

# BICERA BEACON

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## WHAT'S NEW AT BICERA VALVE?

**There's always something new at Bicera Valve. Here's the latest scoop!**

It seems odd to say, and surely to hear, but this year is flying by. We are already in our second quarter of 2023 here at Bicera Valve and the shop is humming.

With the increased, or should I say, continued increase in demand, we are continuing to search for new employees to help us meet the demands of the current market.

Spring is just around the corner. This typically begins our "busy season." Our shop employees have been working very hard to not only keep up with current demand, but to also build stock for the expected demand increase. And it is because of their hard work I can say that we have stock, and we stand at the ready to

try and help you meet your deadlines. With that being said, we have seen increased lead times from some of our vendors, just as the rest of the world has. But, with careful planning and a diligent work force, we hope to avoid lengthy shipping delays.

Finally, we are beginning the next phase in building improvements. We are going to be re-siding the back side of our building. This will nearly put the finishing touches on the outside of our building. We still have the remainder of the roof to refinish, which should be completed this summer.

## Product Spotlight

### Bicera Hydrogen Explosion Relief Valves

With hydrogen internal combustion engines expected to play a large part in decarbonizing the maritime shipping industry, we wanted to provide a valve capable of handling the unique features of a potential hydrogen event. Our patented technology is designed to withstand the demands of hydrogen service.



#### Key Fuel Facts

- Hydrogen flame fits through smaller gaps than methane, making it challenging to provide flame arresting.
- The explosion potential for hydrogen is high. Concentrations in the air can ignite between 4% and 75%.
- Hydrogen must supply around 15% of world energy demand by 2050.
- Currently, hydrogen's main uses are for petroleum refining, ammonia production, methanol production, and steel production.

# ► Employee Recognition Corner



## Tom Eiffert

### Assembler/Engineering Assistant

**How long have you worked at Penn-Troy?**

4 years

**What is your position and common daily duties?**

Assembler/Engineering Assistant.

I assemble valves and perform quality tests on them. I also create CAD drawings for our catalog.

**What do you like most about your job?**

The variety of work is nice.

**What are your hobbies?**

I write stories online and discuss writing with others who do the same.

**Do you have a vacation ritual or location?**

No. Not at this time.

**What is your favorite movie?**

I don't watch many movies.

**Any bucket list item(s) you care to share?**

I would like to write an entire original book.

**Do you have any hidden talents?**

I draw occasionally.

**Family?**

Currently single.

**How do you unwind outside of work?**

Video games, reading, and writing.

# ► A Message from the President

Welcome once again to the *Bicera Beacon*. It's been quite a winter here in Troy, PA. Between snow, wind, and rain, my maintenance team has finally convinced me it's time to redo the roof of our building. I didn't think it was necessary until they showed me a video of it almost coming off in a windstorm we recently had. Since I've been back at Penn-Troy, it hasn't been something on my mind. It just felt like something that should last forever. Anyway, it got me wondering about our industry, and with a quick Google search, I found that the average Marine Vessel's expected life is 25 to 30 years, and its equipment is 15 to 20 years. To top it off, there are 54,000 ships in the world fleet, and that number grows at about 9% a year. That is a lot of equipment that has to either be refurbished or replaced every 15-20 years. I can say with confidence that we have seen many Bicera Explosion Relief Valves in the field that are well over 20 years old, and they continue to do their jobs to this day. I hope when it comes time to update your equipment that you consider using a Bicera Explosion Relief Valve. They were designed with heavy duty work and longevity in mind, and they won't disappoint.

Thanks again for reading the *Bicera Beacon*, and as always, thank you for your business.

Sincerely,

*Mark Powers*

Mark Powers

President and Chief Executive Officer

Cell: 607-742-2746 | Toll Free: 800-232-4442



**Drop us a line...**

Questions? Comments? If you would like to give Penn-Troy/BICERA Valve any feedback, please send an email to [sales@penntroy.com](mailto:sales@penntroy.com). Your feedback helps us know when we are on the right track, and where we need to refocus.