



Matthews, NC

P.O. Box 247 / Matthews, NC 28106  
main 704.847.9191 / fax 704.841.6640

### **Valve Castings Made in America: The Advantage of Apollo Valves**

*Kyle Spangler- Product Line Director, Aalberts Integrated Piping Systems*

Castings are essential components in industrial process valves. As supply chains have become more globalized, most valve manufacturers have favored offshoring the production of these components. Apollo Valves challenges the status quo by producing castings in its own 170,000 square-foot foundry in Conway, South Carolina. This valuable company asset allows Apollo Valves to differentiate its industrial products with shorter lead times, factory responsiveness, and consistent, high quality materials.

#### **High quality raw materials**

The phrase “garbage in, garbage out” holds true for castings, and the Apollo Valves’ foundry begins the production of its metals with certified ingot sourced from the United States. Every shipment is scrutinized for quality, and the combination of high quality, certified ingot along with the quality control of the heat treatment process, creates repeatable production castings with little variation. This results in a material that is consistent for valve construction. Repeatable material quality is beneficial to other parts of the manufacturing process, and it also provides the customer with a uniform product from batch to batch.

#### **Superior material performance**

Material test reports connect valve castings back to the batch from which they were poured and also show the exact chemical composition of the component’s material. The advantage of Apollo Valves’ foundry processes are evident on the material test reports of the castings produced. For example, the concentration of nickel and chromium in Apollo Valves’ CF8M stainless steel are significantly above the minimal concentration requirements specified by ASTM material designations. Nickel and chromium are key alloying elements that give CF8M its desirable characteristics of corrosion resistance, durability and toughness. Although these elements tend to increase a materials’ performance, they are also expensive and sometimes added sparingly by other producers to minimize costs.

#### **Made in the USA**

Apollo Valves can proudly claim and document that all of its ASME rated ball valves are “Made in the USA” and compliant with the “Buy American Act” as standard. There are also other advantages that come from producing valve castings in North America, where Apollo Valves’ industrial efforts are currently focused. By producing castings in the United States, Apollo Valves can respond quickly to spikes in demand, avoiding devastating stock-outs that can cause project delays and/or expensive expedite charges. For other manufacturers who are solely dependent on overseas production of their castings, a stock-out can mean an increased lead time of a finished valve from a few weeks to possibly four or five months.

#### **Extensive Warranty**

Apollo Valves is not only proud of our dedication to high quality American manufacturing, we are confident in the performance of our products. Apollo Valves stands behind its entire line of ASME ball valves with a 5-year warranty, one of the longest available amongst industrial valve manufacturers. Visit our website at [apollovalves.com](http://apollovalves.com).

Jeff Butt  
Business Development Manager Rail Car  
563-940-9757  
[Jeff.butt@aalberts-ips.com](mailto:Jeff.butt@aalberts-ips.com)



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