

NEWS RELEASE

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H.S. Pipeequipment appointed authorised UK stockist for Audco Ball Valves

H.S. Pipeequipment (HSP) is a leading stockist and distributor of valves to the oil, gas and petrochemical industry. The company represents a wide range of the world's leading valve manufacturers. The Company has further extended its valve offering, by becoming the authorised UK stockist of Audco India Limited (AIL) Ball valves.

Audco are the world's leading Gate, Globe and Check valve manufacture, having a presence in more than 50 countries and an international reputation for providing engineered solutions for the oil, gas, refining and petrochemical industries.

The new stock range of Ball Valves manufactured by Audco is available with flanged ends, in sizes up to 150mm (6ins) and in pressure ratings up to ASME Class 300. The ball valves are of a floating ball design, where seating takes place by allowing the ball under pressure to move towards the downstream seat to affect a tight seal. The floating ball is the universal choice for most process and utility applications.

The valves include such features as antistatic features, blow out proof stems and leak tight stem sealing. Build-up of static electricity can occur as a result of constant rubbing of the ball against PTFE seats. This can be a potential fire hazard, especially while handling inflammable fluids. To provide electrical continuity, spring-loaded plungers are provided between the stem and the ball in single-piece and two-piece reduced bore (80mm and above) and full bore (40mm and above) valves. For smaller sizes, this is achieved through 35% Carbon-filled PTFE stem seals. Depending on the choice of seals, the designs also provide for additional spring-loaded plungers between the stem and the body for full mechanical antistatic cap.

All AIL Ball Valves have a bottom-entry stem design which features stem insertion from inside the body. An integral shoulder on the stem sits against the shoulder in the body giving it blowout proof integrity.

The higher the line-pressure, the tighter the seal. This design offers safety features superior to top entry stem design where the line pressure works to break the stem seating. Audco have a second-to-none reputation for delivering value-added flow control solutions and the company is continuing to gain major approvals from most end users in the oil and gas industry, including: Shell Plc.

The reduced bore valve stock held by HSP includes single piece valves and full bore valves. The valves are available in size ranges from 15mm to 6ins, in 150//300 pressure classes and in a range of materials including WCB, CF8M and LCC.

Peter Everett, CEO of HSP commented, "The Audco ball valves complement our extensive range of world leading products. The valves have approvals from many end users and have application throughout most Petrochemical Plants. Their proven track record will ensure that they are a commercial success in the UK".

By becoming the authorised distributor for Audco in the UK, HSP will carry stock in both its Aberdeen and Teesside warehouses. The stocking of Audco Ball valves complements HSP's portfolio of on the shelf products including: Bonney Forge, Larsen and Tubro Gate, Globe and Check valves, Maxseal, Crane Stockham and Hobbs Valves.

For more information about HSP and their authorised stockist arrangement with Audco, please contact John Sinclair at HS Pipeequipment on +44 (0)1635 201329, visit our website www.hsp.co.uk or email info@hsp.co.uk