**Press Release**

**October 2023**

**Compact valve LQE from Schmalz: fast, smart, safe**

Long line? The LQEc/i compact valve significantly shortens the suction and deposit time of the workpieces: it is so small and light that it can be installed directly on the gripper and provides the vacuum as needed in a fraction of a second.

Maximum throughput in pick-and-place applications requires a high-performance gripping concept. The prerequisite for this: extremely short evacuation and ventilation times. This is where the directly actuated 3/2-way valves LQEc/LQEi with integrated vacuum switch from Schmalz come into play. In systems with central vacuum generation, they enable decentralised monitoring and control of the process directly at the gripper. Due to the design as a bistable valve with end position fixing and the additional non-return valve, the vacuum is maintained and process reliability is guaranteed even in the event of a power failure.

With a maximum flow rate of 268 litres per minute, the compact valves can be used either individually or together to create multiple vacuum circuits. In combination with electric vacuum generators such as the Compact-Pump GCPi, operators can set up fully electric systems. The effective atmospheric ventilation makes it possible to completely dispense with expensive compressed air, even when depositing workpieces. Optimised flow cross-sections make the process fast and reliable. Connection and commissioning are done quickly, as the valve and switch are integrated into the housing.

#### LQEi belongs to the Schmalz Connect series and is therefore predestined for the digital factory. Via IO-Link, it provides process and status data at any time - so that specialists can not only monitor the machine remotely and in real time, but also detect gradual changes before a failure occurs.

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**Meta-Title:** Compact valve LQE from Schmalz enables high throughputs

**Meta-Description:** Suitable equipment is required for short suction and discharge times in handling processes. The compact valve LQEc/i from Schmalz sits directly on the gripper and thus allows rapid evacuation and ventilation.

**Social Media:** Vacuum takes time. To ensure that automation does not become a test of patience despite the central vacuum generator, Schmalz significantly shortens the suction and discharge times of the workpieces with the LQE compact valve.

**Images:**

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|  |  | **Image 1:**  The LQE compact valve guarantees extremely fast evacuation and ventilation times. |
|  |  | **Image 2:**  Safe in the process: If the vacuum generator fails, the LQE seals off and thus maintains the vacuum at the gripper. |
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Images: J. Schmalz GmbH

**About the company**

Schmalz is one of the market leaders in automation with vacuum and for ergonomic handling systems. The products of the international company are used in logistics applications as well as in the automotive industry, the electronics sector and furniture production. The broad spectrum in the Vacuum Automation business segment includes individual components such as suction pads or vacuum generators, complete gripping systems and clamping solutions for holding workpieces, for example on CNC machining centres. In the Handling business segment, Schmalz offers innovative handling solutions for industry and trade with vacuum lifters and crane systems. With the Energy Storage business field, the company is building up another mainstay in the area of stationary energy storage systems.

The combination of comprehensive consulting, a high focus on innovation and first-class quality ensures sustainable added value for customers. Intelligent solutions from Schmalz make production and logistics processes more flexible and efficient - and at the same time fit for the advancing digitalisation.

Schmalz is represented in all important markets with its own locations and trading partners in around 70 countries. The family-owned company employs around 1,800 people at its German headquarters (Glatten, Black Forest) and in 29 other companies worldwide.

#### Contact for Questions

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