APV Flex-Mix™ Instant

Application
Flex-Mix™ Instant is a highly efficient vacuum processing unit, suitable for use in a wide range of applications. It is designed to recombine, dissolve and disperse powders in liquids by means of high shear vacuum mixing.

The Flex-Mix™ Instant is among other things used for:
- Recombination/reconstitution of milk powders
- Infant formula preparation
- Fine food emulsions
- Slurries and gum dispersion
- Sugar dissolving
- Beverages
- Ice cream, yoghurt and dessert mix

CAPACITY
Batch production: Up to 10,000 litres.
Production per hour: Up to 40,000 litres per hour – All depending on the type of production plant

OPERATION
The Flex-Mix™ Instant consists of an in-line rotor/stator mixer which is connected to a tangential outlet in the bottom of the tank. The In-line mixer is both pumping and mixing the product and thus creating a large liquid flow, which is recirculated over the tank through a bypass.

The bypass flow is returned tangentially into the tank thus creating a forced vortex. The forced vortex means that liquid will "rise" up along the tank wall and thus the free liquid surface area will be considerably larger than the tank diameter.

The tank is a vacuum tank and the powder is transported into the tank by means of a special powder inlet valve (Patent pending). The powder/air mixture is led directly into the liquid below the liquid surface and due to the forced vortex and the difference in density, a separation of air/gas and liquid will take place very fast. The air/gas is centered in the middle of the tank and is subsequently drawn out. The large free liquid surface furthermore gives an effective and continuous deaeration of the product. Unlike traditional mixing that generally incorporates air during mixing. This will help to reduce oxidation, improve product quality and consistency.

The reversed cone shaped bottom of the tank ensures that the forced vortex is stagnating in the bottom and during the powder injection it will not be possible to draw out air in the tangential outlet.

Thereby it is ensured that no air can be drawn into the in-line mixer and thus into the mixed product.

If the product has to be heated/cooled indirectly, the forced vortex gives a considerable increase in the heat exchange efficiency (large heat surface and high speed).

STANDARD DESIGN
General:
- Sanitary design for CIP cleaning. Fully drainable for improved hygiene and minimal product waste
- Integrated Flex-Mix™ Instant tank with reversed cone bottom
- Integrated Flex-Mix™ In-line mixer/pump
- Integrated vacuum system
- Integrated CIP system
- Available with integrated control panel with PC/PLC
- Skid mounted
- Available with powder hoppers, open as well as closed for CIP cleaning
- Seal material in EPDM or FPM (Viton) FDA quality
- All parts in contact with the product are made of stainless steel AISI 316L / DIN1.4404

TANK DESIGN:
- Cylindrical vacuum tank in the following sizes: 1000, 2000, 3000, 6000, and 10000 litres
- Internal/external tank surfaces in quality 2B finish with polished welds. Surfaces in contact with product: Ra< 1 μm
- Available with heating/cooling jacket on tank wall and/or with insulation with outer shell
- Available with steam injection valves for direct product heating
- Top mounted manway cover, available with safety lock
- Top mounted vent/safety valve
- Top mounted sight glass with light
- With one or two CIP-inlet branches, ø25 mm, with rotating spray ball
- One or more product inlets for liquids
- One or more powder inlet valves
- Available with side mounted minor ingredient funnels
- Available with level switches and/or load cells
IN-LINE MIXER/PUMP
- In two sizes with rotor diameter: ø250 and ø350mm
- Directly coupled motor (closed coupled design) Fully encapsulated, IEC or NEMA, IP55, covered by a stainless steel jacket, 4 and 6 poles
- Double mechanical shaft seal for water flushing in Silicon / Carbon alternatively in Silicon/Silicon seal ring material.
- Available with inducer
- Several types of stator rings

VACUUM SYSTEM
- One or two liquid ring vacuum pumps in stainless steel/plastic material resistant to CIP liquids
- Directly coupled motor (closed coupled design). Fully encapsulated, IEC or NEMA, IP55, 4 and 6 poles
- With water separator for reuse of service water
- With regulation valve for maintenance of vacuum level

TECHNICAL DATA

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>TANK PRESSURE RATING</th>
<th>TANK SIZE</th>
<th>IN-LINE MIXER SIZE</th>
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* ABB MOTORS

CONTROL PANEL AND CONTROL
- Available with the following APV Flex-Mix™ Instant PLC/PC control systems:
  - PLC-Relay Batch Control
  - PLC/PC Batch Control
  - PLC/PC Semi-Continuous Control
  - PLC/PC Continuous Control
- Available with either Wonderware or Siemens operation panels
- With MCC (Motor Control Centre), with and without frequency inverter

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APPROX. DIMENSIONS (MM)

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