TMV 'compact, but precise'

Delabie's new TMV3-approved point-of-use thermostatic mixing valve, the Premix NANO, has a compact design 'ideal for under basin installation to deliver safe, mixed water for one or two basin taps, or to supply one shower'.

The company said: "The new HSG 274 part 2 guidelines recommend fitting a type 3 thermostatic mixing valve (TMV) to washbasins and sinks for 'high risk' users, 'as close as possible to the point-of-use'."

Less than 8 cms long, the Premix NANO fits discreetly under a basin, or close to the delivery point for showers, either behind a panel, or in the roof space.

Delabie added: "The Premix NANO is extremely precise. Pre-set at 38°C, the installer can adjust the mixed water from 34° to 60° C. It will regulate any variation in temperature, pressure, and flow rate, to

deliver safe, stable mixed water in any installation. Its automatic failsafe is active for both the hot and cold water supply, ensuring automatic shut-off if either fails." Buildcert and WRAS-certified, it is NHS Estate D08-approved, and has a minimum required flow rate of 3 litres / min, 'one of the lowest on the market'.

Water tank control system enhanced

Keraflo, manufacturer of 'Aylesbury' float valves and tank management systems, has launched an enhanced version of its digital water tank control system, Tanktronic.

Designed for buildings with water tanks servicing a big reserve of water, such as hospitals, the electronic tank management system 'provides a complete solution to monitoring water levels and temperature, managing and controlling tank filling, and feeding information back to building management – all in one box'. It has been on sale for three years, and is already installed in many prominent buildings, including London's O2 Arena.

New features on the 'enhanced model' include 'add-ons' such as the S Module, that expands the system's operational capability; the Repeater Panel, which

enables control from up to 100 m away, and the Battery Module, which provides up to two days' normal operation in the event of power failure.

Tanktronic now also has a calendar (holiday) setting that enables users to vary tank capacity to match demand – 'a particularly beneficial feature in preventing stagnating water breeding *Legionella* and other deadly bacteria'.

Reliable Legionella testing 'in just one hour'

Legipid is a 'unique' *Legionella* test developed by Biotica, and exclusively distributed by Veras Europe, that has been fully validated by the international standards agency, AOAC, against ISO 11731, and which is said to be suitable for both high volume laboratory use, and 'for single tests in the field'.

Able to detect the presence of all *Legionella pneumophila* /sero groups and 92% of *Legionella spp*, with a limit of detection above 40 cfu / L, the test offers 98% sensitivity, 93% specificity, 'no false positives from presence of dead cells', and 'no false negatives in the presence of growth inhibitors'.

Veras Europe said: "Rapid screening enables risk management in 'real time' – for proactive control of any water system, while water systems are back to service immediately after remediation, reducing costs and business disruption. The Biotica technology requires no investment in expensive equipment, although optional low cost equipment is available for processing batches of tests or quantification. Users of the test can avoid unreliable or misleading presumptive plate counts, and benefit from same-day results."

TMVs harness 'years of know-how'

A new thermostatic mixing valve range that 'greatly simplifies valve selection, while simultaneously enhancing performance', has been unveiled by Pegler Yorkshire. 'Traditionally', the company has manufactured anti-scald valves for the healthcare market (Type 3) and separate valves for general and domestic applications (Type 2). The new, 'more compact', Pegler PEG402 valves meet the requirements of BS and EN standards, are WRAS approved, and boast the BuildCert certificate for both TMV3 and TMV2 schemes.

Pegler Yorkshire product market manager, Barrie Plant, said: "The PEG402 thermostatically controlled anti-scald valves meet the needs of hospitals, care homes, and domestic markets, in a combined valve."

An included 'Installation Instruction and User Guide' explains the installation, commissioning, and servicing regime for both TMV3 and TMV2 requirements.

The new PEG402 now includes pre-fitted inlet wafer filters to protect the sensitive thermostatic valve element from system debris. These valves are complemented by the union angle valve options (UA) that have isolating valves, filters, non-return valves, and inspection/test points for flow and temperature measurement.

SoPHE Fellowship for Harper

Eastwood Park's water hygiene tutor and lead trainer, David Harper, has been recognised for his contribution and service to water safety and combating Legionnaire's disease.

A leading engineering authority on Legionnaire's disease in both the UK and abroad, he was presented with an Honorary Fellowship by the Society of Public Health Engineers at the society's annual dinner, by Chris Northey, SoPHE chairman, and IHEEM's new President. 'Honoured and privileged' to receive the award, David Harper said he hoped he would be able to continue helping the Society for many years.

His work on *Legionella* began in 1979 when he investigated the cause of the, then little known disease at Kingston Hospital while a superintendent engineer there. He subsequently wrote a paper, published by IHEEM, on the outbreak's engineering implications. Eastwood Park added: "He was instrumental in developing the legislation we are now familiar with, and the water hygiene courses here over the past 20 years." In October 2012 (*HEJ* – November 2012) IHEEM presented him with its Lifetime Achievement Award.

Software ensures regular flushing

L8guard is a 'cost-effective and simple-to-use' software system specifically designed to solve the problems of low-use water outlet flushing across large and changing estates – typically NHS Trusts, local authorities, and universities.

The company says the system 'effortlessly manages the tedious and time-consuming process of requesting and collating low-use water outlet flushing records', helping organisations achieve greater compliance with ACOP L8, HSG 274, and HTM 04-01, 'for a fraction of the cost and effort of handling this manually'. The software automatically sends notifications when flushing returns are required. If returns are not received, L8guard will then send escalations to chase them up.

L8guard *report manager,* meanwhile, will send out performance summary reports and charts to nominated staff to meet the user organisation's own schedule. The system provides 'closed loop' auditability in 'real time' – 'ending the inaccuracies caused by late or missing returns'. Implementation is simple – no installation is required, and operators do not need any training.

Bristan makes easy work of Doc M specification

Bristan has launched a 'fully comprehensive, easy-to-maintain' Approved 'DocM' WC pack, complete with TMV 3 basin mixer taps, suitable for commercial washroom facilities designed for people with disabilities.

The pack comprises a close coupled WC, cistern, and raised height basin, all in accordance with Part M of the Building Regulations. Accessories include grab rails and a hinged support arm. The DocM pack also features the SoloT3 thermostatic TMV3 basin mixer tap, 'eliminating the need to buy the TMV3 separately – a considerable cost benefit'.

The new DocM products are available in blue or white corrosion-resistant aluminium and stainless steel, for durability, strength, and hygiene. Each pack comes with a one-year Bristan guarantee, and items can be purchased separately.

Pseudomonas on neonatal units

***Pseudomonas aeruginosa* bacteria inhabit moist environments due to their ability to form 'biofilm'.**

Speaking at a recent waterborne infection conference sponsored by Pall Medical, Dr Mike Weinbren, consultant microbiologist at the Royal Chesterfield Hospital, described how *Pseudomonas* cases appeared in the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) at the (then new) PFI Coventry and Warwickshire University Hospital (UHCW), where he was previously director of Infection Control, soon after the hospital opened in 2005. Eighteen months later, further cases appeared in the general critical care unit.

Because patients themselves can carry *Pseudomonas* into hospital, there is no 'acceptable' baseline for infection rates in adult ICUs. But, he stressed, 'because the organism is rarely part of the normal flora in neonates, the finding of babies colonised / infected with *P. aeruginosa* will invariably indicate a problem – and that problem might be in the water'.

UHCW's NICU outbreak was tracked down to swan neck taps. These were replaced, and, along with use of sterile water for bathing babies, this ended the outbreak. On the adult ICU the culprits were TMVs and flexible hoses. Dr Weinbren said: "Although not at the time clear if the risk of biofilm formation could be engineered out, it was crucial to block the routes of transmission by ensuring contaminated water couldn't get to patients. The only way to ensure safe water on our NICU was to use sterile water, and, for our adult ICUs, to fit point-of-use filters on the outlets, ideally on a temporary basis. However, on the adult ICU, we were unable to remove the risk, so POU filters are used long term."

Dr Weinbren's presentation can be viewed at: www.specialistmasterclasses.com