magnetic flowmeters_

By Jesse Yoder, Ph.D.



A Solid Replacement for Mechanical Meter Types

A agnetic flowmeters are displacing traditionaltechnology flowmeters such as differentialpressure (DP), positive-displacement and turbine flowmeters. Magnetic flowmeters have significant advantages over traditional-technology flowmeters. Unlike DP meters, especially orifice-plate meters, magnetic meters do not have a primary element that can wear and significantly degrade measurement accuracy. Placing a constriction in the flow stream also introduces pressure loss, which can cost money. Unlike positivedisplacement and turbine flowmeters, magnetic flowmeters have no moving parts. This eliminates a source of unreliability and wear. For these reasons and others, magnetic flowmeters are displacing traditional-technology flowmeters for some applications.

While the magnetic flowmeter market is a mature and stable one, there are some new product developments in the magmeter market, and these new developments favor continued growth. One recent development is the advent of

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→ Shipments of Magnetic Flowmeters by Mounting Type in 2009 in Europe (Percent of Dollars)



Source: The World Market for Magnetic Flwometers, 4th Edition

two-wire magnetic flowmeters. Some other device that already has power is the power source for two-wire meters. As a result, two-wire meters are lower in cost. These meters are becoming more popular with users, as they provide added cost savings.

The market for high-strength DC magnetic flowmeters is an important reason for the growing popularity of magnetic flowmeters. High-strength DC meters are better able to handle noise and are a major reason why users are making the shift from AC to DC meters.

Flowmeter suppliers are increasing the accuracy levels of their magnetic flowmeters. Even though the majority of magmeter

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revenues are from meters with stated accuracy of 0.5 percent, over 20 percent of magmeter revenues are from flowmeters with accuracy levels better than 0.5 percent. This percentage will improve as more magnetic flowmeter suppliers improve the accuracy of their meters.

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