Bulk Flow and Throughput

Non-contacting measurement
Berthold’s radiometric belt scales measure flow rates of bulk materials, throughput and mass flow. The non-contacting weighing systems are used in numerous industries, such as mining, building materials, power generating or pulp & paper industry. The measurement can be performed on all conveyor systems. Often, it is the only method to determine the flow rate reliably. Our measuring systems are particularly suitable for the monitoring of loading, dosing and mixing processes, as well as for production and output control.

We measure
- current flow rate
- total solid mass (tonnage)
- batch processes

The belt scales can measure anything from granulates up to large pieces of rock, but also powders and liquids. The typical measuring range is between 100 kg/h and 1000 t/h.

Non-contact – Perfect!

No drift, no recalibration – dirt or encrustations affect the measurement no more than wind, vibrations, dust, fluctuations in the belt tension and varying bulk densities. Subsequent installation on existing conveyor systems is another noteworthy advantage. Setting the system up is so easy and after commissioning, our systems work highly accurate and maintenance-free for years, with unmatched repeatability of ± 1%.

A lot of benefits
- Online monitoring on all conveyor systems – even where conventional technologies cannot be employed
- Compliance with delivery/production schedule
- Optimal utilization of load capacities
- Optimum addition of raw materials in mixing processes
- Very reliable measurement
- No frequent recalibration and cleaning

Bulk flow measurements from Berthold
Extraordinary advantages for best solutions

With their unique and comprehensive range of "modular systems", Berthold, like no other supplier, is able to design tailor-made systems that precisely match your measuring task. In addition, we offer benefits that go beyond your specification and make the difference.

- Best detector technology
- Accuracy 2-3% of measuring range
- Repeatability ± 1%
- Highly sensitive detectors that allow minimal source activity
- Expertise and long-standing experience.
  For all applications, we adapt the measuring arrangement, the isotope and the source activity to the respective measuring task.
- On request, we can offer customer-specific turn-key solutions consisting of:
  - Measurement components
  - Mounting frame
  - Speed measurement
- Over 2000 systems successfully in operation worldwide

The measuring principle

Material is transported through a field of gamma radiation, similar to a light curtain. The radiation is attenuated as it passed through the material. A scintillation detector now detects the attenuated radiation. The extent to which the radiation is attenuated depends on the mass per unit area (density x area). In combination with the conveying speed, the exact throughput in kg/h or t/h can be determined.

Bulk flow measurement on a screw conveyor
Where we measure

Since radiometric bulk flow and throughput measurements are contactless systems, they can be used on all kinds of conveyors. It is also possible to measure free-falling bulk materials and pneumatically conveyed materials.
**Pipeline**

**Mass flow measurement**
- Non-contacting mass flow measurement as a simple clamp-on solution.
- No installations in the pipe, no disturbance of the material flow.
- For liquids of all kinds, ideal for suspensions and slurries.
- Usually, the offsetting with the speed signal takes place in the transmitter.
- At customer’s request, the solids concentration can be indicated on its own and the calculation of the mass flow takes place in the control room.

**Screw conveyors**

**Drag chain conveyors**
DuoSeries Transmitter LB 472
The specialist for bulk flow measurements

A powerful tool

- Easy handling thanks to advanced touch panel
- Simplified calibration
- Proven 2-wire technology, no additional power cable required in the field
- Valuable diagnostic functions and self-monitoring (SIL standard)

Input for speed signal

Monitored current output for maximum reliability

Display options:
- Current flow rate
- Total solid mass (tonnage)
- Batch process

Stainless steel housing

Only 2 wires in the field

Diagnostics according to Namur NE-107 with event log, change log and data log

Service interface via Ethernet or USB

Terminal compartment with increased safety (Ex-e)

3.5" TFT touch panel for simplest operation
Intuitive operation

The transmitter provides a local display of measurement values as well as on-site operation via the integrated touch panel. Valuable diagnostic functions and self-monitoring ensure increased reliability and availability of the measurement. Users also benefit from new service features (e.g. data log), which can be accessed remotely, via Ethernet or USB interface.

Customized

On request, we supply the components together with a special mounting frame for installation of the detector and shield. The robust steel frame is optimized in terms of radiation protection and stability and ensures a reliable measurement.
Sources and shields
Where custom solutions become the new standard

Berthold is the only radiometry provider in the world with their own source production. This opens up unique opportunities for us and our customers. The sources are manufactured customer-specific and can therefore be optimally adapted to the respective application requirements. The result is cost-optimized solutions that achieve the best measurement performance at minimum radiation exposure.
Maximum safety

The SSC source capsules made by Berthold have been tested according to ISO 2919 and exceed even the highest classification C66646. They are extremely robust and withstand temperatures up to 1200°C. The triple encapsulation of the isotope ensures maximum safety even in extreme measuring environments. Our shields comply with the international standards:

- ANSI 43.8
- ISO 7205
- IEC 62598

Competence in radiation protection

Every company working with radiometric measurements is automatically faced with the issue of radiation protection. Therefore, it is good to have a team of readily available in-house experts. Our experts in the Radiation Protection division deal with the tasks related to dose rate measurement. The transfer of knowledge is direct and synergies are to your benefit. We at Berthold take special responsibility when it comes to training our customers. We offer training and workshops for Radiation Safety Officers.

Customized solutions, which perfectly meet the given requirements; realized by the use of various detectors, sources and mounting solutions.

Co-60 rod source with point detector

- Ideal for large loading heights or very high bulk density
- Low source activity
- Best accuracy and measurement stability

Cs-137 point source with rod detector

- Standard solution
- For small loads
- Low transport costs
- Economical

Two Cs-137 point sources with rod detector

- Ideal for very wide conveying systems
- Closely collimated beam
- Highest detector sensitivity
- Low source activity
Small input, big impact

Calibration
By entering theoretical values, an initial and quick calibration can be carried out. Maximum accuracy is achieved when comparative values from a reference scale are entered into the system, e.g. a truck weighing machine.

Easy commissioning
First step is a tare calibration, followed by the measurement of sample batches with a calibrated weighing system. Based on the obtained data pairs, the transmitter calculates the calibration coefficients automatically. The achievable accuracy depends on the averaging time and the accuracy of the reference method. The stability of the measurement can be checked by means of a reference body put in front of the detector.
Measuring mass flow in coal gasification processes

Synthetic gas is generated from coal in a gasification reactor. Strict monitoring of coal feed is of particular importance since overdosing can be a major safety risk. Berthold’s radiometric mass flow measurement monitors the pneumatically conveyed quantity of fluidized coal at the reactor inlet pipes. The high repeatability and long-term stability of the measurement thus guarantees a safe process.

Non-contact flow rate measurement on:
- Ash
- Biomass
- Clinker
- Coal
- Grain
- Limestone
- Logs
- Mud
- Ore
- Plastic granulate
- Recycled Paper
- Salt
- Sand
- Sugar beets
- Urea granulates
- Wood chips / pellets
- Wood panels

Monitoring truck loading

The subsequent installation of a radiometric bulk flow measurement enabled one of our customers from the building materials industry to load trucks more efficiently. In the past, the trucks were only 90% loaded, not to risk exceeding the permissible total weight. Thanks to our radiometric measurement, about 10 truckloads a month can be avoided – a tremendous result in terms of cost reduction and environmental protection.
We are there for you! Worldwide.

Our sales engineers look forward to your request. Regardless of what you want to measure or where the measurement is taking place, we will provide you with the ideal system for every measurement task and we will configure it so that it perfectly suits your needs. From a wide variety of possible options, our application engineers will choose the right one for you.

With nearly 70 years of experience, a team of 350 employees around the world and innovative products that set engineering and technical standards, we see ourselves as experts in radiometric measurement solutions.

All our products are designed and manufactured in Germany. At Berthold, you will always get quality products „made in Germany“. 

Berthold Technologies’ perfect solutions under one roof.

Berthold Technologies’ engineers and service technicians are always there when you need them. Our worldwide network of offices ensures fast and above all very competent assistance should this be needed. No matter where your production site is located, our highly qualified staff will be with you in no time at all.

You can take our word for it.