

With a special insert
on our services/software tools.



YOUR STAR

The latest from Festo's 'Stars in Pneumatics'

www.festo.co.za/stars

Partners in performance!

Small, sturdy and smart. Design engineers can open up a host of new opportunities by using the DRVS semi-rotary drive in conjunction with the SRBS sensor kit.

» More on page 2.



Cylinders for sensitive applications

Sophisticated sensors transform standard drives (from Festo's core product range) into highly sensitive actuators to suit tasks that until recently were unimaginable.

» More on page 3.



Stress-free process control

Festo sets the standard for multi-functional process valves with the award winning, Ex certified, low-cost NAMUR valve - the VSNC.

» More on page 4.



FESTO

What your machines want:

The core product range featuring the Stars in Pneumatics.

- ★ Worldwide: always in stock
- ★ Over 2,200 products
- ★ Attractive prices
- ★ Can be ordered with just a few clicks

Go to the following link for more information:

www.festo.co.za/stars

The VUVS solenoid valve - a classic performer

Rarely has a valve achieved classic status as quickly as the solenoid valve VUVS from Festo. Experts agree that it is a major leap forward in the development of standard valves.

» More on page 2.



Time to switch over for Machine Designers

The DRRD twin-piston semi-rotary drive offers an unmatched range of variants in this product segment. For machine designers, this means more choice and greater application flexibility. It's time to switch over to DRRD!

» More on page 3.



Festo's Stars in Pneumatics are now rolling off our new and highly efficient assembly line!

New production system ensures increased availability of the VUVG valve series.

VUVG solenoid valves are the workhorses in machine automation solutions and can be found in a wide variety of applications. Festo's state of the art production facilities now ensure that these much coveted 'stars', offering excellent value for money, are now readily available in large quantities. Great news for machine builders and buyers!



Scharnhagen, Germany – "We supply these pneumatic star products whenever they are needed and in a

variety of quantities" Dirk (machine operator of the new production plant for VUVG solenoid valves in Scharnhagen), explains. The new, highly automated system is achieving our objectives, i.e. faster availability and increased flexibility. "Demand for the valve series VG is enormous," he continues. Not surprisingly, these compact, cost effective valves with high flow rates are regarded by experts as the best in their class. They offer up to 100% more flow with the same valve size than comparable competitor



The modern production plant for the VUVG solenoid valve.

valves. They are available in both electrically and pneumatically actuated variants, and can easily be expanded to form a valve terminal (VTUG) with an individual electrical connection and fieldbus connection (CTEU). In short, they are perfectly suited to a wide range of industry segments and areas

of application. "When it comes to versatility, no star comes close to matching our VUVG," says Dirk proudly.

★ www.festo.co.za/vuvg

Semi-rotary drive DRVS - one of our brightest stars!

Purchasers and design engineers are delighted with Festo's DRVS



The semi-rotary drive DRVS.

Compact. Durable. Powerful. A semi-rotary drive with so many benefits is destined to be a star per-

former. A key member of the Festo core product range, the DRVS is a multi-talented device for rotary motion applications.

This compact drive is packed with benefits and when combined with the SRBS sensor kit, becomes a particularly attractive semi-rotary solution. This drive/sensor combination can be mounted quickly and commissioned with incredible ease.

Other benefits include contactless position sensing without mechanical adjustment, quick teaching of switching points at the touch of a button, and outstanding value for money. Many experts therefore agree that the DRVS and sensor kit SRBS are perfect partners for rotary applications.

See also: "Partners in performance" on page 2.

Planning for success

Comprehensive engineering tools and software support have become invaluable resources for Design Engineers and purchasers. » More on page 2



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Comment

To 'think' or to have it done for you

We talk about sat navs and other essential technology aids

Sat navs for the workplace

Do you still remember what it was like, driving without a navigation system? Fortunately, it's something we no longer need to deal with. Just think how much time could have previously been saved and confusion avoided if there had been a navigation system to show the way. Many navigation systems have now become a part of our day-to-day working lives. We call them "technology aids" or "engineering software/tools". So how useful are they in practice?

To answer this question we need to have a closer look at their application. Let's take Festo for example. Festo designs and develops a whole series of these efficiency and productivity tools. They enable users to focus on their core tasks, to use their creativity where it is needed, and to make standard operations just that – standard.

Will Engineers roles become redundant?

Not at all! We need to remember that software tools will deliver results based on how well they are applied to the specific task at hand. Engineering specialists, like drivers, still need to effectively manage the input criteria and output data. Without a doubt, automation specialist knowledge will always be needed, but once these software efficiency aids are well understood, the time saving and productivity benefits to industry professionals are incredible.

Rising Stars - VUVG and VUVS 'S' series valve variants

Looking for an individual valve that gives you just what you need?

The recently launched selection of Compact VUVG and Robust VUVS valve variants with 'focused features', provide an excellent alternative for a huge variety of standard applications.

Excellent performance, the usual Festo quality, and an outstanding price! What more could you want?



Great news! Success can now be planned.

Engineering tools and software support are growing in importance



Networking via the Internet is revolutionising the working world of engineers.

Esslingen, Germany – These days companies have less and less time available, whether for development, commissioning or for modernising an

installation. Optimising your processes to stay competitive is the order of the day. To do that, using the Internet and being able to find relevant

data quickly and easily, is absolutely crucial. Festo knows this and offers a wide range of intelligent software and engineering tools (also see the insert on Services/Software tools). "In an ideal situation, these tools complement one another, interact with one another and map the entire value chain," says Festo project manager Dirk Wahlmann, describing the benefits of these new electronic aids. "So it's no great surprise that they are often used."

OnlineShop also offers many useful functions such as order tracking, downloading of delivery notes and invoices, while the product key is useful for maintenance. According to Wahlmann, linking the entire process is the whole point of using software tools and their ultimate advantage. "If you want to save more time, if you want greater efficiency, then use them consistently," he says.

Core product range and software tools – the perfect match

Another important point that needs to be made here is that synergy is only possible if hardware and software complement one another. The best example of this is the Festo range of core products and their software tools. They are a perfect fit and help to streamline and optimise processes, make design work more efficient and speed up product selection. But the biggest advantage of all is that it frees up time to focus on the essentials. Who could say no to that?

2.4 million downloads per month

The Festo Support Portal (a software tool that provides automation specialists with an array of support information) has over 2.4 million downloads per month. "Of course, you will also need the right hardware to be able to effectively use these tools" says Wahlmann. It isn't just the design engineer who benefits from using software and engineering tools; these tools act as a lifeline for purchasing and maintenance personnel as well. The Festo

The VUVS – already a shining star

The VUVS is the star among solenoid valves

The VUVS solenoid valve is yet another shining star that you've probably already met. So what exactly are its capabilities?

It is sturdy and offers high flow rates. It can be used virtually anywhere. It is cost effective and has a comprehensive range of accessories. It is easy to mount, whether as a ready-to-install individual valve with silencers, fittings and coils, or as a pre-assembled unit on a manifold rail - VTUS. Assembly and commissioning are easy because the solenoid coils can be adjusted quickly and at any angle.

Any other benefits? The VUVS is ideal for use in the vacuum and low-pressure range. There are ATEX variants,

coils with different voltages, and much more.

Experts agree that the VUVS is 'The valve' and is already a shining star.



The VUVS is the star amongst solenoid valves.

★ www.festo.co.za/vuvs

Small in size, big in capability

Less is more with one-way flow control valve VFOF

Sometimes it is the little things that make the biggest difference, and the one-way flow control valve VFOF is certainly a case in point. Although it may not yet be a star, its impressive technical data makes it deserving of closer attention. Thanks to integrated multiple functions (one-way flow control valve, piloted non-return valve and manual exhaust) it takes up a lot less space – 50% to be precise!

That, and the fact that it has fewer components, makes it more energy-efficient, plus simplifies the purchasing process, assembly and commissioning. The VFOF can also be combined with numerous products in Festo's core product range, such as the many variants of the twin-piston semi-

rotary drive (DRRD) or the standard cylinder range (DSBC). The bottom line is that it is now possible to implement solutions that previously seemed impossible. Small but powerful – the VFOF.



The VFOF on a standard cylinder DSBC.

3 of the 7 sizes of DRVS.



Partners in performance!

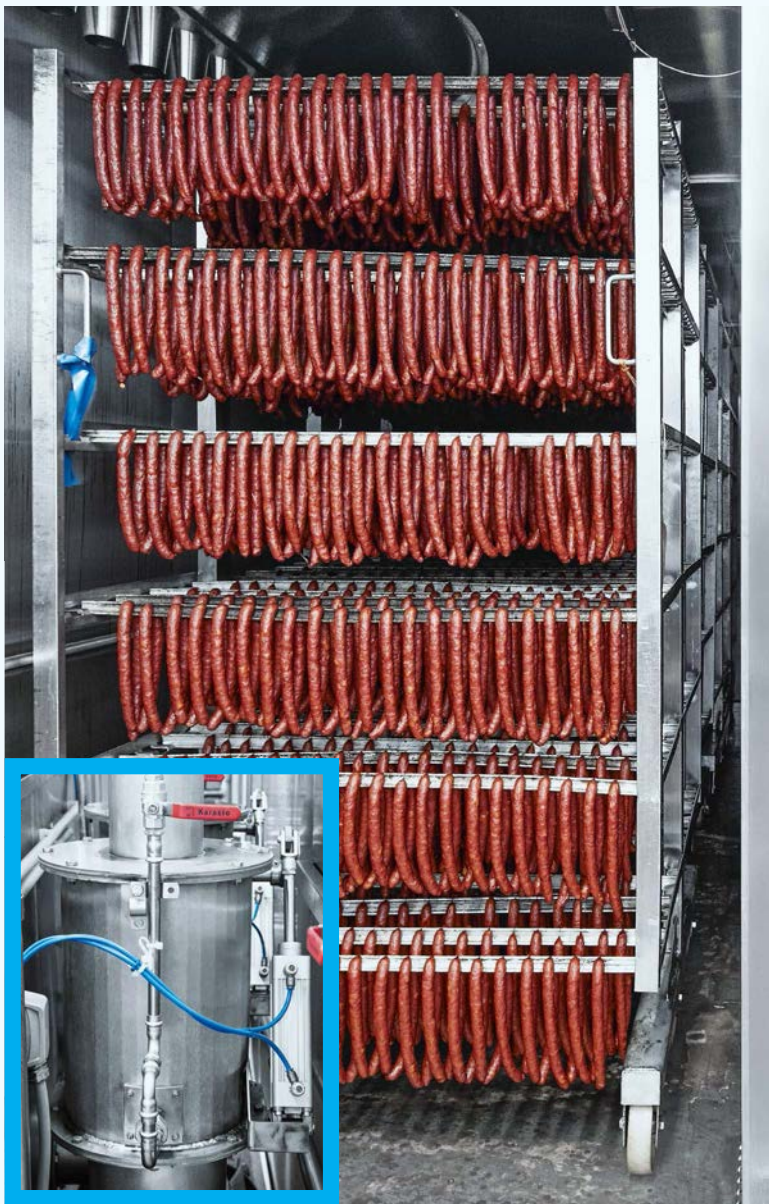
Semi-rotary drive DRVS and position sensor SRBS

Small, smart and inexpensive. These three attributes are, in a nutshell, the benefits of the new semi-rotary drive DRVS and its perfectly matched partner, the position sensor SRBS. This winning combination solves the prob-

lems that previously beset the connection of drives and sensors. The product design is extremely compact, commissioning is very simple and the price is sensational! Available in seven different sizes these innovative rotary

devices can even be used in dirty environments. This star is sure to turn heads!

★ www.festo.co.za/drvs



Several tonnes of sausages are smoked by Bösinger in each batch. The smoke is produced using beech and pine chips, which are smouldered using special smoke generators.

Interview

Smoking hot sausages!

Why Germos GmbH uses Festo’s core product range



Bernd Wurster,
CEO Germos GmbH

Germos GmbH based in Remshalden is a leading manufacturer and developer of smoke houses. Bösinger Fleischwaren GmbH is one of the biggest producers of original Black Forest ham.

★ **Star:** What are the challenges when designing a smoking plant?
Wurster: Keeping the flavour and colour at a consistently high level for every one of the ten thousand smoked sausages is an art in itself.
★ **Star:** What about the plant itself?
Wurster: We need to be able to guarantee our customers an extremely high level of plant availability as well as a long service life for that plant.
★ **Star:** How does that manifest itself?
Wurster: Our smoke generators are designed to run 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for 20 years. (laughs)

★ **Star:** So selecting the right components is critical?
Wurster: Absolutely! That is why we switched to standard components from the Festo core product range across the entire control chain.
★ **Star:** Why?
Wurster: We believe that Festo’s core range means reliability. With Festo, we get everything from a single source. Including fast spare parts service and therefore reduced warehousing.
★ **Star:** You mean quality down to the smallest details?
Wurster: Our customers always say that nothing is too much trouble when it comes to sausages. Every detail is important. We agree and that’s why we use Festo’s core range of products!

Pssst! The comment column

The Oscar goes to ...

The musings of A.K. Stahl

Every spring, film buffs and lovers of glitz and glamour turn their attention to Hollywood, where the year’s best movie performances are honoured at the Oscars, including for “Best Supporting Actor”. This is the actor who makes an important contribution to the film as a whole. In German, the meaning of ‘supporting actor’ is downplayed by its translation as “Nebenrolle”, which literally means “secondary role”. This clearly diminishes its importance.

Are secondary roles a minor matter?

We all know that there is no such thing as a secondary role when it comes to successful teamwork. Imagine if the design engineer of an automation solution cared less about selecting the mounting components, tubing and cables than he did about the drive section. We all know what the result of that would be. An unstable process and a system that doesn’t work. In other words, a whole heap of problems. The same is true everywhere. Our entire life is influenced by this principle.

The devil is in the detail

Wherever we look - in our immediate surroundings, in our place of work, in everything we do - Nothing is unimportant. Nothing is without consequence. There are no secondary roles.



One type for all applications

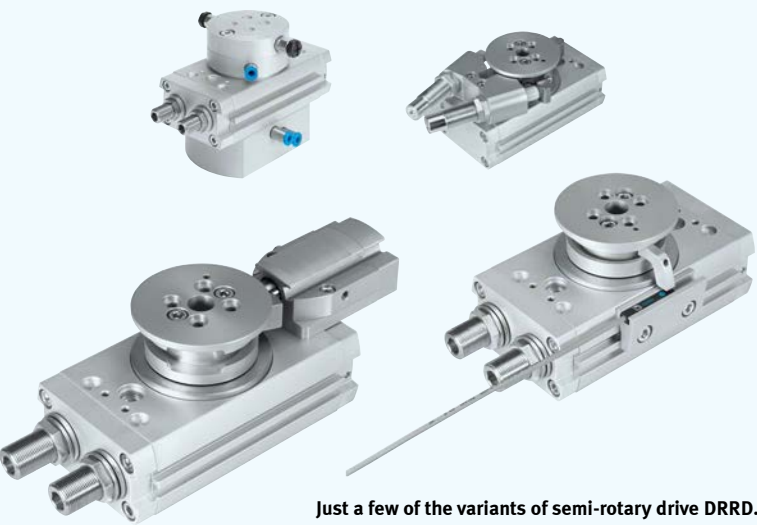
Semi-rotary drive DRRD leaves nothing to be desired

The semi-rotary drive DRRD is an extraordinary member of the Festo core product range. This is not just because it is an award winner (see page 4: ‘Outstanding pneumatic innovation’), but also because of the large choice of flexible variants which make this product a star among the stars. Take a look at just a few of the special application features.

The DRRD is available with end-position locking, preventing unwanted movement in the event of a pressure

failure. Or, should you need additional position sensing, there is also a variant with which you can detect the mechanical position directly. What if you require full drive torque in the end positions? No problem for the variant with external shock absorbers. The DRRD can also be adapted to many different applications using internal cushioning variants.

To further simplify component selection, DRRD installations are really easy to plan and configure using



Just a few of the variants of semi-rotary drive DRRD.

Festo’s perfectly matched valves, sensors and accessories from the core product range. It just shows that a lot of thought has gone into product design and development with the customer’s needs in mind!

★ www.festo.co.za/drrd

Sensors opening up new possibilities



Sensor from the SDAT series on a standard DSBC cylinder.

ADN, ADVC, DSBC, DFM and DRRD. These are the drives of the Festo core product range, and they all do pretty much the same thing – advance and retract a piston, back and forth.

But something has changed in the last few years. Thanks to more sophisticated sensors and more intelligent automation technology, drives today have application ranges that would

not have been achievable just a few years ago. With sensors from Festo’s SDAT series, it is possible to identify piston positions.

Applications such as filling and bonding (i.e. processes that involve the precise measurement of liquid media), can thus be monitored. The same applies to processes for bending, pressing, screwing or other applica-

tions where welding plays a role. The ability to output the position data via IO-Link with the SDAT sensor, opens up a host of new possibilities and application approaches.

As development and innovation continues, you can expect to see many more benefits in the future. Cylinders are no longer just tough and durable drives, they can now be applied in sensitive environments too.

Smart, cost effective swivelling

Semi-rotary drive DRVS

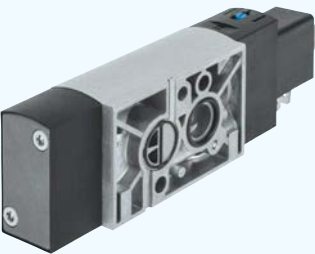
- ★ Seven sizes
- ★ Compact design
- ★ Attractive price

www.festo.co.za/drvs



Stress free process control

Festo's VSNC NAMUR valve sets the standard in system control



All good things come in threes with the VSNC: award-winning, Ex-certified and cost effective.

Process automation is a term we associate with continuous use under adverse conditions. In systems such

as wastewater treatment plants, for example, even the tiniest of screws must be extraordinarily robust. But what does this mean for a control valve? If the experts are to be believed, it should have the same properties as the NAMUR valve VSNC from the Festo core product range - i.e. proven technology, resistant materials, durable quality, and a sturdy, reliable design. This innovative product also offers outstanding value for money. Explosive environment? Not a problem. The range includes IECEx-certified solenoid

systems for Zone 1, Zone 2, Class I and Division I solenoid system to NEC 500. Whether it's a single- or double-acting actuator, the VSNC offers the right solution with just one valve. Simply turn the seal at the NAMUR interface - and a 3/2-way valve becomes a 5/2-way valve. Design engineers are unanimous in their verdict of the VSNC - this is what all NAMUR valves should be like!

★ www.festo.co.za/vsnc

Outstanding pneumatic innovation

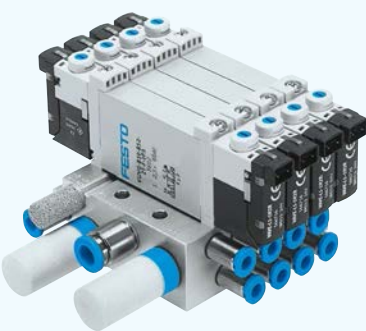
Our Stars in Pneumatics – winners in multiple design competitions!

Experts know that good product design pays for itself. Good design improves the reliability, quality, simplicity and durability of products. Design awards do not just recognise a pleasing design, they are also proof that a product is well thought-out. It is therefore no surprise that many products in the Festo core product range – the 'Stars' – have won numerous design awards in recent years. Winners include the twin-piston semi-rotary drive DRRD, the new semi-rotary drive DRVS, the valve and valve terminal series VG and the

NAMUR valve VSNC. All of these are undeniably outstanding products!



reddot design award



The VG series (VUVG and VTUG) have received prestigious design prizes: Red Dot and IF Product Design Award.

Enhance your knowledge



For several decades, Festo Didactic has been recognized worldwide for the development of high-quality, intuitive learning systems for technical training.

Didactic South Africa brings more than 40 years of experience over a broad spectrum of technologies. This expertise ranges from basic training and technology-specific courses to planning, control, and handling of complex systems, to fully appointed learning centers. Festo has created a world of learning, tailored to their clients

needs for efficient study and guaranteed learning success. One of the foundational courses that they offer is the Basic Pneumatics Course (PN111). The course deals in detail with the most up-to-date products, current tools and methods used in industry.

This training is suited for anyone who has to deal with pneumatic systems in their working environment. To find out more about this and other Didactic offerings, contact them on (011) 971 5626 or email them at didactic.za@festo.com to register.

FESTO

Perfect compressed air preparation

You need perfect compressed air. You want maximum reliability. We are your compressed air experts.

→ **WE ARE THE ENGINEERS OF PRODUCTIVITY.**

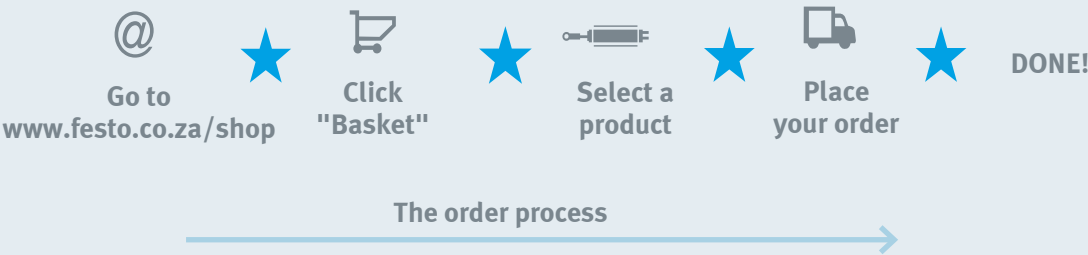
With its large product range, highly functional components and a wide choice of services, the MS series from Festo offers a complete concept for compressed air preparation. This product is perfect for standard as well as application-specific solutions which demand the highest levels of quality, and for energy-efficient solutions as well as for safety functions.

www.festo.co.za

A breakthrough in the battle against RSI

4 clicks to prevent repetitive strain injury (RSI) among product purchasers

The ideal online ordering process:



Mnr. Du Plessis. was off sick for weeks and unable to work due to an acute pain in his forearm. The diagnosis: 'mouse arm', an inflammation of the tendons connecting the elbow and the radial bone in the forearm. According to figures from the trade associations, cases of 'mouse arm' are becoming increasingly common in people who have to use a mouse to place orders on online platforms.

"Making lots of clicks puts more strain on the tendons than we previously thought," explains Prof. Dr. Martin

Hegel from the Institute for Occupational Safety and Health in Korntal, Germany. The problem is having a noticeable effect on sufferers and their employers. Placing orders online is then avoided, and the benefits of online shops are lost.

A series of in-depth tests at the Institute for Occupational Safety and Health has revealed the ideal number of clicks per order. "It has to be done in four clicks," advises Prof. Hegel. "This provides the ideal balance between the ordering process and the

rest phase for the tendons in the forearm." The positive psychological effects of faster, less complicated order processes should not be underestimated either.

Du Plessis has been back at work for a week, and now orders from Festo. "Festo has made ordering easy and fun again!" he told us, visibly impressed by the few clicks needed to on Festo's user-friendly online shop!

★ www.festo.co.za/shop