Oil and Gas Industry

User Application Guide

The mass flow experts for flow, level and temperature instrumentation
From the early 1960s, Fluid Components International recognized the need for flow and level instrumentation which met specific customer requirements and demands for the Oil and Gas Industry. By utilizing Thermal Dispersion and Coriolis technology exclusively in all FCI flow, level, interface, temperature switches and mass flow meters, our products solve typical Oil and Gas Industry application challenges with standard product features such as:

- No moving parts
- All welded materials of construction
- Direct mass flow measurement
- No pressure drop
- Explosion-proof design
- Wide flow range
- Low flow capability

By closely monitoring the everchanging requirements for the Oil and Gas Industry, FCI has maintained its reputation as the technology leader with new product features such as:

- Modern digital communications with HART, Modbus, ProfiBus, Ethernet and ASI
- Fail-safe mode selection per Namur NE43
- Compliance with the latest approval requirements of FM, CSA, CRN, ATEX, CE Mark and PED
- Application focused marketing and engineering research and design
- Secondary sealed flow element sensor design
- Integral flow conditioners
- Two-wire loop-power flow, level and interface detection

**FCI Oil and Gas Industry customers**

- Exxon Mobil
- Chevron
- Texaco
- BP Amoco
- Shell
- Petro Canada
- Aramco, Saudi Arabia
- Kuwait Oil Company
- Joint Operations, Kuwait
- Oil & Natural Gas Corporation, India
- Pertamina, Indonesia
- CNPC, China
- Petrozuata, Venezuela
- Pemex, Mexico

**FCI Oil and Gas Industry customers for Engineering, Procurement & Construction (EPC)**

- Bechtel
- Fluor Daniel
- Kellogg Brown & Root
- Parsons
- Petrofac, U.A.E.
- Japan Gas Company, Japan
- S. K. Engineering and Construction, Korea

**Flare gas mass flow measurement**

In a variety of oil production and refining environments, FCI’s GF90 Series mass flow meters monitor total gas flow to flare stacks as well as through feed lines to the main flare header. As an integral part of energy conservation and emission control systems, it meets strict accuracy and wide turndown requirements. The GF90 is highly reliable because of its durable construction and no moving parts design. Units are also used to assist in the control of steam addition and blower and louver adjustment for smokeless flares. A packing gland option permits hot-tap installation and retraction of the flow element without system shut down. The GF90 also features high flow range turndown ratios up to 1000:1 and micro-processor based user-friendly electronics.
Tanker loading/unloading

GF90 Series mass flow meters provide the solutions for several difficult tanker loading/unloading applications. It is used to measure the flow of hydrocarbon vapors that are vented from the storage tanks, both on the tanker and at the port tank farm, to ensure compliance with environmental laws governing waste vapors. It is also used to measure nitrogen gas flow to inerting and gas blanketing systems that are often required in these operations. Finally, FCI’s GF90 may be used to measure flows to flare systems to assist in determining “throughput loss” for the tank farm.

Chemical injection/additive flow monitoring

In monitoring chemical and other additive injection flow, the ultra-sensitive FL93L inline FlexSwitch outperforms the competition. It detects gas flows down to 0.6 cc/sec and liquid flows down to 0.02 cc/sec -- ideal for virtually all injection processes. The no-moving-parts flow element design provides outstanding durability and reliability under the harshest process conditions. And, the inherent thermal time delay, available in all FCI flow switch/monitors, prevents false alarms caused by flow pulsation and eliminates the need for auxiliary time delay relays. Optional dual switch point circuitry helps maintain product quality and process safety by alarming both high flow and low flow conditions.

Automated oil well testing systems

FCI FL93S FlexSwitch Series have continued to play a key role in the automation of oil well testing facilities throughout the United States. Thousands of units are in service today, monitoring the flow of crude oil from the well, so that non-producing sites can be quickly identified and corrected. In addition to improving productivity, this efficient no-flow detection system eliminates time wasted on the continued testing of non-producing wells. These rugged FlexSwitch monitors enable the system to automatically switch to the next well in the test cycle.
Pump-off control

FCI’s FLT93S FlexSwitch Series is well suited to monitor production in oil wells and indicate when an extended pump-off condition occurs. Coupled with a programmable logic controller, the FLT93S can control the operation of the well to optimize oil production; while minimizing wear and tear on the down hole pump. In addition, restricting the operation of the pump to periods when oil is produced saves energy and reduces operating costs.

Reverse flow switching

Nitrogen is utilized for purging and blanketing throughout a chemical plant/refinery. The possibility of contaminating the nitrogen supply with hydrocarbon gas exists if the pressure at the destination becomes greater than the pressure at the source. The FCI RF83 bi-directional flow monitor is used to shut down the supply line if flow is detected returning back to the supply tank.

Interface control in separation vessels

Unlike density-dependent displacers, often used for level and interface control, the FLT93S FlexSwitch Series relies on the specific heat transfer properties of the media involved to identify product interface. Because of this unique detection feature, interfaces between products of similar density are reliably controlled in separating tanks and other vessels. FCI liquid level and interface controllers can identify the interface between any media including liquids, slurries, foams and even emulsion layers. The dual switch point option allows one instrument to control two different product interfaces. Two or more units are used to control product discharge and intake at specified points.
CI introduced the first thermal flow switch/monitor in 1964 and has since established a worldwide reputation for the design and production of precision high performance flow, level and temperature instrumentation. With reliability second to none, FCI has placed over 200,000 units in the field covering the full range of liquid, gas and slurry process requirements. FCI products service some of the world’s most demanding processes in industries such as food & beverage, pharmaceutical, chemical, oil and gas, pulp and paper, power and energy, water and wastewater, nuclear power, aerospace and more. FCI offers a broad range of instrumentation solutions and services, from off-the-shelf devices to custom engineered systems. FCI’s engineering staff provides expertise in mechanical, electronic and thermo-dynamic disciplines offering innovative solutions to specialized customer application needs, configuration objectives, software enhancements, and material problems.

**Thermal Dispersion principle**
The typical sensing element contains two thermowell-protected precision platinum Resistance Temperature Detectors (RTDs). When placed in the process stream, one RTD is heated and the other RTD senses the process temperature. The temperature difference between the two RTDs is related to the process flow rate as well as the properties of the process media. Higher flow rates or denser media cause increased cooling of the heated RTD and a reduction in the RTD temperature difference.

**FlexSwitch® FLT93 Series**
The FLT93 Series utilizes proprietary thermal dispersion technology to provide the highest reliability in flow, level and temperature detection. The sensing element is composed of two matched RTD’s. One RTD is preferentially heated. The other RTD is unheated and thermally isolated to provide continuous process condition temperature and baseline indication. At no flow or under dry conditions, the temperature differential between the two RTDs is greatest.

- **For flow/no flow detection**
  No-flow conditions produce a large signal. As flow increases, the heated RTD is cooled and proportionally reduces the temperature differential. Changes in flow velocity directly affect this rate of heat dissipation. An electronic circuit normalizes the differential measurement with the process media temperature and converts the RTD temperature/resistance differential into a DC voltage signal. This signal is provided at output terminals and used to drive two adjustable setpoint alarm circuits that are independently field configurable for specific flow service applications.

- **For liquid level/interface detection**
  Dry conditions (no liquids present) produce the greatest temperature differential. The signal decreases when the level element is submerged as the cooling effects of the fluid drive the temperature/resistance differential downward. Since all process fluids have different thermo physical properties, different fluids exhibit unique heat transfer characteristics. Interface detection between non-miscible fluids can be factory or field calibrated to alarm when the fluid changes from liquid to foam, between two different fluids, or between fluid and rag layer or emulsion.

*continued on back cover*
FCI’s complete line of flow, level and temperature instrumentation

## Thermal Mass Flowmeter Series

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Sensing/Flow Element Range</th>
<th>Adjustable Response Time</th>
<th>Process Connection</th>
<th>Insertion Length or Online Sensor Assembly Body Length</th>
<th>Enclosure Classification</th>
<th>Sensing/Flow Element Operating Conditions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ST98 FlexM ASSter</td>
<td>Insertion Gas Mass Flowmeter</td>
<td>0.75 to 600 SFPS [0.31 to 172 NMP]</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>3/8&quot; male NPT stainless steel adjustable compression fitting with bellows or metal ferrule, flange connections and field replaceable packing gland assemblies available.</td>
<td>Ferrule type lengths: 1 to 4&quot; (25 to 100 mm), 1 to 12&quot; (25 to 305 mm) or 1 to 20&quot; (76 to 500 mm), custom lengths optional.</td>
<td>Standard: NEMA/CSA Type 4X (equivalent to IP66) and Division 2 (Ex d)</td>
<td>Temperature: -40°F to +320°F [-40°C to +160°C], Pressure: to 250 psig [17 bar]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ST98L FlexM ASSter</td>
<td>In-line Gas Mass Flowmeter</td>
<td>0.0062 to 1855 SCFM [0.01 to 5140 NCMH]</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>1/4&quot; male NPT, flange connections and field replaceable packing gland assemblies available.</td>
<td>1/4&quot; tubing/pipe: 7.25&quot; [184 mm]</td>
<td>Standard: NEMA/CSA Type 4X (equivalent to IP66) and Division 2 (Ex d)</td>
<td>Temperature: -40°F to +320°F [-40°C to +160°C], Pressure: to 1500 psig [103 bar]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ST98H FlexM ASSter</td>
<td>In-line High Purity and Ultra High Purity Mass Flowmeter</td>
<td>2.0 to 183 SFPS [3.4 to 5400 NCMH]</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>3/8&quot; male NPT, flange connections and field replaceable packing gland assemblies available.</td>
<td>1/4&quot; tubing/pipe: 7.25&quot; [184 mm]</td>
<td>Standard: NEMA/CSA Type 4X (equivalent to IP66) and Division 2 (Ex d)</td>
<td>Temperature: -40°F to +320°F [-40°C to +160°C], Pressure: to 250 psig [1.7 bar]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G900 FlexM ASSter</td>
<td>Insertion Gas Mass Flowmeter</td>
<td>0.25 to 1600 SFPS [0.08 to 488 NMP]</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>3/8&quot; male NPT, flange connections and field replaceable packing gland assemblies available.</td>
<td>1/4&quot; tubing/pipe: 7.25&quot; [184 mm]</td>
<td>Standard: NEMA/CSA Type 4X (equivalent to IP66) and Division 2 (Ex d)</td>
<td>Temperature: -40°F to +320°F [-40°C to +160°C], Pressure: to 1500 psig [103 bar]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G922 In-line Gas Mass Flowmeter</td>
<td>0.006 to 2000 SCFM [0.01 to 5190 NCMH]</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>1/4&quot; male NPT, flange connections and field replaceable packing gland assemblies available.</td>
<td>1/4&quot; tubing/pipe: 7.25&quot; [184 mm]</td>
<td>Standard: NEMA/CSA Type 4X (equivalent to IP66) and Division 2 (Ex d)</td>
<td>Temperature: -40°F to +320°F [-40°C to +160°C], Pressure: to 250 psig [1.7 bar]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GF03 Insertion Flow &amp; Mixed Gas Mass Flowmeter</td>
<td>0.5 to 275 SCFM [0.88 to 64 NMP]</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>1/4&quot; male NPT, flange connections and field replaceable packing gland assemblies available.</td>
<td>1/4&quot; tubing/pipe: 7.25&quot; [184 mm]</td>
<td>Standard: NEMA/CSA Type 4X (equivalent to IP66) and Division 2 (Ex d)</td>
<td>Temperature: -40°F to +320°F [-40°C to +160°C], Pressure: to 1500 psig [103 bar]</td>
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<tr>
<td>MS Series Multi-Point Mass Flowmeters</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Ar at 70°F [21.1°C] and 14.7 psia [1.01325 bar] [reference]
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Flow Rate</th>
<th>Temperature</th>
<th>Pressure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FL9293 FlexSwitch*</td>
<td>Insertion Flow Switch/Level/Temperature Switch</td>
<td>0.15 to 50 gpm</td>
<td>-50°F to 50°F</td>
<td>150 psi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FL929 FlexSwitch*</td>
<td>Insertion Flow Switch/Level/Temperature Switch</td>
<td>0.15 to 50 gpm</td>
<td>-50°F to 50°F</td>
<td>150 psi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FL89C FlexSwitch*</td>
<td>Insertion Sanitary Flow Switch/Level/Temperature Switch</td>
<td>0.15 to 50 gpm</td>
<td>-50°F to 50°F</td>
<td>150 psi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12-44B</td>
<td>Insertion Flow Switch</td>
<td>0.15 to 50 gpm</td>
<td>-50°F to 50°F</td>
<td>150 psi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FR778B</td>
<td>Low Flow Inline Monitor</td>
<td>0.15 to 50 gpm</td>
<td>-50°F to 50°F</td>
<td>150 psi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FR738B</td>
<td>Ultra Low Flow Inline Monitor</td>
<td>0.15 to 50 gpm</td>
<td>-50°F to 50°F</td>
<td>150 psi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NuTec FS2000L</td>
<td>Insertion Flow Switch/Level/Temperature Switch</td>
<td>0.15 to 50 gpm</td>
<td>-50°F to 50°F</td>
<td>150 psi</td>
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<td>0.15 to 50 gpm</td>
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</tr>
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</table>

*Water-Based Liquids: 0.013 to 3.0 gpm (0.013 to 0.9 l/min) Hydricor-Based Liquids: 0.013 to 3.0 gpm (0.013 to 0.9 l/min) Air/Box: 0.013 to 3.0 gpm (0.013 to 0.9 l/min)
For temperature detection

The unheated RTD serves as the baseline for establishing the differential temperature and continuous monitoring of the process temperature. Being thermally isolated, the unheated RTD provides accurate indication and detection of process fluid temperatures. Simultaneous temperature and flow and level detection can provide comprehensive process monitoring as well as critically supplement operator process health and efficiency awareness.

NuTec® 2000 Series

> 2-wire loop-power and non-intrusive switches

Extraordinarily responsive and accurate, the versatile NuTec flow/level switch series offers superior reliability in extreme process conditions. The FS2000 and LS2000 switches feature the first 2-wire thermal flow/no flow and level detection switches. These insertion switches are designed with FCI’s proven thermal mass flow sensor technology in a rugged package that is easy to install and requires minimal maintenance. The FS2000L inline flow switch has an advanced non-intrusive sensor design constructed of 316L stainless steel with up to a 10 Ra electropolish finish approved for 3A sanitary and high purity applications. The FS2000L is available with inline sizes of 1/2 inch, 1 inch and 2 inches for easy installation using male NPT, butt-weld or sanitary flanges.

FlexMASSter® ST Series

and GF Series mass flow meters

Because the relationship between flow rate and cooling effect directly relates to mass flow in gas applications, FCI thermal mass flow meters provide a highly repeatable and accurate measurement of gas or air mass flow rates. The ST98 Series “smart” electronics, equipped with advanced micro-processor-based circuitry, enable customers to reconfigure the signal outputs easily, as well as, display or alarm in the field by using either a built-in key pad or a handheld communicator. The GF Series offers wide turndown ratios up to 800:1 with multiple gas calibrations with analog electronic circuitry.

FlexMASSter technology delivers performance and value by offering the most innovative, accurate and cost effective gas mass flow measurement systems available in the industrial flowmetering marketplace today. This highly reliable instrument provides the durability and speed required for today’s harsh process environments and delivers true direct mass flow measurement. FCI’s FlexMASSter simplifies gas mass flowmetering with a single process penetration, eliminating costly temperature or pressure transmitters and a flow computer required with other technologies.

CMF FlexCOR® Series

The CMF FlexCOR Series Coriolis flow meters push development a giant leap forward in Coriolis measurement technology. Unaffected by variations in pressure, temperature, density, electrical conductivity and viscosity, the FlexCOR Series provides highly accurate mass flow measurement over wide flow ranges while utilizing its advanced technology to achieve unsurpassed operational performance stressing safety, reliability and quality.

VORTAB® flow conditioners

FCI ensures the field performance of its highly accurate mass flow meter product lines by offering VORTAB flow conditioners. VORTABs ensure accurate, repeatable gas flow measurement and are the efficient alternative to long lengths of straight piping or ducting upstream of a flow meter installation location. VORTAB units reduce or eliminate pressure drop, swirl, jetting and more, while requiring just six diameters of pipe upstream from the flow meter. Each of the three available flow conditioner configurations consist of a short section of swirl reduction tabs combined with three arrays of patented VORTAB profile conditioning tabs.

FCI’s extensive instrument test and calibration laboratory

FCI maintains an extensive, instrument test and calibration laboratory at its headquarters in San Marcos, California. Utilizing the latest in advanced, computerized data acquisition systems and calibration test equipment, this facility permits comprehensive product development, testing, and calibration. Any FCI product can be calibrated in accordance with customer specifications. Laboratory standards are maintained with NIST (National Institute of Standards and Technology) traceable Cavitating Venturis (CVs) and precision calibrated, pressure and temperature corrected turbine flow meters. Combustible and non-combustible gas calibration flow stands allow for the calibration of FCI products in a wide range of gases as gas mixtures in flow stand sizes as small as 1/8 inch to 30 inches [3 to 760 mm] in diameter. A variety of flow profiles from laminar to turbulent conditions are generated to duplicate actual field conditions. Flow rates from 0 to 20,000+ SCFM [0 to 34,000 NCMH], velocities from 0 to 800 SFPS [0-240 NMPS], pressures from vacuum to 3000 psig [200 bar(g)], and temperatures from -100° to 850°F [-70° to + 454°C].

FCI on-site instrument calibration and training

In-situ calibration is available from FCI’s Field Service Engineers where precise test and calibration is accomplished in actual media conditions.

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