

## **Brand History:**

**ENTECH™**

### **Non-Slam, Nozzle Check Valve**

The history of Cameron's ENTECH™ nozzle check valves began long before the now familiar name came into existence. The brand actually originated in Mönchengladbach, a city in northwestern Germany, when brothers Michael and Peter Meer started Meer Brothers Engineering Works & Iron Foundry Co.<sup>1</sup> on Dec. 10, 1872, as producers of steam engines for the textile industry in the Lower Rhine area.

Tragedy struck the firm early, though, when soon after establishing the company, Michael Meer died. From that point on, Peter Meer ran the company alone. He expanded the product offerings to include compressors and water pumps, and also began repairing and maintaining previously sold products, thus entering the company into the service business. In 1912, Peter Meer died and the company was taken over by his son and nephew, Willy and Hermann Meer.

After World War I ended in 1921, Karl Gruber became a partner and technical director for the company, introducing a new line of products: facilities for the production of seamless steel tubes. This resulted in a huge technological leap in pipe production for the time. Meer continued to produce the piston pumps powered by steam engines for water works that, from the beginning, had incorporated non-return valves with extremely low pressure losses – the forerunner of today's individual, flanged valves with a nozzle shaped body – that were developed when rotary pumps became popular.

From the 1960s until the 1990s, Meer was a part of Mannesmann-Demag in Germany, a company focused primarily on the production of air tools. Only during the 1990s did the company gain the now-known name of ENTECH, shortly before being acquired by Dresser Flow Solutions in 2001.

Since then, the 140-year history has been incorporated into Cameron's legacy, producing a more advanced, technologically sound version of the earlier non-slam, nozzle check valve. Most recently, Cameron announced the new ENTECH design in January 2011 to provide solutions to the transmission and storage, gas processing, LNG, refining and industrial markets.

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<sup>1</sup> *German:* "Gebrüder Meer Maschinenfabrik und Eisengießerei o.H."