

The National Valve Museum

Updates November 2014

Looking at a Navy NU1 rectifier I found it was also marked CV1258. The equivalents linking between the old UK Service Types and the CV number is incomplete in the museum. In adding to the equivalents list I wanted to include a PDF data-file in the web pages to give more information. The mechanism eventually chosen was to extend the pro-forma or short-form entries as a way of making this extra information accessible. The pro-forma entries are 'hidden' as they do not have thumbnail images but can be found by the search facility for the 'friends' site and the SDHC card versions of the museum. The equivalents pages have tables of facts, if available, together with PDF references. I hope this extra facility will prove useful.

This month I have worked through the first 1,000 CV numbers adding 224 new pro-forma entries and their .PDF data-sheets.

Another box of valves from G8BLW starts to contribute to the museum this month. The exhibit count has risen by 33 to 3903 with many more waiting to be photographed.

The museum software is written in a fully compiled basic (MB86) that delivers 16 bit executables. I have used variants of this language, originally from Digital Research, for 35 years. The world has moved on and so must the software. I have invested in the Powerbasic console compiler and have started to learn this new language. Over the next few months the software will migrate and be able to be run native on the 64 bit compute rather than in the XP emulation. This task will produce a modern suite of programs using all of the new functions available. So far I have been working on record edit and validation. The freedom to use more memory has enabled many new functions to be written that all work together in the one program and will replace a multitude of sections of the old process. I'm having great fun!