



TNCHE Asia 2024 Conference
" Decarbonization, AI and Digital Transformation
for Sustainability in Process Industries "
Presenter's Biodata & Abstract



Full Name : Neil Sandford
Company/ Organization : Koch-Glitsch
Current Position : Global Technology Leader – Trays
Title of Presentation : Improving column flexibility in increasingly competitive markets



Presentation Abstract :

The world is changing. Emerging economies are increasingly driven by a mandate to be self-sufficient, resulting in multiple large plant complexes being built in the past years and currently in operation. These new surplus in supply have drastically hammer prices to new market lows, resulting in operators running their columns at minimum rates and, at times, even lower.

Yet this practice brings a whole new set of problems - most columns are not designed to run at lower than 35% capacity. Running lower than design usually means operating at poor column efficiency, resulting in the need to increase reflux/heat duties to meet product specifications. Internals may also get mechanically damaged.

To address these new challenges, Koch-Glitsch is introducing the new floating version of the FLEXIPRO valve, which provide the same high tray efficiency as the fixed FLEXIPRO yet across an even wider operating range up to 5:1, which is well into the range traditionally associated with moving valve trays.

We will showcase how the floating FLEXIPRO valve tray is an easy drop-in replacement for all existing, earlier generations of moving valves. The performance will be demonstrated including capacity and efficiency data from pilot plant testing and illustrated with example of commercial usage cases.



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Biodata:

Global Technology Leader for Tray Products at Koch-Glitsch with over 35 years experience providing solutions for mass transfer equipment designs in refinery, gas processing, and petrochemical plants. He began working for Koch-Glitsch in the UK and has worked in divisions of Koch-Glitsch in Italy, Texas and New Jersey. He is currently based at Koch-Glitsch's headquarters in Wichita, Kansas.