KOFLOC Progress together with growing industries in the 21st century

NEWS RELEASE

July 26, 2006

KOJIMA INSTRUMENTS INC.

Release of "NB Series," new nitrogen gas generators, on August 1

Portable type series with built-in compressor saves installation space

KOFLOC (KOJIMA INSTRUMENTS INC. at Kyotanabe, Kyoto; President: Hisatoshi Kojima), a manufacturer of fluid measuring/control equipment, has developed "NB Series," new medium-sized nitrogen gas generators. Equipped with a built-in compressor, the space-saving model with casters permits easy relocation. We will begin full-scale sale of the equipment on August 1 to electronic equipment and semiconductor factories, resin molding factories, and food factories throughout Japan. The equipment will be priced at 3.5-5 million yen per unit, and we plan to sell 50 units during the first year.

NB Series generates nitrogen gas by a method called PSA (Pressure Swing Adsorption). The air compressed by a compressor is made to flow through an adsorbent to remove oxygen, etc. to selectively take out nitrogen alone. The equipment can produce 99-99.99% pure, low dew-point nitrogen gas.

We have been manufacturing only the separate compressor type medium-sized nitrogen gas generators (NT Series, etc.) so far, but upon hearing the users' needs for a compact integral type, we continued running tests for almost one year.

While developing NB Series, we inherited the concept of our compact M Series, "Easiest possible handling," and increased the capacity. M Series includes three types, generating nitrogen gas at the rate of 0.3, 0.6, and 1.2 m^3 per hour (when the purity is 99%), respectively, while NB Series generates nitrogen gas at the rates of 5 and 8.2 m^3 per hour (when the purity is 99%), substantially increasing the capacity based on the needs of users.

Manufacturing a wide variety of products in small quantities is a general tendency in Japan, and introduction of a cell production system, line change, and other detailed change are necessary accordingly. Not only M Series, but also the current NB Series nitrogen gas generators can meet such change in the production field, permitting easy relocation according to the layout change.

■ Features of NB Series

1. Installation space saving

Integration of the compressor, which has been installed separately so far, with the main unit of the nitrogen gas generator can save the installation space. The installation space (including a compressor) of our conventional medium-sized NT Series is 6.11 m^2, while that of the current NB Series is 4.4 m^2, ensuring about 30% space saving.

※ The maintenance area is included.

2. Portable type

Large casters, which are not provided for NT Series, are provided to facilitate layout change.

3. Low noise and high durability

The noise level has been lowered and a highly durable cylinder valve has been adopted as a changeover valve to ensure maintenance-free operation as much as possible.

4. Display of operation error message

Easy-to-understand alarm messages are displayed to indicate the drop in purity, compressor errors, and dryer errors during operation.

■ Types and specifications of NB Series

Model	Purity of nitrogen (%)	Qty of generation (m^3/hr)	Size of main unit (W x D x H (mm))	Weight (kg)	Power consumption (kw)
2NB-25/6	99	5	650×1000×1850	440	2.6
3NB-25/6	99.9	3.5			
4NB-25/6	99.99	2.2			
2NB-35/6	99	8.2		500	4.2
3NB-35/6	99.9	5.5			
4NB-35/6	99.99	3.7			

(Reference) Nitrogen gas generator

Nitrogen gas is indispensable for keeping freshness of processed food, as well as for protection of products (material) from oxygen and moisture in the air, which will hinder production in the soldering, resin molding, and semiconductor manufacturing processes. Nitrogen gas generators are widely used in the general manufacturing industry, because they use the air as a raw material and are safe and easy to handle. In

comparison with the use of a nitrogen gas cylinder, the cost will be reduced to 1/3 to 1//10.

Based on the concept, “Proposal of reduction in cost by domestic production of nitrogen gas using the air as a raw material instead of purchasing delivered nitrogen gas,” KOFLOC started manufacture and sales of nitrogen gas generators in 1990, already selling more than 3,000 units in total.

[Photo of product] Nitrogen gas generator, “NB Series”

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OUTLINE

■**Name** KOJIMA INSTRUMENTS INC.

■Registered trademark KOFLOC

■Establishment July 1974

(Incorporated as Kojima Seisakusho, Co., Ltd.)

■**URL**：http://www.kofloc.co.jp/

■President Hisatoshi Kojima

■Capital ¥400,000,000

■Number of employees 233

■Business content Manufacturing and sales of area flow meters, fluid control valves, electronic flow meters, various fluid controllers, nitrogen, oxygen and ozone gas generators, fuel battery evaluation devices, deodorizers, water processors, medical equipment, etc.

◆A reference◆

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