

Overcoming Obsolescence with Innovation

Cadent's Collaboration with Oxford Flow

Cadent, the UK's largest gas distribution network serving 11 million homes and businesses, encountered a challenge when faced with the obsolescence of gas regulators at a site in Merseyside, UK. Cadent collaborated with Oxford Flow to overcome this obstacle and transition towards a future-fit gas distribution network.



THE CHALLENGE

Cadent's long-term development plan necessitated the replacement and upgrade of pressure equipment to accommodate growing demand. However, the obsolescence of regulators at the Merseyside site posed a significant hurdle.

THE SOLUTION

Oxford Flow emerged as a key partner, presenting its field-tested IM-S wafer type gas regulator. This British-made innovation, designed without a main body diaphragm, not only addressed Cadent's immediate needs but also exceeded the capabilities of existing regulators. Its adaptability to handle natural gas, blended hydrogen, and biomethane ensured a future-proofed option aligned with the transition to renewable energy sources.

EXECUTION AND IMPLEMENTATION

Following approval, Oxford Flow efficiently designed, manufactured, and installed the regulators and associated components in just four weeks. Post-installation, collaborative efforts between Oxford Flow and Cadent further optimised performance through data analysis and modelling, surpassing initial expectations.

LONG-TERM BENEFITS

The adoption of Oxford Flow's regulators yielded significant long-term benefits for Cadent. With a minimum service interval of 10 years, improved pressure control, and full hydrogen readiness, the new regulators ensured enhanced operational efficiency and reduced maintenance requirements.

The collaboration extended beyond the initial project, with Oxford Flow continuing to support Cadent in replacing end-of-life regulators across its network.

CONCLUSION

The collaboration between Cadent and Oxford Flow exemplifies the power of innovation and collaboration in overcoming industry challenges. By leveraging Oxford Flow's cutting-edge technology and expertise, Cadent not only addressed immediate needs but also positioned itself for a sustainable and future-ready gas distribution network.



Minimum service
interval of
5-10 years

Improved
pressure control

Full
hydrogen readiness

