

In 2010, Thames Water (TW) appointed Tamesis – a joint venture between Laing O'Rourke and Imtech Process – as the contractor for its project to upgrade Crossness Sewage Treatment Works in east London. This was an upgrade contract worth more than £145M.

The improvements were to enable the site to treat 44% more sewage than it does now, significantly reducing the amount of storm sewage that overflows into the River Thames during heavy rainfall when the site becomes overloaded. The project included the installation of a wind turbine – the first to power a UK sewage works. The turbine will help generate up to half the energy needed to power the site. The upgrade would also see new odour controlled treatment processes.

The work at Crossness is part of TW's £650M programme to improve treatment standards and increase the volume of sewage treated at London's five major sewage treatment works – Crossness, Mogden, Beckton, Long Reach and Riverside. To the surprise of many within the industry, Thames opted to install Val-matic Eccentric Plug Valve packages across the full range of sizes (6, 8, 10 and 36 inch) for the primary settlement tank (PST), de-sludge and aeration applications. Val-matic is a US valve manufacturer and although it has historically dominated certain wastewater valve markets around the world, until now it has never before had a significant presence in the UK.

Jason Dean, technical sales engineer for MGA Controls, comments: "It was important to demonstrate that we were offering a quality solution. During the procurement cycle, the MGA technical support team developed design packages to support the Tamesis JV design team.

"This enabled them to accurately design their systems to ensure that they could meet the exceptionally tight control requirements dictated by Thames Water. It also helped develop an understanding of the Val-matic

The US valve manufacturer Val-matic has entered the UK market on a major project for Thames Water. And it's proved to be a successful debut

# US valves integral to Crossness upgrade



The 36" Val-Matic Cam Centric Eccentric Plug Valves assembled and tested at Crossness with Rotork Actuators orientated for horizontal shaft mounting

products' ability to be able to withstand harsh process environments, with its hard wearing and non-stick fusion bonded epoxy coating, coupled with a unique bearing arrangement and grit guards to extend longevity.

"It was a combination of these factors that gave the Tamesis JV the confidence to propose the Val-matic solution to Thames Water as their preferred product choice."

David Wilson, the managing director of MGA Controls, says: "We were very pleased to have been awarded this contract and to have

delivered all valves and actuators on time. At MGA we always strive to offer a high level of technical expertise and support and in this instance I believe it proved decisive.

"Along with our increasing stock levels of eccentric plug valves, resilient hinge check valves and our range of air valves, we believe we are now well equipped to offer more than a viable alternative to the other established suppliers in this market place."

MGA Controls is the exclusive agent for Val-matic in the UK.



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