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New Flow Research Study Finds $4.6 Billion Worldwide Flowmeter Market


The new-technology flowmeter markets, including ultrasonic and Coriolis, are showing the fastest growth, while positive displacement, turbine, and variable area flowmeter markets are declining slowly. Flow Research, (www.flowresearch.com), projects a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) in revenues for the total worldwide flowmeter market of 3.7 percent through 2014. The most rapid growth is in China, the Middle East, and in developing Asian countries.

The search for energy sources is a major driver of the worldwide flowmeter market, with flowmeter growth strongest in the oil & gas industry. With crude oil selling in the $80-per-barrel range, measurement accuracy and reliability are becoming increasingly important. Ultrasonic and Coriolis flowmeters for custody transfer measurement are two of the fastest growing segments.
Flow Research contacted more than 365 people at 270 flow companies for the study, which includes all 14 types of commercial and industrial flowmeters used in the process industries, including the emerging technologies of sonar and optical.

According to Dr. Jesse Yoder, president of Flow Research, the future looks bright for flowmeters:

“Although the global recession over the last two years took its toll on the flowmeter market, we see a strong future for the world flowmeter market. Many companies report that sales have already been higher this year, with an even brighter outlook for the second half of 2010 and on into 2011. This market is benefiting from the drive for new energy sources, including the search for more oil and gas, as well as increasing renewable energy development. The market is also continuing its shift from traditional flowmeters to new-technology flowmeters at a rate that exceeds one percent a year. Increased concerns with accuracy and reliability in measurement could accelerate that trend.”

Figure 1 shows projected shipments of flowmeters worldwide in millions of dollars, including all flowmeter types, from 2009 to 2014. Residential flowmeters are not included.

**Flow Research, Inc.**

Flow Research, provides research on flowmeters and instrumentation. Recent market studies include magnetic, thermal, and vortex flowmeters. Flow Research also publishes quarterly reports on the flowmeter and energy markets as part of the Worldflow Monitoring Service ([www.worldflow.com](http://www.worldflow.com)).
Figure 1
Total Shipments of All Flowmeters Worldwide
(Millions of Dollars)