

industry news

RMB

WINS TECO WESTINGHOUSE DISTRIBUTION DEAL

RMB Engineering recently acquired exclusive distribution rights for TECO Westinghouse's supply of LV motors in the United Kingdom. The line includes high-efficiency IEC frame motors, lightweight aluminum frame motors, integrated brake motors, smoke extraction motors and heavy-duty, cast iron motors.

"We've been selling the brand for many years now and know the product range very well," says Mark Brady, operations director at RMB Engineering. "We will be stocking popular items in branches across the U.K. as well as calling on new U.K. stock from TECO."

According to the company's press release, RMB Engineering, allied with the motor experience offered by their parent company Deritend, provides a solid specification and supply route for engineers facing extended lead times from other areas of the industry.



Fenner

ACQUIRES B-LOC CORP.

Fenner Drives has acquired B-LOC Corp., a North American supplier of keyless shaft/hub locking devices for mechanical power transmission and material handling applications.

"Combining the well-established B-LOC brand with our existing Trantorque product line positions us as the market leader in the U.S. and Canada and provides a strong platform for sales growth in the Americas," said Ian Smith, executive director of global sales and marketing at Fenner Drives.

B-LOC Corp., founded in 1982, has been dedicated to developing new markets for keyless bushing technology, while Fenner Drives is a designer and manufacturer of power transmission components with plants in England, Pennsylvania and North Carolina.

Bosch Rexroth

OFFERS WIDE RANGE OF HYDRAULICS COURSES



Bosch Rexroth is offering customized training courses for new and existing mobile and industrial hydraulics installations. According to the company's press release, the on-site training program gives employees an opportunity to expand their knowledge on their schedule within a specified budget. The program offers training in proper start-up and preventive maintenance procedures from associates at Bosch Rexroth.

In addition, Bosch Rexroth offers a series of regularly scheduled courses throughout the year to meet the demands of hydraulic systems maintenance personnel. Training is available at U.S. locations in Bethlehem, PA, and Spokane, WA. Canada locations include Burlington, ON, Burnaby, BC, and Edmonton, AB. For a complete listing of all course titles, dates and locations, download the Bosch Rexroth 2008 Hydraulic Training Schedule at http://boschrexrothproducts.com/hydraulics_training or call (610) 694-8407.

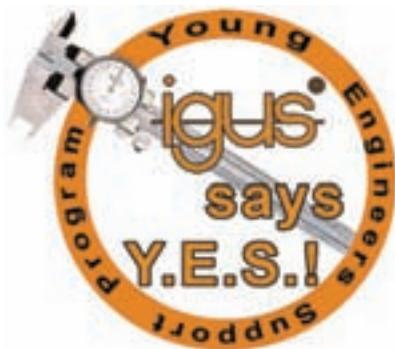
Igus

SUPPLIES ROBOTICS TEAMS WITH NECESSARY COMPONENTS FOR COMPETITION

Igus Inc., a developer and manufacturer of motion control and machinery components, donated a wide range of products for the 17th Annual FIRST Robotics Competition in Manchester, NH. Held in January 2008, the FIRST (For the Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) competition gives robotics students the opportunity to build a robot capable of carrying 40" inflated track balls around

a circular, indoor field. The 1,500 participating teams came from all over the world, including Israel, Brazil, Canada and the United States. Teams received a kit of common parts and had six weeks to construct their robots for the competition.

Igus has been a platinum-level supplier for the event for three years. For the 2008 competition, the company donated cable carriers, bearings, linear guide systems and aluminum shafting. In 2005, Igus launched the YES (Young Engineers Support) Program to foster mechanical design ideas for students with a passion for engineering.



"Igus has been extremely proactive about supporting organizations that promote both interest and the pursuit of degrees and careers in engineering-based fields," says Carsten Blasé, vice president at Igus. "Through our YES program,

Igus strives to accomplish goals similar to those of FIRST Robotics, making Igus' support of the competition a win-win situation." For more information, visit www.usfirst.org or www.igus.com.

Tonka Bay Equity

ACQUIRES AST BEARINGS

Tonka Bay Equity Partners announced the acquisition of the AST Bearings division of Axsys Technologies, Inc. last December. According to the company's press release, AST Bearings LLC is Tonka Bay's seventh platform acquisition in their current investment fund and their fourth acquisition since September 30, 2007. Based in Montville, New Jersey, AST is a supplier of high precision bearings and related products.

"We are excited to partner with the strong and experienced management team at AST. As an independent company, AST will be able to invest in organic growth and pursue strategic acquisitions to achieve product line and geographic expansion," says Cary Musech, managing principal of Tonka Bay.

"Tonka Bay's resources and industrial marketplace experience will be very useful as we pursue our strategic initiatives, including expanding our product line offering and making add-on acquisitions to complement our core business" says Dale Kaminski, CEO of AST.

Tsubakimoto

OPENS NEW HEADQUARTERS IN DORDRECHT



With an ongoing commitment to the European market, Tsubakimoto announced the official opening of a new headquarters in Dordrecht, the Netherlands. The company has maintained a headquarters in the Netherlands for 35 years. The new facilities will serve customers in Western Europe, Eastern Europe, Russia, the Middle East and Africa. Additional land has been purchased at the site to house a state-of-the-art warehousing and logistics center. Tsubakimoto senior personnel joined local dignitaries at the opening ceremony in the Netherlands to commemorate the event.

The company currently supplies roller-chain, conveyor belts and power transmission products to over 70 countries worldwide, with an emphasis on efficiency and environmentally conscious manufacturing.

Sercos

OPENS OFFICE IN CHINA

Due to increased interest in motion control technology in Asia, Sercos International recently opened a branch office in China. The office is located in Beijing and is operated by CAMETA (China Association for Mechatronics Technology & Application), a non-profit organization involved in the development of mechatronic technologies and products.

According to the company's press release, Sercos has been working with companies and engineers for several years in China. In 2002, a Sercos interface was added to the China National Standard allowing local companies to use certain technologies. A Chinese website has been set up for the new branch office at www.sercos.org.cn.

Bosch Rexroth

ANNOUNCES MANAGEMENT CHANGES

Bosch Rexroth recently appointed Erwin Wieckowski as vice president and general manager of its linear motion and assembly technologies group. Wieckowski most recently served as the general manager of the automation business unit as well as the national sales and marketing director at Bosch Rexroth. The new position is based in North Carolina, where Wieckowski will be responsible for aluminum structural framing, ball screws, conveyors and other key product lines. He began his career as a plant engineer, later becoming an application engineer and quality coordinator before turning his attention toward product and sales management roles. Wieckowski has degrees in applied science and management science from the University of Waterloo, in Waterloo, Canada.



Erwin Wieckowski

Dr. Albert Hieronimus has recently been appointed to chairman of the board of management at Bosch Rexroth. In addition, Dr. Karl Tragl has been appointed to the board of management in a sales role. Hieronimus was previously the managing director of Motor Industries Company Limited, a Bosch subsidiary in Bangalore, India. Hieronimus held various positions at the University of Cologne before joining



Dr. Albert Hieronimus

Mannesmann Rexroth AG in 1993. In 2001, he served on the executive management team of Bosch Rexroth, where he was responsible for human resources, IT, and coordinating post-merger integration. Tragl joined Mannesmann Rexroth in 2000, following jobs at Siemens and the German Aerospace Research Center. He was previously the president of the electric drives and control division of Bosch Rexroth.



Dr. Karl Tragl

FAG Industrial

OFFERS TORQUE MEASUREMENT SERVICE

FAG Industrial Services is offering customers torque measurement capability that monitors complete drive components. Measurements can be performed in rough ambient conditions and integrated into existing drive trains without affecting the drive elements. The measurements can be performed either sporadically or constantly, depending on the customer's needs.

According to the company's press release, the combination of torque and vibration measurement provides maintenance personnel with detailed information on the plant's condition. This helps to optimize drive components and estimate reliability.

"Torque monitoring always makes sense in applications where drive elements must be protected from overstressing or where the right torque is important for the production process," says Dr. Christian Schaaf, head of torque and design improvement department at FAG Industrial Services. "Almost all industries can benefit from this service."

All Metric Small Parts

GAINS EXCLUSIVE DISTRIBUTION RIGHTS FOR TOCHIGIYA

All Metric Small Parts (aMsp) recently announced it has become the exclusive distributor for Tochigiy, a leading manufacturer of metric standard industrial machine components based in Tokyo. Tochigiy supplies parts including handles, handwheels, cranks, grips, levers, knobs, latches, locks, catches, hinges, hardware, plungers, pins, leveling mounts and support feet. Applications for these products include machine tool boxes, electronic systems enclosures, medical equipment devices and power distribution systems enclosures. The aMsp catalog is available upon request at www.allmetricsmallparts.com.

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