

Sealing CO₂ is not an issue with the right materials

Whilst some projections put CCS as potentially a trillion-dollar industry, many suppliers indicate that the number of projects reaching the Final Investment Decision is currently lagging far, far behind. Be that as it may, Omniseal Solutions' Christophe Valdenaire is confident that potential customers can rely on a range of proven seal materials for this specific market.

By David Sear

Speaking to CCW, Mr Valdenaire was both realistic yet positive about the future of carbon capture. "It is currently a real challenge to get a good perspective on the actual potential of the carbon capture industry. There is plenty of advance news and projections but not all announcements are turning into concrete projects. Let's just say that I am continuing to speak to key players. We will absolutely ensure we can serve current and future customers as and when demand picks up. Carbon capture is an industry that we are determined to be a part of."

Asked about any projects served so far, Mr Valdenaire refers to the highly publicized Northern Lights project in Norway. "Here you will find our seals in various liquefied CO₂ transfer equipment, valves, pumps and compressors. In addition to the onshore transfer equipment, our products are also used in the subsea infrastructure needed to store the CO₂."

In terms of technology, Mr Valdenaire says that new



designs, additional engineering and changes to production have not been required. "We have been working with all kinds of industrial gases for decades. Our existing seal ranges are perfectly suited to gaseous and liquefied carbon dioxide – at least as far as transport and storage requirements are concerned. Furthermore, we have completed third-party certification of several of proprietary materials with 100% CO₂ in liquid and super-critical phase that demonstrate their perfect suitability even at high-pressure and negative temperature. Such a track record is especially valuable

in the CCS sector, where reliability and safety have high priority."

Looking ahead, Mr Valdenaire says that even if the CCS market skyrockets, he does not envisage the need for capital investment in additional manufacturing. Omniseal Solutions enjoys a global presence with eleven manufacturing sites that enable them to serve their customers locally with rapid prototyping for advanced sealing solutions. "But then again, six months is a long time in business. Come back later and perhaps I will tell you a different story!"

