

Eaton Hydraulics invests in state-of-the-art training facility

Eaton has recently completed a major investment into its UK training centre in Havant UK. Eaton has been offering hydraulics education for over 60 years globally, built on the heritage of Vickers. However, fluid power is evolving as it embraces the challenges and the opportunities that the increasing complexities of electronic controls and industry 4.0 brings.

Whilst Eaton is engineering products and solutions in this new exciting arena, it also recognises the importance of ensuring hydraulic professionals need to have the correct knowledge to be able to reap the rewards that new smart hydraulic technologies can bring. The facility offers hands on training for systems and products and the new facility represents Eaton's commitment to industry education.

www.eaton.com

Reduce design time for standalone machines

Machine builders can now get standalone machines to market faster using a newly updated design and configuration software. The latest release of the Connected Components Workbench software from Rockwell Automation will be more familiar to Logix users and includes new features to help reduce programming time. It provides controller programming, device configuration and human-machine interface editing for Rockwell Automation hardware.

The Connected Components Workbench software supports all Micro800 controllers, including the new Micro870 PLC. This controller can be used in place of multiple micro PLCs in large standalone smart machines or systems.

www.rockwellautomation.com

Fortress celebrates Queen's Award win

Fortress Interlocks, has won its third Queen's Award for International Trade, recognising the outstanding growth in overseas sales over the last three years. The award is the result of a five-year strategy to build export growth, targeting regions such as Europe and Asia Pacific.

Managing director Jo Smith commented: "Our business strategy is based upon innovative customisation, creating robust solutions to allow our customers protect their employees and productivity, whilst our competitors have gone down a route of standardisation."

www.fortressinterlocks.com

Control Techniques enlists world's strongest man

Variable speed drive specialist Control Techniques has linked up with the world's strongest man in a bold new partnership. Eddie Hall, officially the strongest man on the planet, has lent his considerable strengths to the Welsh firm as official brand ambassador. Eddie, who reached the pinnacle of strongman competition, will now appear as the face of Control Techniques, helping raise awareness of its products and capabilities.

Control Techniques, based in Newtown, has operations in 44 countries, and is excited to have sealed the deal with Eddie. Anthony Pickering, president of Control Techniques, said: "We've been through some transformations recently – new owners, new products on the horizon – and wanted a symbol we could use to demonstrate our rediscovered confidence.

"Control Techniques is, and always will be, a specialist company. We make drives, and drive-related technologies, and we have 45 years of heritage based on that. The idea of working with another British specialist who has competed – and won – on a global stage appealed greatly to us.

"Since 1973 we have a history of making bold decisions and working with Eddie is the latest in a long line of firsts from Control Techniques. We're looking forward to seeing people's reactions when they see what we have in store with Eddie."

As part of the agreement, Eddie will help promote Control Techniques globally in a series of adverts, public appearances and other projects. Eddie commented: "Control Techniques is, like me, a specialist in its chosen field. It understands the importance of identifying your strengths and working hard to achieve your goals. I'm excited to be the face of a British success story in Control Techniques, and I look forward to helping the team there make the right impact."



Coinciding with the significant changes to its overall branding and visual identity, Control Techniques has also launched a new corporate website. The new site promises a faster, more efficient browsing experience. Considerable work has been done to increase overall navigation speed and ease-of-use, meaning people will find the information they require faster than ever before.

www.controltechniques.com

Gas spring selection just got easier, with new online tool

In just five easy steps, design engineers can now calculate and design a gas spring tailored to their application using the new gas spring calculation tool found on the Ace Controls website. In the past, it was necessary to contact the Ace gas spring team directly and complete a design form sent back and forth by fax or e-mail when enquiring about the selection and availability of a suitable gas spring. Thanks to this new online calculation program, design is now easier, faster and can be made at any time – 24/7.

The program is completely intuitive and applications can be visualised in either 2D or 3D. The most common applications of push type gas springs on hoods, flaps, hatches and machine housings can now be calculated in a few simple steps. The recommended Ace gas spring and the required mounting accessories are specified precisely. In addition, an installation sketch can be generated with the help of the online tool.

In the interest of its customers, Ace uses this service to shorten the entire process from design and ordering to delivery.



In the current version of the software the order is still triggered by an online inquiry; it is planned in the future that the gas springs determined by online calculation will be available directly from an Ace e-shop. For customers who would still like help with their product selection then personal advice and assistance in the calculation and ordering of Ace gas springs is always available.

www.acecontrols.co.uk