

PRESS RELEASE

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For immediate release

F.I.R.S.T. GmbH is going to present the new version CONVAL® 8.0 !

20 years of innovation and evolution

Wermelskirchen, Germany, September 2009: Within their twentieth anniversary F.I.R.S.T. Gesellschaft für technisch-wissenschaftliche Softwareanwendungen mbH is going to present the new version 8.0 of their innovative software solution **CONVAL®**.

CONVAL® 8.0 takes account of a much broader spectrum of standards for control valves, flow metering devices, and safety valves, including several current drafts. It was developed in response to the specific needs of international markets, in which F. I. R. S. T. GmbH is increasingly gaining a foothold through its sales partners. **CONVAL® 8.0** users will profit from the implementation of relevant **ANSI, ASME, API, EN, ISO, ISA, and IEC** standards in the various modules.

Thanks to these enhancements, significantly more devices can now be sized using the modules, such as eccentric orifice plates, rectangular Venturi nozzles, Venturi nozzles for critical flow etc. Among other things, the new version enables safety valves to be designed for two-phase media.

Important additions and improvements have been incorporated into the calculation of material properties. **CONVAL® 8.0** now also supports **GERG 2004 XT08**, for instance, which calculates mixtures in the liquid, two-phase, and gaseous states with more components as well as better stability and performance. **CONVAL® 8.0** is thus the only application currently available that is capable of handling even the most complex property calculations for **LNG projects**.

A **controllability index**, which permits a quick and impartial comparison of alternative solutions without having to bother with complicated details, has been incorporated in **CONVAL® 8.0** as a new feature for assessing a control valve's suitability for specific tasks and speeding up the selection process.

*F.I.R.S.T. - Gesellschaft für technisch-wissenschaftliche Softwareanwendungen mbH, based in Wermelskirchen (Cologne / Dusseldorf area), came into being in 1989. The company's goal is to continuously improve **CONVAL®**, a powerful software product for sizing, calculating and optimizing the components and processes in industrial plant systems, and to sell it in the international marketplace. The idea for **CONVAL®** was born in the late seventies and originally realized in the guise of small routines for programmable pocket calculators. Many of the calculation modules that today are integral elements of **CONVAL®** existed in a simplified form even then. In 1985 a team of experienced engineers from the fields of instrumentation and control, chemical processes and machine building, as well as various other branches of industry, joined forces with software development experts. At the end of a development phase lasting four years, they were able to present the first results – christened **CONVAL® 1.0** – at INTERKAMA '89.*

***CONVAL®** saves time and money by standardizing the workflows for calculating and optimizing plant components – eliminates work-intensive and therefore time-consuming custom calculations – minimizes the probability of errors with the help of verified design parameters – facilitates access to the latest published properties – enables critical states to be simulated on the basis of specified disturbance quantities – prevents unscheduled plant shutdowns by means of numerous engineered safeguards – integrates easily into application-specific software environments and with its customer-friendly price structure offers an exceptionally fast R.O.I. Finely tuned to real-world needs and founded on innovative software architecture, **CONVAL®** already helps boost the productivity of several thousand satisfied users worldwide.*

*In addition to **CONVAL®**, F.I.R.S.T. GmbH today also offers consulting and customized software development mainly for technical applications.*