

MACHINE BUILDING

Renishaw FORTiS enclosed linear absolute encoder series

Designed for use in harsh environments such as machine tools, the FORTiS enclosed linear absolute encoder design is built upon industry-proven RESOLUTE encoder technology and provides high resistance to the ingress of liquids and solid debris contaminants. It features an extruded enclosure with longitudinally attached interlocking lip seals and sealed end caps. The readhead body is joined to a sealed optical unit by a blade, which travels through the lip seals along the length of the encoder. Linear axis movement causes the readhead and optics to traverse the encoder's absolute scale (which is fixed to the inside of the enclosure), without mechanical contact.

MORE INFORMATION: www.renishaw.com



New Igus module predicts the service life of machines and manufacturing systems

Motion plastics leader Igus has developed a new predictive maintenance device, a new home for the software to power its smart plastics products – the i.Cee:local module. The module calculates the remaining service life of the energy chain, cable, linear guide and/or plain bearings during their operation. By doing this, the service life of the system can be optimised, faults are detected and rectified at an early stage, and more accurate maintenance can be planned in advance. The module monitors abrasion, measures

tensile/push force and provides information about an impending overload in the energy chain or plastics system, using smart plastics sensors from Igus. It can be integrated over Ethernet or over a local network.

MORE INFORMATION: www.igus.co.uk

Sick's sHub smart sensor hub helps to prevent machine downtime

Sick has launched the sHub sensor hub, a smart add-on to its HIPERFACE DSL single-cable motor feedback system, which turns servo motors into a source of data for real-time condition monitoring and predictive maintenance of machines.

The compact Sick sHub sensor hub fits snugly as an extension to Sick EDS/EDM35 motor feedback encoders to send temperature, vibration, position, and speed data via HIPERFACE DSL to the servo controller. The Sick sHub can therefore assure early detection of critical mechanical failures, such as ball bearing damage or motor imbalance, to pre-empt machinery downtime.

MORE INFORMATION: www.sick.co.uk

