

12 SHORT STORIES ABOUT MJK

4. MJK EXPERT - HIGH LEVEL IN THE WADDEN SEA

Expert hydrostatic pressure transmitters have now sold 100.000+ world-wide. They are installed with ceramic or steel membrane, but it didn't start like that.

1981 the Margrethe Kog Levee was constructed in the south-western part of Jutland, creating 11km² wetlands with a 2km² saltwater lake. MJK created the complete the pump control solution. Placed in the now UNESCO world heritage area Wadden Sea, meant that it is possible to pump water into the wetlands on high tide, thereby maintaining the important wild-life area.

Pressure transmitters was crucial for the pump control, together with Jens Kruse, Ivan Griese developed a transmitter, that

measured the hydrostatic pressure via a rubber membrane; the first MJK Expert was created.

Today Ivan Griese is R&D consultant at MJK, he recalls the days like this: "Actually the rubber membranes were incredibly durable. They were pretty hard to produce, but we managed to assemble what we needed for the job and drove there - this was a big deal for us. We mounted the panels in wells 2-300 meters into the Wadden Sea and could only work on the well on low tide. We had DEMA[emergency agency] watching from the coast for emergency rescue, as the tide is very fast, several times we ran from the tide, once it got dangerous, we had to pull our technician out of the well the second he finished service we sealed the well with the water rising, then we ran and got back safe.

The rubber membranes showed a surprising durability, at one point I saw one that had been working for more than 20 years before we changed it to a modern transmitter. They did need cleaning and was often treated pretty harshly, when cleaned and they could handle it. Two years later we introduced the first transmitters with steel membrane, we added the protective grid on them, and later came the ceramic membranes, that are great for harsh environments." Ivan explains.

