

# The Industrial Pipeline

IPEX Industrial Piping Systems Newsletter

## Sea Life Kansas City – Life Support Systems Helped by IPEX

Developed by Merlin Entertainment, the Sea Life Kansas City Aquarium is a popular destination for both tourists and local residents. Situated in the Crown Center close to Downtown Kansas City, the aquarium boasts 30 special displays, educational programs, touch pools, and a glass tunnel that lets you walk on the simulated sea floor surrounded by water brimming with sea



life. In all, the aquarium holds over 260,000 gallons of water. To sustain the aquarium's over 5,000 sea creatures, the regulated flow and ongoing maintenance of this life support system rely on a vast series of thermoplastic valves for control and safety.

Chris Spaulding, formerly with Merlin Entertainment explains. "It was the first time the local pipefitters had to do an installation at an aquarium. Valves are integral to the operation of the system. When I met with the IPEX representative, Bill Golightly, I approached him about using IPEX VXE Series True Union Ball Valves. Two features about the valves stood out. One was the built-in plastic disc that can be used with permanent marker to label the valve as soon as it is connected. Clear, permanent labelling is important, because sometimes valves need to be turned off or on in a hurry. The other



Easyfit Custom  
Labelling System



Easyfit  
Multifunctional Handle

feature that I liked was the built-in wrench. The technician doesn't need to make sure he or she is carrying the right tool. It's built in so the job can be done right away." Spaulding is now the Aquarium Science Director at Oregon Coast Community College where his students also use IPEX valves in their aquarium-building projects. From one application to another, operational reliability is ensured with versatile, safe, and durable IPEX valves.



IPEX VXE Series True Union Ball Valves are ultra compact and feature a full-port, bi-directional, double-block design. They can be easily removed from the piping system and fully serviced. Available in PVC or CPVC with EPDM or FPM seals, the valves are pressure rated at 232 psi at a temperature of 73°F. Their multifunction handle doubles as a tool for ball seat adjustments, and the threaded seat stop carrier offers improved seal integrity under tough service conditions.

Whether required for isolation, diversion, control or throttling, IPEX has a comprehensive range of valves to meet most thermoplastic piping system applications. Visit [ipexna.com](http://ipexna.com)