and this introduction to **Mick Pinder** is somewhat overdue.

Mick has been appointed Director and General Manager of Chesterfield Special Cylinders Ltd (CSC). He joins from Metals UK, the British operating arm of Castle Metals Inc, a US-based distributor and processor of nickel alloys to the aerospace industry and of corrosion-resistant alloys for general mechanical engineering applications.



Mick Pinder (right) with John Hayward.

He takes over the role from John Hayward, as he steps back from the day-to-day running of CSC to concentrate on the growth of our holding company, Pressure Technologies plc, of which he is Chief Executive. John will remain on the board of CSC as non-Executive Chairman.

Mick Pinder's recent career has been devoted to business development and general management of significant British engineering concerns.

At Metals UK, he was Group General Manager with overall profit responsibility for their sites in Blackburn and Letchworth. Among his principal achievements there he lists rebuilding and directing sales and

marketing teams to gain market share across all sectors; substantially improving delivery performance; and developing the senior team and introducing processes to optimise their business performance.

At about the same time in 2005 as we moved into our present site in Sheffield, Mick had been moving into a job with our neighbours over the road at Firth Rixson Forgings, a major global engineering group offering a wide range of products to the oil and gas, aerospace and off-road vehicle sectors.

He was Operations Director until August 2006, when he was appointed General Manager for the Meadowhall site, which had a turnover of around £30m and a staff of 150. The Group then asked him to oversee the construction and commissioning of a new factory in Hungary to produce automotive forgings.

Prior to joining Firth Rixson, Mick held various management positions over a period of 6 years at Doncasters Bramah, a supplier of highly engineered components to the aerospace industry, also based here in the Steel City.



Chesterfield Special Cylinders has built and delivered a bulk gas road trailer to our sister company, Chesterfield BioGas Ltd. When linked to a dispenser, the unit will serve as a temporary facility for refueling compressed natural gas-powered vehicles operated by the London Borough of Greenwich.

The Council is conducting a 12-month trial to under the Alternative Fuels Infrastructure Grants Programme (AFIGP) during which the facility will also measure and record the use of the fuel by the Council's fleet.

The trailer comprises 235 89-litre cylinders, operating at 250 bar and suitable for charging with CNG or biogas such as biomethane. All manifolds, valves and fittings were assembled in-house and the trailer was supplied with full ADR certification necessary to allow its use on Britain's roads.



Other cylinder projects feature jumbo-size cylinders

www.chesterfieldcylinders.com

If you would like to read past issues of the Chesterfield Newsletter, you can access them via our web site at www.chesterfieldcylinders.com/news

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A Pressure Technologies group company

