

ModuMan 100

Delivered to Sellafeld Ltd

Press Release

21/02/2013



James Fisher Nuclear (JFN) is about to deliver one of its state-of-the-art Moduman 100 manipulator arms to Sellafeld Ltd.

Moduman100 is designed as a powerful manipulator workhorse for the nuclear industry. It delivers an optimum 100kg lifting capability throughout its operating envelope, offering outstanding dexterity with full resolved motion control, and the rugged reliability that is essential when operating in hazardous environments. The high performance structural integrity of the arm is enhanced by the use of radiation tolerant materials.

Extensive design experience

The design of the manipulator draws on JFN's twenty-five year experience of engineering dependable remote handling solutions for the nuclear sector. As Geoff Ashworth, JFN's head of engineering, explains: 'We designed ModuMan around conventional hydraulic actuators coupled with proven industrial instrumentation and control elements to ensure robustness. To ensure maximum maintainability, we also decided to locate vital control elements outside the operating cell.'

'The whole engineering team (pictured top from left to right: Chris Saunders, Barry Kneeshaw, John Cousins, Matt Howker, Simon Rice, Dave Storrie, Matt Joumee, Ardi Preca, Geoff Ashworth, Fabio Reis, Carwyn Jones) had to stretch themselves on this project and so it has been a great accomplishment,' added Matt Joumee, ModuMan project manager.

'We were delighted with the performance of ModuMan during our in-house testing programme and look forward to embarking on a series of trials with Sellafeld Ltd over the coming months.'

ModuMan 100 incorporates a simple hydraulic system that ensures high performance and optimum availability. It employs proven industrial elements including resolvers,

actuators, valves and sensors that are integrated and driven by a sophisticated software control to produce a power manipulator that is durable, cost-effective and extremely flexible.

Touch screen and joystick control

The intuitive control system uses a Windows—based touch screen and twin joysticks, which can be desk-mounted, or incorporated into a portable rig linked to the arm by an umbilical. The manipulator can be operated in full joint control, world or tool modes with a resolved tip motion fitted as standard. Teach and repeat functions are accessed via a touch screen along with options that enables real-time monitoring of the arms status. Collision avoidance is another optional feature.

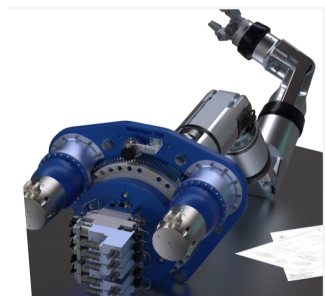
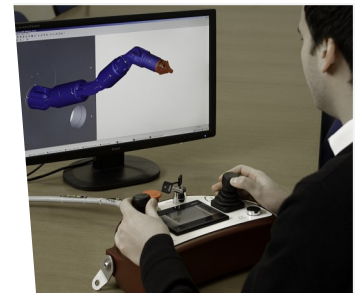
ModuMan100 features a training module that enables customers to test the equipment's capability in a virtual environment that can be modelled on their own particular application and requirements. The training module also allows operators to gain experience of ModuMan100's remote handling facilities.

The system has been designed to allow installation through the nuclear industry's standard 270mm diameter through-wall penetration, thereby offering the potential for it to be retrofitted to existing nuclear facilities throughout the world. The flexibility of the system means it can also be mast mounted or attached to a remotely operated vehicle (ROV) for other task such as plant maintenance and/or inspection duties.

Engineered to bespoke requirements

ModuMan100 can be customised to suit individual customers needs and allows arms of differing configuration to be delivered in comparatively short timescales. Most importantly though, customers benefit from full access to James Fisher's core remote handling expertise to provide the best product for their application.

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Notes to editors:

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With offices in the Europe, the Middle East, Singapore, India, Australia and Africa, the company serves both the private and public sectors and adopts a practical approach to the management of assets and provision of high quality services, ensuring an appropriate use of technology and a sound understanding of each customer's requirements, while building on the experience and expertise gained over more than 160 years of operating in the marine environment. James Fisher brings practical experience, innovation and commercial best practice to all of clients' projects and services.

For more information see: www.james-fisher.co.uk

James Fisher Nuclear Limited is a member of the James Fisher and Sons plc group. James Fisher Nuclear (JFN) is an established supplier of specialist engineering, manufacturing and technical services for applications within adverse and challenging environments or with high integrity requirements.

James Fisher Nuclear operates from 6 locations: Egremont, Malton, Worcester, Leyland Sittingbourne and Queensferry/Deeside. JFN's customers are typically engaged in operations to support highly regulated industries spanning, nuclear, aerospace, processing and defence.

As an equipment supplier, JFN delivers a comprehensive range of services to high integrity industries as discrete, standalone packages, or combinations from consultancy, design, analytical analysis (stress / mechanisms / thermal etc) to peer review, build to print manufacture, and equipment refurbishment and upgrades.

JFN has extensive practical experience in trialling and perfecting equipment in a rig-hall environment, rehearsing and training operatives for work in a hostile environment, practical development of innovative solutions.

For more information see: www.jfnl.co.uk

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