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Pepperl+Fuchs and Knick Agree to Support the Future Technology DART

Mannheim / Berlin, April 8, 2010: Mannheim/Germany based Pepperl+Fuchs GmbH, a worldwide leading manufacturer of components and solutions for explosion hazardous areas in the process industry, and Knick, technical market leader in the field of electrical isolation and process analytics, have signed a license agreement for using the new DART technology (Dynamic Arc Recognition and Termination). The open DART licensing model allows the unlimited use of this patented technology in order to support its fast international acceptance. Both companies also expressed their common interest to support the international standardization of this technology. A first interesting application showing a DART analysis device in combination with a DART power supply will be presented at the HANNOVER MESSE 2010.

In order to completely exclude the development of sparks strong enough to cause ignitions, conventional solutions for intrinsically safe electric circuits drastically limit the effective power available for devices within explosion hazardous areas. In contrast, DART recognizes the typical current and voltage pattern which indicates the development of a spark. This technology immediately cuts off the power supply within a few micro seconds, thereby „extinguishing” the spark before it is able to develop sufficient energy to ignite any explosive mixture of gases. With DART technology, the requirements of IEC 60079-11 regarding the protection of devices by means of intrinsic safety are raised significantly, allowing the intrinsically safe supply of up to 50 watts of effective power to devices within the hazardous area.

High performance field devices, with former combinations of different types of protection such as Ex e, m, d, p etc. become available now intrinsically safe. Hereby, safe wiring and opening of the housings in the field are easy.

About Pepperl+Fuchs

Pepperl+Fuchs is a leading developer and manufacturer of electronic sensors and components for the global automation market. For more than 60 years, our continuous innovation, high quality products, and steady growth has guaranteed us continued success.

One Company – Two Divisions

Pepperl+Fuchs – PROTECTING YOUR PROCESS

The **Process Automation Division** is a market leader in intrinsically safe explosion protection. We offer comprehensive, application-oriented system solutions, including customer-specific control cabinet solutions for the process industry. A large portfolio of components is available from our various product lines: isolated barriers, fieldbus infrastructure solutions, remote I/O systems, HART interface solutions, level measurement devices, purge and pressurization systems, industrial monitors and HMI solutions, power supplies, separator alarm systems for oil and petrol separators, signaling equipment, lighting as well as emergency shutdown equipment and accessories.

Pepperl+Fuchs – SENSING YOUR NEEDS

With the invention of the inductive proximity sensor in 1958, the company set an important milestone in the development of automation technology. Under the motto “Sensing your needs”, customers benefit from tailor-made sensor solutions for **factory automation**. The main target markets of the factory automation are machine and plant construction, the automotive industry, storage and material handling, printing and paper industry, packaging technology, process equipment, door, gate and elevator construction, mobile equipment, renewable energies.

The division offers a wide product range of industrial sensors whether it's inductive, photoelectric or ultrasonic sensors, rotary encoders, identification systems, barcodes, code readers for data-matrix-codes and vision sensors.

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About Knick

The name Knick has been recognized for outstanding quality and precision in the manufacture of electronic measuring instruments for more than half a century.

Today, company policy still focuses on a high technical level and a highly innovative orientation. One in four employees works in Research and Development. A large number of patents and licensing agreements are the result.

Knick is the technical market leader in many specialized areas of measuring and control engineering, for example, in the field of electrical isolation, process analytics, high precision mechanical fittings, and loop-powered digital indicators. Knick devices provide numerous patented features with substantial advantages for the customer.

Knick products are used throughout the chemical industry, in biotechnology, system engineering and industrial automation. Representatives throughout Europe and in all major industrial countries overseas ensure worldwide distribution of pioneering Knick technology.

The available product lines include innovative instruments for measurement and control. A great deal of emphasis is placed on safety, EMC and explosion protection, where the company has made a name for itself.

Knick has been certified to ISO 9001 since 1993.

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