**Innovation Award for a unique sealing concept**

***GEMÜ has won the ACHEMA Innovation Award 2018 with their PD design.***

In the "Valves and seals" section, the company's innovation across the entire line convinced the jury of experts that they were worthy winners. This is because the innovative diaphragm sealing (plug diaphragm) means that, on valves, a hermetic partition from the actuator and, simultaneously, a more precise ability to regulate flow than you find on common solutions can be implemented.

The constantly increasing requirements with regard to hygiene and operational safety in the pharmaceutical sector, biotechnology industry and in the foodstuff and beverage industries led to this company from Hohenlohe carrying out extensive research and development work. The result is a highly resistant PTFE diaphragm, which can be installed in all conceivable applications in aseptic and hygienic process plants. The new GEMÜ sealing principle has proved to be ideal for control tasks, ultra-pure water applications and filling processes in particular.

On the "Pharmaceutical engineering" shortlist, the GEMÜ 567 BioStar control control valve with PD design was also nominated as one of five products from reputable manufacturers. The valve is especially suitable for the precise control of small quantities in the medical industry, the pharmaceutical industry and the cosmetics sector. One of the shortlists also included the F40 and F 60 valve types for aseptic fillings in the pharmaceutical and biochemical sectors as well as for drinks filling. The real-time GEMÜ F60 with PTFE diaphragm solution, which enables complete filling cycles in less than 400 ms, scored points in the "Packaging and fluid filling applications" category.

In addition to the products mentioned, GEMÜ also uses a modified version of the PD design in the iComLine product range. The valves and multi-port valve blocks made from PTFE, PVDF, PP or PVC are, for example, successfully used in systems with ultra-pure processes as well as in chemical handling and when dosing corrosive media.

Background information on the innovation prize

The specialist media brands PROCESS, PROCESS Worldwide, PharmaTEC and LABORPRAXIS give out the "Innovation Award" every three years to mark the occasion of the ACHEMA trade fair. The prize is awarded to the most innovative designs, apparatus and procedures in the chemical, pharmaceutical and process-technology industries. In 2018, five shortlist candidates were nominated in each of the eight categories and a winner was selected. Furthermore, there were awards in three special categories, in line with this year's focal areas of "Flexible production", "Chemical and pharmaceutical logistics" and "Biotech for chemistry". From the Hohenlohe region, GEMÜ and Groninger were awarded in one of the categories. Other companies were also included in the shortlist.