

Zeitschrift: The Swiss observer : the journal of the Federation of Swiss Societies in the UK

Herausgeber: Federation of Swiss Societies in the United Kingdom

Band: - (1980)

Heft: 1761

Rubrik: Business news

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BUSINESS NEWS

EUROPEAN AWARD FOR A SWISS COMPANY

The "1978 European Trophy for Quality" has been awarded to the Swiss company Tissot Synthetic Co. Ltd. for the work it has accomplished in a field of activity in which it was one of the pioneers: the micro-injection of high precision mechanical components in plastics. This prize is awarded every year to firms that have distinguished themselves for the high quality of their products or services. The Swiss company, which was originally a watchmaking firm and to start with concentrated on this sector alone, shows that watchmaking skills can lead to quite new applications.

BIG SWISS CEREAL MILL FOR SAUDI ARABIA

A big cereal mill was recently inaugurated in the port of Jeddah. Benefiting from all the latest technological advances, this industrial complex, which extends over an area of some 600,000 sq ft is one of the biggest ever planned and executed by the Swiss firm of Bühler Bros. Co. Ltd. The mill will amply satisfy Saudi Arabia's needs. Part of the 200 employees of this mill have been trained on the spot by Bühler technicians.

GIANT ROTATING AERIAL FOR KUWAIT

At the request of Brown Boveri Mannheim (Germany), the "machinery and handling" department of the Swiss firm Von Roll Co. Ltd. has built and manufactured the whole metal construction work for the giant aerial in Kuwait, which will be used to broadcast short-wave radio programmes all over the world. The metal structure, some 300 feet high and 240 feet long, supports two rotating short-wave aerials, each with four wave-lengths. A rotating mechanism, mounted on a large tripod, makes it possible to turn the whole installation through 180° in three minutes only; the aerials are thus very quickly directed towards the various parts of the world at which broadcasts are aimed. The total weight of the whole installation, which had to be designed to stand up to winds of up to 125 mph, is 280 tonnes. Whereas a conventional set-up would have required a ground area of several square kilometres, this rotating aerial only takes up 0.005 km.

INSTALLATIONS FOR THE SPANISH CRUDE OIL AND NATURAL GAS INDUSTRY

A cooling, storage and dispatch plant (Fig. 1) for commercial propane and butane, as well as propylene, was installed by Sulzer at the ENPETROL crude oil refinery near Tarragona (Spain). An ethylene storage and dispatch plant has also been built for the same works (Fig.

The recovery of crude oil and natural gas results in large quantities of petroleum gas at the borehole and in the refinery. Up to a few years ago, only an insignificant part of these gases was recovered for further use. Plants have been and are being built in oil-bearing regions and oil refineries for the purification, liquefaction, as well as for the intermediate storage and transport of liquefied petroleum gases (LPG) and gases such as propylene and ethylene, which are used for technical purposes.

The ethylene plant designed by Sulzer is also purposed to equalising the fluctuating requirements with the respective peak demands so that production can be effected on a continuous basis.

This plant is sub-divided into the following technical areas: ethylene store, boil-off treatment and ethylene dispatch.

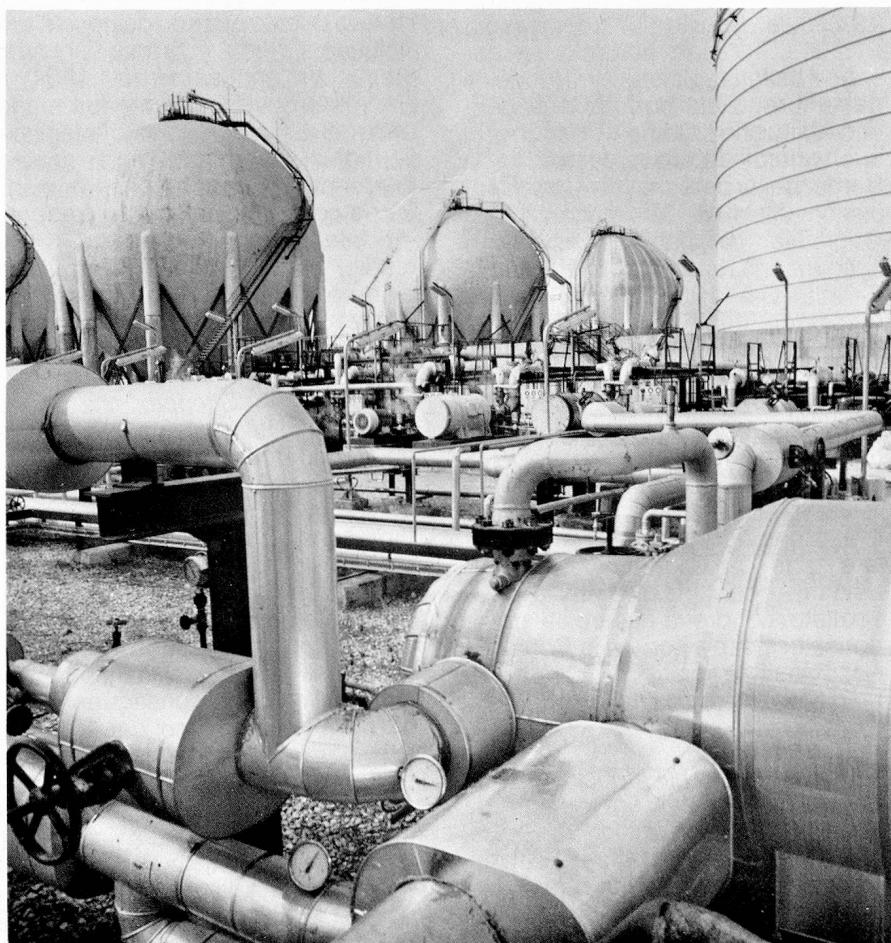
Ethylene is an intermediate product obtained in the processing of various hydrocarbons. The plastics industry is the principal customer for ethylene and its derivatives.

Sulzer Bros (UK) Ltd have received an order from the Alliance Building Society Ltd for two UNITOP water chillers plus ancillaries for their Hove headquarters.

These chillers, sized 400 TR and 180 TR respectively, cool water from 11°C to 5.5°C and are equipped with the well-known Sulzer single stage turbo compressor operating on over-pressure refrigerant R12.

Sulzer Bros (UK) Ltd also received an order from Matthew Hall Mechanical Services Ltd for a UNITOP water chiller for air conditioning of John Rylands University Library of Manchester.

The chiller, capacity 522 TR chills water from 11.1°C to 5.5°C and employs the well-known Sulzer single stage turbo compressor operating on an over-pressure refrigerant. Normally R12 is used but in this case the refrigerant is R500 which gives a greater specific capacity.



Storage facility with spherical tanks for petroleum gases, with refrigerant evaporators in the foreground.