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New baking ingredients lines depend on Spirax Sarco steam controls

British Bakels has installed about £30,000 worth of Spirax Sarco control valves, pneumatic controls, safety valves and steam traps on two new production lines at its baking ingredients factory in Bicester. The lines use steam for both cooking and cleaning.

“We chose Spirax Sarco since it’s really the British industry standard for steam control,” says Mr. Nick Luxemburg Engineering Manager, British Bakels.

According to Mr. Luxemburg, accurate temperature control is especially important when processing the bakery ingredients. To meet the required accuracy, six Spirax Sarco SP2 smart positioners are fitted to the pneumatic controls that regulate cooking and chilling temperatures. The positioners control the valves to within one per cent of their travel.

“They’re extremely accurate. They begin to shut off the steam supply as the process approaches the set temperature, which enables us to completely eliminate any overshoot,” Mr. Luxemburg explains. “Similarly, they prevent the temperature dropping too far during chilling.”

Other advantages of SP2 smart positioners include easy commissioning, with an auto-stroking routine to match the positioner to the valve. They also save energy by using digital air control to provide near-zero air consumption at the set point.

The new production lines cost around £350,000 each and are part of an ongoing expansion for British Bakels. The factory makes a range of ingredients for commercial bakeries, from oil and fat blends to glazes and icings.

“We have space for up to 13 new lines, four of which will be up and running by the end of the year,’ says Mr. Luxemburg. The company is so satisfied with the products and service that it is planning to place a similar order with Spirax Sarco for two further new lines. “We’ve had a very pleasant service from Spirax Sarco and we’ll be placing our next order shortly.’

In addition to the £30,000 worth of production line equipment, British Bakels has also installed Spirax Sarco EasiHeat™ Engineered Systems to provide low-temperature hot water for space heating around its 5.5-acre factory and offices. Easiheat units provide an integrated, skid-mounted package centred on a compact and efficient plate heat exchanger. This integrated approach results in a compact solution to suit even the most crowded plant rooms.

