



**burkert**  
FLUID CONTROL SYSTEMS

## Customer Testimonial – Severn Instruments

### Burkert's ATEX-Rated, Electrically Actuated Ball Valves Provide Safe Shut Off for Fuel Oils in Overfill Alarm Systems

Burkert's 8804 ATEX-rated electrically actuated ball valves are providing the safe shut off of heating oil and diesel fuels at multiple depots operated by one of the UK's largest fuel distributors. The valves are employed by flow and level measuring specialists, Severn Instruments, as part of the company's tank overfill protection alarm system (TOPAS). The TOPAS system is critical to safe and efficient operation at fuel depots, as fuel spillages are potentially hazardous and cost around £1,000 per litre to clean up.

Severn Instruments has a contract from the fuel distributor to install its TOPAS system in depots right across the UK. So far, the company has installed the system at 25 depots, with many more to come.



"The tanks at the depots where we are fitting our TOPAS system range from 50,000 litres up to 1,000,000 litres," said John Roberts, Owner of Severn Instruments. "With such large volumes, the depot operators have to be very careful of overfilling of tanks during deliveries. This is where our TOPAS system comes in. After checking in, drivers delivering fuel to the depot connect their hose to the appropriate tank this could be Kerosene (heating oil) or white or red diesel. The driver then presses a button on a central control panel to test the tank alarm system. Normally this is set at 97% of volume, 2% above the normal gauging level of 95%. If the alarm sounds, then the gauging system is operative and the filling cycle begins. However, if for any reason the filling exceeds the 95% level, the alarm system blasts and signals the Burkert 8804 valves to close in a timed sequence of less than 30-seconds – this to give time to switch the pump off – preventing any fuel spilling over the top of the tank."

"When we won this contact we knew that we needed a highly reliable, IP67 rated, ATEX shut-off valve that would operate seamlessly with our TOPAS system. Burkert's 8804 valve ticked all of these boxes we were also recommended to use Burkert on the project, and we know from experience that their equipment is very good."

The Type 8804 valve as used by Severn Instruments is tailor-made for the application it is suitable for use with aggressive media, such as fuel oils and diesel, and for operation in arduous conditions, thanks to an IP67 ingress rating. ATEX-rated the 8804 integrates a small electrical rotary actuator with adjustable limit switches and a manual override, a visual indicator into a single compact, and robust assembly that is easy to install in restricted spaces.

## About Severn Instruments

Severn Instruments was formed in 1991 to supply specialised process control and gauging instrumentation. The full range the company supplies, includes temperature control systems, tank content sensors, flow monitoring equipment, level measurement equipment and associated products.

Severn Instruments oversees complete projects, from project development, through to installation and servicing, providing the maximum customer security that results from a single source responsibility supplier.

## About Bürkert

Bürkert Fluid Control Systems is one of the leading manufacturers of control and measuring systems for fluids and gases. The products have a wide variety of applications and are used by breweries and laboratories as well as in medical engineering and space technology.

The company employs over 1,800 people and has a comprehensive network of branches in 33 countries worldwide.



*Bürkert would like to thank Severn Instruments for their kind permission to develop and reproduce this customer testimonial.*

*This is just one example of how we are redefining process systems and equipment. To learn more about our product range and services, go to [www.burkert.co.uk](http://www.burkert.co.uk) or contact your local representative.*

### **Bürkert Fluid Control Systems**

Brimscombe Port Business Park  
Brimscombe  
Stroud  
Gloucestershire GL5 2QQ

Tel: +44 (0)1453 731 353

Fax: +44 (0)1453 731 343

[sales.uk@burkert.com](mailto:sales.uk@burkert.com)

[www.burkert.co.uk](http://www.burkert.co.uk)