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Almatec® E-Series AODD Pumps are Designed To Facilitate Slurry-Handling in Solar-Cell Applications

Kamp-Lintfort, Germany, April 6, 2011 — Almatec®, a premier manufacturer air-operated diaphragm pumps specializing in plastic pumps with solid housings, has announced that its E-Series Air-Operated Double Diaphragm (AODD) Pumps made of polyethylene (PE) provide the operational advantages and reliability during the wafer-creation phase of solar-cell manufacture, where a cutting liquid known as “slurry” is employed.

Slurry, which consists of silicon and polyethylene glycol, is an abrasive liquid that wears away the surface of a solar-cell wafer until the correct precision is reached. Prior to use, the slurry materials are mixed at very high temperatures then transferred to storage tanks until needed. When required, the slurry is pumped into the wafer-creation machine and circulated over the wafer “ingot.” Eventually, the slurry will become polluted by silicon particles, iron and other byproducts of the “sawing” process, at which it becomes unusable. Since slurry is highly expensive, many solar-cell manufacturers will recover, recondition and reuse the slurry to help reduce overall production costs. Heavy-duty industrial pumps play a critical role in all stages of slurry production, use and reconditioning.



Almatec's E-Series AODD pumps made of PE have the capability to handle the demands of working with slurry. E-Series pumps feature solid-block construction that can handle the abrasiveness of the slurry, as well as the hard, sharp waste pieces of silicon, all while lengthening the pump's life cycle and eliminating many maintenance concerns. PE as pump material has a high abrasion-resistance, as much as seven times higher than polypropylene (PP) and 1.6 times higher than steel.



For slurry applications diaphragms and ball valves in EPDM are frequently used. E-Series pumps also feature the patented PERSWING P® maintenance-free air-control system, which allows for greater flexibility in solar-cell applications.

Almatec E-Series pumps (below) easily handle the demands of working with slurry (above).

For more information on Almatec® E-Series AODD Pumps, please go to www.almatec.de. Almatec is an operating company within Dover Corporation's Pump Solutions Group (PSG™). For more information on PSG, please go to www.pumpsq.com.

Almatec® Maschinenbau GmbH is one of the world's leading manufacturers of pneumatic diaphragm pumps. Today, Almatec owns numerous patents and has one of the largest ranges in the field of pneumatic diaphragm pumps. Almatec—headquartered in Kamp-Lintfort, Germany—is a member of Dover Corporation's Pump Solutions Group (PSG™).

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