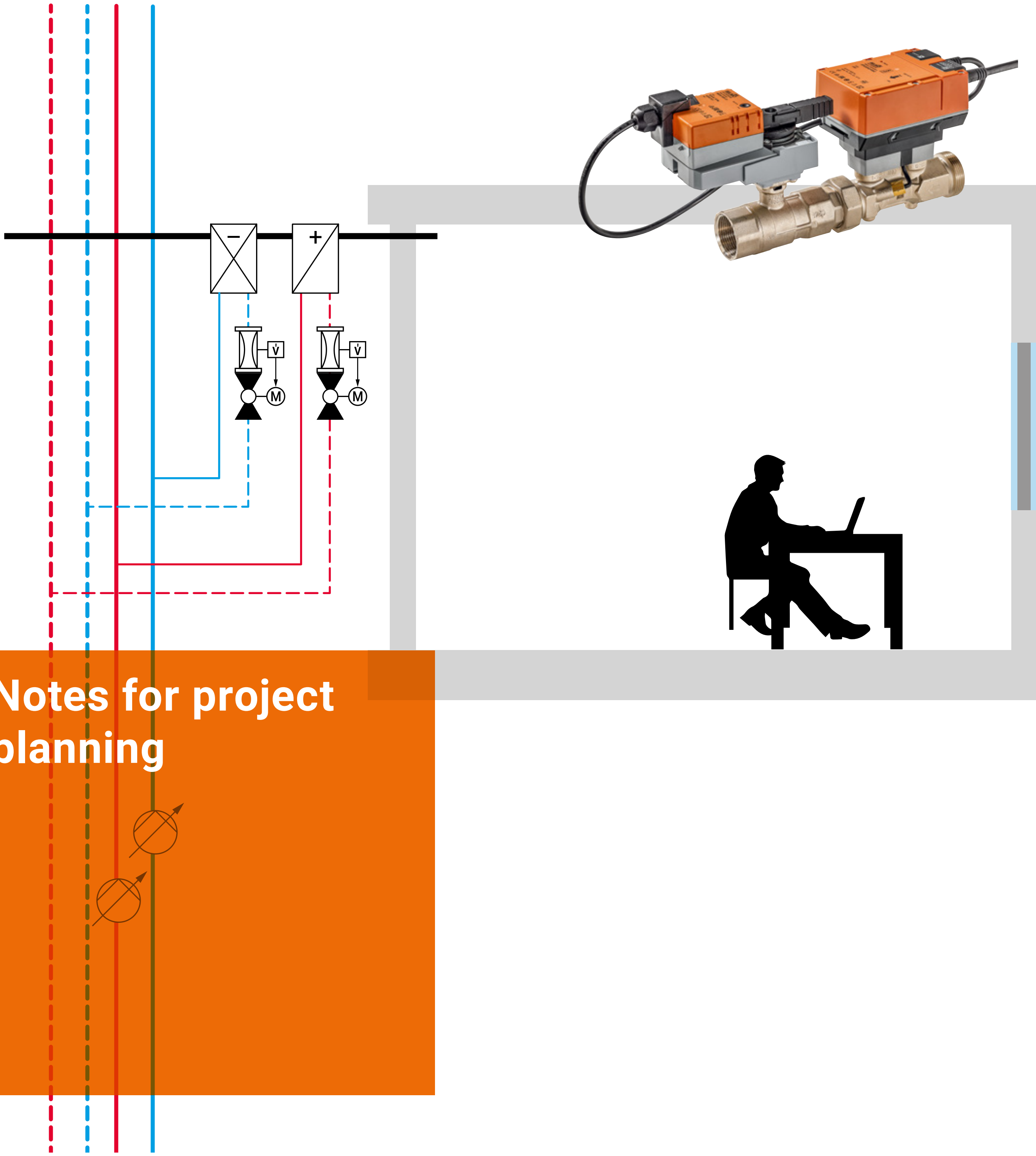

Notes for project planning

Electronic pressure-independent characterised control valve EPIV

Edition 2026-01/B

BELIMO

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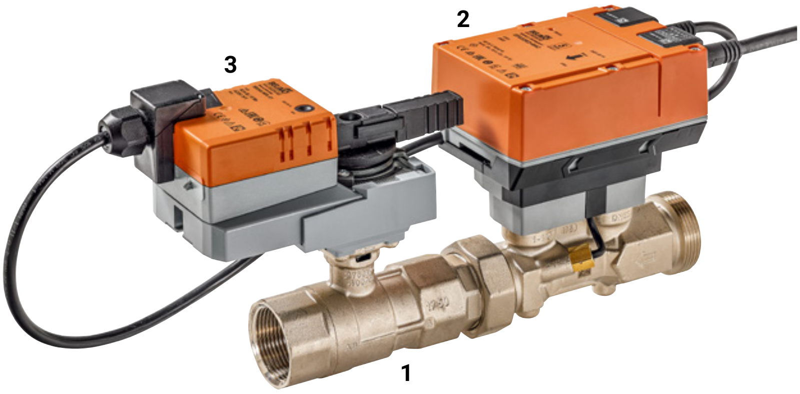
BELIMO

Electronic pressure-independent characterised control valve (EPIV)

Structure

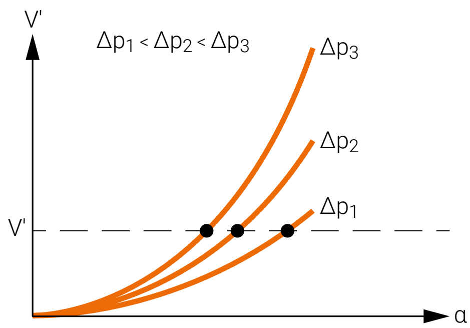
Nominal diameter DN 15...50



1. **Characterised control valve**
   (Leakage rate A in accordance with EN 12266-1)
   Air-bubble tight sealing control device ensures absolutely tight shut-off at zero load and thus reliably prevents activation losses
2. **Measuring pipe with flow sensor**
   Ultrasonic flow measurement optimally adapted to the requirements of the application
3. **Actuator**
   Actuator specially optimised for pressure-independent flow control

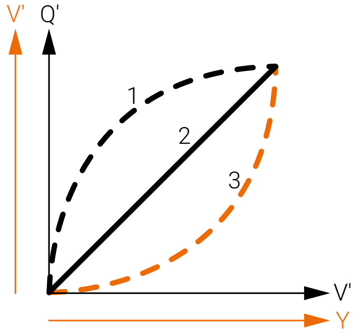
Principle of operation

The HVAC performance device consists of three components: characterised control valve, measuring pipe with flow sensor and the actuator itself. The set maximum flow rate (V'_{max}) is assigned to the maximum control signal (typically 10 V/100%). The HVAC performance device can be controlled via communicative or analogue signals. The fluid is detected by the sensor in the measuring pipe and is applied as the flow value. The measured value is balanced with the setpoint (analogue control signal or request via bus communication). The actuator corrects the deviation by changing the valve position. The angle of rotation α varies according to the differential pressure through the control element.



Transfer behaviour of the heat exchanger

Depending on the construction, differential temperature, fluid and hydronic circuit, the power Q' is not proportional to the flow rate V' (curve 1). In classic temperature control, the aim is to maintain the control signal Y proportional to the power Q' (curve 2). This is achieved by means of an equal-percentage flow characteristic (curve 3).



For applications with linear transfer behaviour (a-value ~1) the flow characteristic of the EPIV can be changed from equal percentage to linear.

Control functions

The fluid velocity is measured in the measuring component (sensor electronics) and converted into a flow rate signal. The control signal Y corresponds to the power requirement Q' at the exchanger. The flow rate is controlled in the EPIV. The control signal Y is converted into an equal-percentage flow characteristic and provided with the V'_{max} value as the new reference variable w. The momentary control deviation forms the control signal Y1 for the actuator.
The specially configured control parameters in conjunction with the precise flow sensor ensure a stable control quality. They are, however, not suitable for rapid control processes, such as for domestic water control. The feedback signal (U5) displays the measured flow rate as a voltage (factory setting). Alternatively, U5 can be used for displaying the valve opening angle.

Project planning

Relevant information

Please note the data, information and limit values in the data sheets of the electronic pressure-independent characterised control valves (EPIV).
– EP..R2+BAC: DN 15...50 with standard actuator
– EP..R2+KBAC: DN 15...50 fail-safe

Dimensions

The dimensions of the electronic pressure-independent characterised control valve depend on the valve's nominal diameter and the actuator used. The dimensions can be found in the associated data sheets.

Pipeline clearances

The minimum clearances between the pipelines and the walls and ceilings required for project planning depend not only on the valve dimensions but also on the design. The dimensions can be found in the associated data sheets.

Pressure-independent characterised control valves

Characterised control valves must be provided as throttling devices in the return. This leads to lower thermal loads on the sealing elements. The prescribed direction of flow must be observed.

Direction of flow

Observe the specified direction of flow.

Water quality

Adhere to the water quality requirements specified in VDI 2035.

Strainers

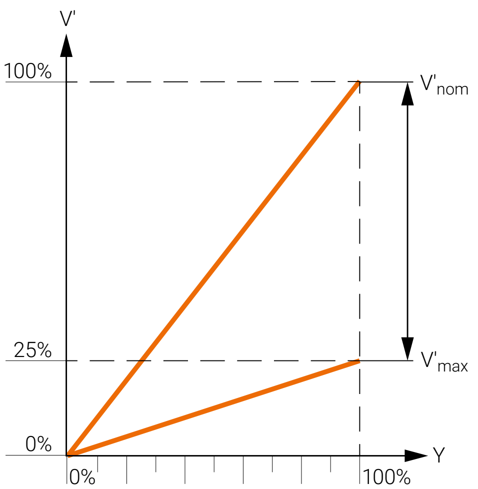
The electronic pressure-independent characterised control valve is a control device. To ensure that it can also fulfil the control task in the long term, central strainers are recommended.

Water system

Use is permitted only in closed water systems.

Definitions

V'_{nom} is the maximum possible flow.
V'_{max} is the maximum flow which has been set with the greatest control signal, e.g. 10 V.
V'_{min} 0% is not variable.
V'_{max} can be set between 25% and 100% of V'_{nom}.

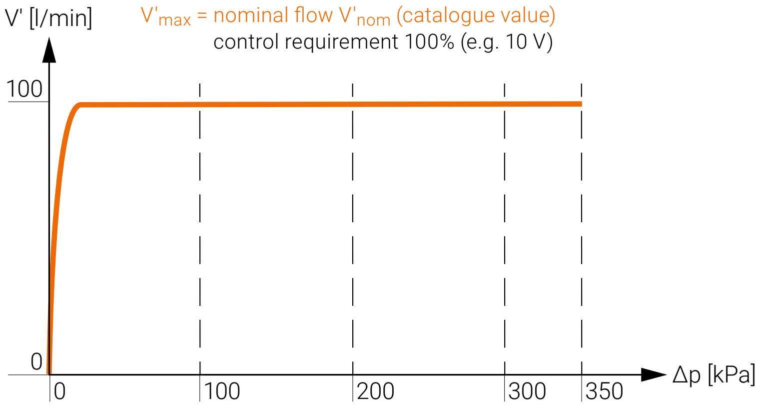


Design and dimensioning

A conventional (pressure-dependent) valve is designed based on the K_V value. For a given nominal flow, this is dependent on the differential pressure present across the valve. In order to obtain a sufficient quality of control, the valve authority P_V must also be taken into account for pressure-dependent valves.
With a pressure-independent solution, such as the electronic pressure-independent characterised control valve, the design is greatly simplified. Due to dynamic balancing, the device provides the required water quantity at any time, even in the event of differential pressure fluctuations and in partial load operation. Due to dynamic balancing, the valve authority amounts to 1.

Constant flow rate V'

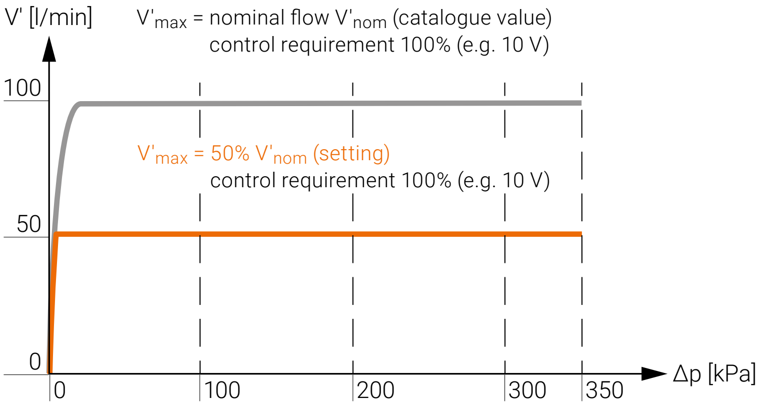
Thanks to the permanent balancing of the flow in the event of differential pressure changes in the system, constant pressure-independent water flow is ensured over a large differential pressure range.



Pressure-independent flow rate over a large differential pressure range due to dynamic balancing (example EP032R2+BAC).

Valve design

The valve is determined using the maximum flow required V'_{max}. Calculation of the K_{VS} value is not required. The required system-specific maximum flow V'_{max} must lie within the permissible setting range.
DN 15...50: V'_{max} = 25...100% of V'_{nom} (catalogue value)
During commissioning, the desired system-specific flow rate value V'_{max} is set on the valve using Belimo Assistant (NFC) or via bus.



System-specific adjustment of the maximum flow V'_{max} (example EP032R2+BAC)

Verification of the differential pressure

For proper operation, the differential pressure across the valve must lie within a defined range.

Minimum differential pressure (minimum pressure drop)
The minimum required differential pressure (pressure drop across the valve) to reach the desired flow rate V'_{max} can be calculated using the theoretical K_{vs} value (see data sheet) and the formula below. The calculated value depends on the required maximum flow rate V'_{max}. Higher differential pressures are compensated for automatically by the valve.

Formula Δp_{min}

$$\Delta p_{min} = 100 \cdot \left(\frac{V'_{max}}{K_{vs}}\right)^2$$

Δp_{min} : [kPa]
V'_{max} : [m^3/h]
K_{vs} : [m^3/h]

Example:

(DN 25 with desired maximum flow = 58% V'_{nom})
EP025R2+BAC
K_{vs} theor. = 8.6 m^3/h
V'_{nom} = 58.3 l/min
58% * 33.8 l/min = 2.0 m^3/h

$$\Delta p_{min} = 100 \cdot \left(\frac{V'_{max}}{K_{vs\ theor.}}\right)^2 = 100 \cdot \left(\frac{2\ m^3/h}{8.6\ m^3/h}\right)^2 = \mathbf{5.4\ kPa}$$

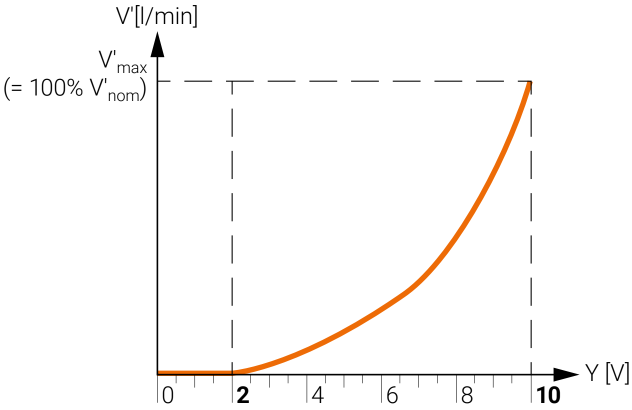
Maximum differential pressure
The valve automatically compensates for higher differential pressures. A movement of the closing element in the direction of the closing point causes an increase in the pressure drop across the valve. This ensures a constant water quantity The permitted maximum differential pressure is specified in the data sheet.

Sizing with missing hydronic data

If no hydronic data are available, the nominal diameter of the valve can be selected equal to the nominal diameter of the heat exchanger.

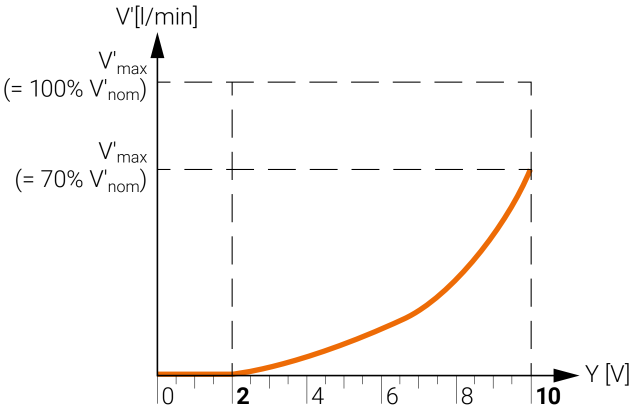
Flow characteristics

Factory setting:



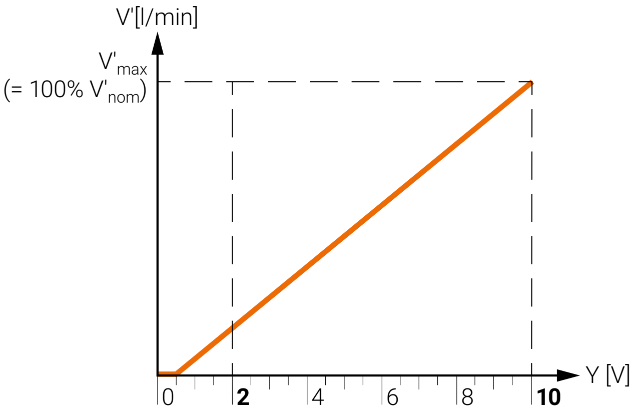
Setting:

– V'_{max} reduced



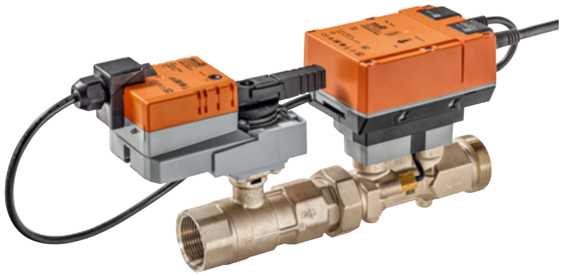
Setting:

– Linear characteristic
– Operating range 0.5...10 V



In the case of an electronic pressure-independent characterised control valve, the actuation signal requirement corresponds directly to a flow value. Alternatively, the control functions power control and position control are available.

Dimensional diagram electronic pressure-independent characterised control valve (EPIV)



Application

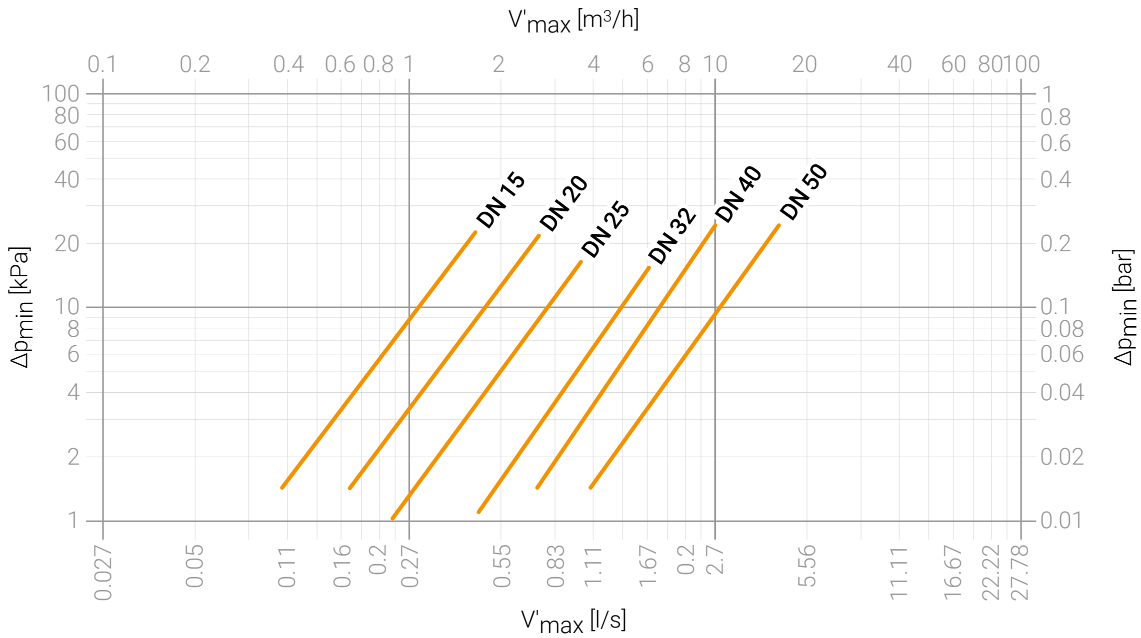
This HVAC performance device is used in closed cold and warm water systems for modulating water-side control of ventilation and heating systems.

Fluids

Water, water with glycol up to max. 60% vol.

Fluid temperatures

The permissible fluid temperatures can be found in the corresponding data sheet.



Δp_{min} Minimum required differential pressure (pressure drop across the valve) to reach the desired flow rate V'_{max}

V'_{max} Desired flow rate that should be achieved at full load. Flow at greatest control signal, e.g. 10 V

Formula Δp_{v100}

$$\Delta p_{min} = 100 \cdot \left(\frac{V'_{max}}{K_{vs}}\right)^2$$

Δp_{min} : [kPa]
V'_{max} : [m³/h]
K_{vs} : [m³/h]

Definitions

Formula symbols

K_V

The flow coefficient K_V [m^3/h] is the specific flow of a valve at a specified valve position in relation to 100 kPa (1 bar).
The K_V value changes, depending on the valve position.
The flow coefficient is determined at a water temperature of 5...40°C.

K_{VS}

The K_V value related to the nominal valve position is referred to as the K_{VS} value.
The manufacturer defines the maximum valve opening.
Characterised control valves (CCV):
Flow coefficient at 100% valve opening (90° angle of rotation)

Δp_{max}

Maximum permissible differential pressure across the control path A–AB in relation to the entire opening range

Δp_{v100}

Differential pressure across the completely opened valve at V'_{100}

V'_{max}

Set maximum flow rate of a pressure-independent valve with the highest control signal, e.g. 10 V

V'_{nom}

Maximum possible flow rate of a pressure-independent valve, catalogue value, delivery condition

Further documentation

- Data sheets of the electronic pressure-independent characterised control valve EPIV
- Installation instructions
- Notes for project planning:
  General notes for project planning

All inclusive

Belimo is the global market leader in the development, production, and sales of field devices for the energy-efficient control of heating, ventilation and air-conditioning systems. The focus of our core business is on damper actuators, control valves, sensors and meters.

Always focusing on customer value, we deliver more than only products. We offer you the complete product range for the regulation and control of HVAC systems from a single source. At the same time, we rely on tested Swiss quality with a five-year warranty. Our worldwide representatives in over 80 countries guarantee short delivery times and comprehensive support through the entire product life. Belimo does indeed include everything.

The “small” Belimo devices have a big impact on comfort, energy efficiency, safety, installation and maintenance.

In short: Small devices, big impact.

- 5-year warranty
- On site around the globe
- Complete product range
- Tested quality
- Short delivery times
- Comprehensive support

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