



Both pressure trend and tendency can be presented on the local display of the PTB220 series digital barometers.

Météo France Orders Digital Barometers for Marine Use

SETIM of Météo France has concluded a second contract with Vaisala on the delivery of PTB220 series digital barometers. This A-class barometer was chosen after a series of competitive tenders, the last of which was performed in 1998. Some of the barometers have been installed for synoptic observations on board ships.

SETIM (the Technical and Instrumentation Service) of Météo France, responsible for instruments, equipment and new product evaluations, has taken delivery of Vaisala's PTB220 series digital barometers.

This high-performance and extremely stable barometer has been configured for Météo France in both the RS232 and RS485 communication modes. The barometers are mainly intended for integration in the existing automatic weather stations of Météo France's network, and are manufactured by a local supplier. The applications are mostly aeronautical and the major international airports in France are equipped with the PTB220 series barometers.

In this second contract, some of the barometers are additionally equipped with a display and keyboard included in the cover lid. These barometers are used for synoptic observations on board ships, on the command bridge. The simultaneous presence of the display and serial connections makes the PTB220 a very versatile instrument. The user can read the pressure at a resolution of two decimals and communicate the pressure information with trend and average data to the information system on board, for further transmission to meteorological centers.

The integrated display and keyboard enable the user to control parameters as display backlight, and to access code for further internal functions and height correction +/- 50 m without altering the calibration. The last feature is very useful for small but important corrections on ships, where the installation height might vary from one ship to another. ■

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Sanko Controls Co. Ltd. relies on Vaisala's products

Offering Process Control Systems Expertise

The Japanese company, Sanko Controls Co. Ltd., is dedicated to supplying services for process control systems. "This includes finding the measuring instruments that best suit each customer's needs," explains Mr. Jun Tamura, the Manager of the Calibration Laboratory. He became acquainted with Vaisala for the first time about 15 years ago.

Founded in 1965, Sanko Controls Co. Ltd. is based in Yokohama, Japan.

Its main business is offering process control systems consultation, integration, maintenance and calibration services. "This includes finding the measuring instruments that best suit each customer's needs, designing integration software, designing and manufacturing racks, and carrying out installation and maintenance," says Mr. Jun Tamura, the Manager of the Calibration Laboratory.

Sanko Controls has about 330 employees, many of whom are involved in the maintenance and field calibration of systems at customer sites.

Solutions for high-quality control

Sanko Controls has specialized in supplying solutions for the exacting needs of customers in the power industry, oil refining, and the chemical and pharma-

ceutical industries. Concerning these customers, the key measurement items are flux, levels, electricity, pressure, barometric pressure, temperature, humidity, density and time. "It is typical of these customers that they insist on a very high level of quality control in their processes. This naturally puts extremely high demands on the measurement instruments used," points out Mr. Tamura.

According to Jun Tamura, if the customers want reliable measurements and regular maintenance, then this is what Sanko Controls must be ready to offer them. But that's not all. For the pharmaceutical industry, for example, validation, ISO certification and traceability to standards are just as important.

To ensure that customers get the reliable, high quality maintenance and calibration that they require, Sanko Controls has established a laboratory in which customers' field calibration instruments and other instruments can be calibrated. In

