

Wittenstein

ANNOUNCES NEW DIRECTOR OF SALES

Wittenstein North America recently announced that **Tom Coyle** has been promoted to director of sales. Coyle has been a crucial member of the organization for over 14 years holding positions as a service technician, application engineer, regional sales engineer, national sales manager, and now director of sales. This new role will widen his reach on positively impacting the organization to continue providing and improving a customer focused strategy. As director of sales, he will continue to lead the sales organization, and will gain responsibility for inside sales, technical support, and customer service. Coyle will lead, develop, and build the North American sales organization in line with the overall Wittenstein group strategy. He will also be responsible for developing and supporting North American sales channels in conjunction with Wittenstein AG and support necessary processes to grow the North American business. He will continue to be based out of the Wittenstein North American headquarters in Bartlett, Illinois.



Siemens

COLLABORATES WITH STREETSCOOTER ON ELECTRIC CAR

Siemens' central research department and the electric vehicle manufacturer StreetScooter agreed to equip an electric car with an innovative electronic and software architecture. The associated technology was developed during the RACE project. Siemens is the consortium leader of the research project, which receives funding from the German Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy. For the first time ever, the architecture will make it possible to retrofit functions such as electrical brakes and systems such as lane-keeping assis-



According to Prof. Armin Schnettler from the Siemens central research department (right), the technology could revolutionize car design. Achim Kampker, managing director of StreetScooter (left) wants to be able to integrate updates and individualize pioneering developments for his customers.

tants using a plug-and-play process like on home PCs. The two companies plan to incorporate the RACE architecture into an electric delivery vehicle by December 2014. The work will be conducted at Siemens' research center in Munich, Germany. The partnership's aim is to test the new technology in practice for the first time. For more information, visit www.siemens.com.

IDC-USA

PARTNERS WITH BRANCE-KRACHY

Headquartered in Houston, Texas, Brance-Krachy has been providing power transmission and cathodic protection solutions to customers since 1932. They strive to exceed their customers' expectations in service, quality and product selection because they know every order carries their reputation. In addition to these high standards, Brance-Krachy supports its customers through innovative and flexible purchasing and stocking programs. Jim Schulte, president, and Scott Hunt, vice president, of Brance-Krachy were looking to improve purchasing and data management. "We needed a way to streamline our business and the answer was partnering with IDC-USA," stated Hunt. "Now we can combine orders of various product lines from multiple suppliers." Additionally, they now have a tight-knit community of other independent distributors and suppliers from all corners of the industry to share operational and organizational expertise.

Established in 1988, IDC-USA is a distributor-owned purchasing and national marketing cooperative of independent distributors of industrial bearing, power transmission and industry related products. The cooperative currently consists of over 300 independent distributor branches located nationwide. IDC-USA's Distribution Center, IDC University and corporate offices are headquartered in Indianapolis, Indiana. IDC-USA serves the western half of the United States from its Reno, Nevada distribution center.

Comer Industries

JOINS VDMA

Comer Industries has officially become part of the German Engineering Federation VDMA. Representatives of both companies met at Comer Industries' plant in Matera (Italy), where Dirk Decker, deputy managing director of VDMA Power Transmission, personally handed to Comer Industries' Managing Director Matteo Storchi the plate of association. The presentation took place during the visit to Comer Industries' plant in Matera of the delegation of the Eurotrans (European Committee of Associations of Manufacturers of Gears and Transmissions Parts) annual meeting, of which VDMA is a member. Eurotrans' meeting was held in Bari last June 26-27, as an annual gathering of European associations, the American Gear Manufacturers Association (AGMA) and the companies they represent.

The event has been organized by Assiot, the Italian Association of Gears and Transmission Elements Manufacturers. Agenda included visits to associated companies in the industry. "In line with the corporate mission to be preferred

supplier of the leading manufacturers of agricultural machinery, construction equipment, industrial, and renewable energy applications worldwide, we have decided to join VDMA Power Transmission to sustain our company's success. This is a further step to strengthen our position in the growing market of Germany," said Storchi.

The VDMA has key functions for networking in Germany, where companies share experiences, collaborate and develop complex topics for the industry. Within the organization, customers, suppliers and competitors can discuss fundamental issues and develop solutions. "Comer Industries will not be the only one to benefit from the VDMA Association. Also our customers and potential clients can reap the advantages of this membership, as the VDMA will contribute to the ongoing development of Comer Industries' products," continued Storchi.

Ohio Electric Motors

WELCOMES SALES & MARKETING MANAGER

Ohio Electric Motors, Inc. recently announced that **Randall R. Snyder** will be their new, sales and marketing manager. "I am extremely pleased to announce that Randall Snyder will be our sales and marketing manager," said Ken Cooper, general manager of Ohio Electric Motors, Inc.

Snyder has an exceptional background and work history combining engineering, technical service, manufacturing and managerial experience. His scientific knowledge, manufacturing, client service and sales experience will be of great benefit to our customers in fulfilling their motor product requirements and changing application needs.

Ohio Electric Motors produces a diverse line of standard and custom-designed DC motors, including brushless, wound field, explosion-proof, SCR rated (interchangeable with other brands), permanent magnet, battery powered, hydraulic pump, material handling and other special application types.



Caption: Dirk Decker (right) of the VDMA welcomes Matteo Storchi (left).



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Snyder was formerly the corporate director of sales/client services for Southern Petroleum Laboratories, Inc. Prior to that position, Snyder has held engineering, marketing, technical and sales management positions for several industrial manufacturing, engineering and technical service companies, including: Dynamic Flow Computers, Bayer Engineering & Technical Sales, Co., Acran, Inc., AT&T, Daniel Measurement & Control, Breard-Garner, Inc. and Oceaneering International, Inc.

Snyder has studied electrical engineering at Mississippi State University (Starkville, MS). He has also completed a variety of manufacturing technical training courses for Liquid, Gas and Ultrasonic Flow Measurement, Magnetic Flow Metering, ASTM and GPA Methods for Hydrocarbon Analysis, Transient Voltage Surge Suppression, Gas Chromatography and Liquid/Gas Turbine Flow Metering.

VDMA Machine Vision Board

WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

Donato Montanari, general manager of the Machine Vision Business Unit of Datalogic Automation in Italy, and **Lou Hermans**, COO at CMOSIS in Belgium were recently elected by the VDMA Machine Vision members to strengthen the board of the VDMA Machine Vision unit. The election was conducted as a result of the decision taken at the last Members' Assembly of VDMA Robotics + Automation with regard to the opening of the association to European members. "Becoming a member of VDMA is natural for CMOSIS since we already have a very good working relationship with many members of its Machine Vision Group. There is a big potential for stepping up the technological leadership of our group if we work closely together, and VDMA Machine Vision provides an excellent platform for us to do so," said Hermans.

Montanari added: "I would like to thank the VDMA and its members for the opportunity of serving on the board. As a non-German member, I will make it my first goal to increase the number of non-German companies in the association. I am convinced that European companies can bring a different and complementary perspective to the machine vision industry."

According to the results of the recent VDMA Machine Vision Market Survey, the industry turnover of the machine vision industry in Germany increased its turnover by 8% in 2013 reaching the mark of 1.6 billion euro. The growth im-



petus came mostly from exports: While domestic turnover stagnated, exports from Germany went up by 15% in 2013. The export share rose from 55% to a new all-time high of 58%. Due to a very favorable order intake in the first five months of this year, the German machine vision suppliers are expected to expand their sales volume by 10% in 2014 exceeding a sector turnover of close to 1.8 billion euro. According to the latest VDMA market survey, the sector turnover in Europe grew even by 10%, with a further growth expectation of 12% in 2014.

Boston Gear

HIGHLIGHTS OPEN GEARING CAPABILITIES

A new brochure from Boston Gear provides an overview of the company's open gearing design and engineering capabilities. A wide array of gearing solutions are available including spur gears, worm and worm gears, spiral and straight miter gears, bevel gears, and helical gears. Engineering assistance is provided to help ensure that customers select the optimum gearing solution from over 2,500 in stock gearing products, all with immediate availability. If a stock gear is close to meeting customer requirements, Boston Gear engineers can quickly provide a stock product with various modifications including reduced face width, added keyways, added tapped holes, enlarged bores and reduced hub diameter and projection. Most modified stock gears are shipped within 24 hours. In many cases, a fully customized gear solution is required. Customers can rely on the vast experience and expertise of Boston Gear engineers to design the most economical custom gearing solution without long lead times. Boston's in-house test lab can simulate, evaluate and troubleshoot applications.



RIA

CELEBRATES 40 YEARS OF ROBOTICS

The Robotic Industries Association (RIA), the trade association for the North American robotics industry, has launched a completely redesigned website. Robotics Online, the online resource for robotics which has more than 330,000 visits each year, has been extensively updated with a new look and navigation capabilities. In conjunction with the updated website and in celebration of the organization's 40th anniversary, RIA has also unveiled a new logo.

"The new RIA logo refreshes our brand while sticking to our roots of being the robotics industry advocate for over 40 years," said Jeff Burnstein, president of RIA. "The design reflects how we strive to connect the robotics and automation community around the world through education, promotion and advancement of robotics, related automation technologies and companies delivering integrated solutions. We're

