

CASE STUDY

RotaVal

Four Minutes
that transformed a business



Fast Clean
Rotary Valves

RotaVal

Minimal downtime
Better quality control
Increased productivity
Quick and safe to maintain
Operator ease & comfort
Minimal tools required

How does a Rota Val Rotary Valve reduce changeover times by 75%?

Rota Val's Fast Clean rotary valves have transformed production efficiency for *A. Schulman*, the international manufacturer of plastics, resins and masterbatch. With a simple, ergonomically efficient mechanism for cleaning the valve at product changeover **with only a single tool required**, Rota Val **Modular** Fast Clean valves require only **FOUR MINUTES PER CHANGEOVER**, a reduction of up to 75% over *A. Schulman*'s previous equipment. *A. Schulman* have gained an incredible 2-3 hours of production time per month at their Gainsborough production site.

Cleanliness in production and the ability to guarantee that no material residue carries over when products change is a critical factor in *A. Schulman*'s high-quality manufacturing process. At the same time, production pressure in a busy factory is ever-present, and it is vital that downtime is minimised. At every changeover, the process is purged, and that includes dismantling and cleaning the rotary valves. *A. Schulman* identified that this was a bottleneck in their production processes and contacted Rota Val for a solution.

Rota Val's **Modular** Fast Clean valves are easy to work with, with patented RotAlign **and** bottom mounted sliding rails the valve rotor to slide out to be easily cleaned then slide back in with the minimum of fuss. All the operator needs to do is release the air supply and undo a few bolts, easily accomplished with a **single spanner**.

“ As Michael Ingall, *A. Schulman*'s Production Manager, put it, “**The previous gate valve used a lot of tools and was time consuming. With the aid of the Rota Val quick release we have saved a lot of time and money.**” He was echoed by Production Supervisor Richard Hodge, “**Time saving is 12-15 minutes and, with the amount of changeovers we have, it's a fantastic saving.**” ”

Time saving is **not the** only one benefit. *A. Schulman* have also identified that they are enjoying better quality control, with no operator errors.

“ Richard Hodge went on, “**A fantastic invention in what we do. Less risk of injury, it's so swift to do, and clean.**” ”

MINIMAL DOWNTIME, WITH BETTER QUALITY CONTROL. INCREASED PRODUCTIVITY THAT'S SAFER AND EASIER FOR THE OPERATORS. ALSO, SAVINGS CAN SERIOUSLY MOUNT UP – A SITE WITH 20 FAST CLEAN VALVES AND TEN CHANGEOVERS PER WEEK WOULD SEE AN IMPROVEMENT OF AROUND 2600 PRODUCTION HOURS.

i For more information and a video filmed at *A. Schulman* showing exactly how easily Fast Clean technology works in practice, see Rota Val's website www.rotaval.co.uk

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RotaVal

Keeping the World's Industries Solidly in Control