

Integrated measuring solutions

WIKA at 75 years of business

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Founded in January 1946, the WIKA Group – headquartered in Klingenberg, Germany – celebrates its 75th anniversary this year. Over the course of its history, WIKA has evolved from a pressure gauge factory to a global player for measurement technology – not only mechanical but also electronic. Most lately, WIKA has been increasingly involved in IIoT (Industrial Internet of

Things) developments.

WIKA's activities here are in line with global market trends in the industrial and medical gases business. The worldwide industrial and medical gases industry has been struggling to optimise the operational costs and supply chain efficiency of its technical gas assets for decades. Initially, the aim was to enhance gas container efficiency by increasing the volume and pressure and by reducing the weight of the containers transported.

This was followed by a growing desire to step up the volumes of transported (stored) gas by moving from pressurised to liquefied storage containers. More recently, a trend has been observed where gas operators try to improve the industrial gas supply chain and the fleet logistics of high-pressure cylinders and cryogenic vessels by maximising utilisation (deployment) of the available assets.

Historically, WIKA has played a part in all three trends. For several decades now, WIKA has been a reliable supplier of low and high pressure mechanical Bourdon tube and direct-drive gauges for companies operating with pressurised industrial gas cylinders (with mounted pressure

regulators) and gas distribution infrastructure – like gas cabinets, gas supply systems or cylinder manifolds. The diversification of WIKA's presence in the North American markets, where cryogenic gas supply is a widespread reality, required the adoption and launch of differential pressure gauges.

When the market was seeking an automatic alarm (control) or switch function to simplify control of gas operations, WIKA expanded its portfolio with a Bourdon tube pressure gauge with switch contacts, a Bourdon tube pressure gauge with an output signal, mechanical pressure switches, and electronic sensors and transmitters. The necessary commands and information for all of these products pass via a wired connection. If the measuring instrument has a standard industry output signal, it is

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