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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 8, 2005 MT701



Tank-side and master display panels enhance redundancy options...

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MTS EXPANDS TANK LEVEL MONITORING PANEL OPTIONS

CARY, N.C. (June 8, 2005) — MTS Sensors Division has expanded its fuel-level monitoring system for use with its Model MG magnetostrictive liquid level sensors. Developed primarily for monitoring of above ground storage tank (AST) farms, the stand-alone human-machine interface (HMI) monitoring system for tank gauging includes both standard and custom configurations for tank-side and control-room access to tank level data. The new system can be configured to display multiple tanks and provides data to other devices, such as PC, PLC or SCADA, through a RS485 Modbus RTU interface.

“Our new monitoring options offer two primary advantages,” said Adrian Totten, Product Marketing Manager at MTS Sensors. “First, the tank-side monitor saves significant time in monitoring readings on a tank-by-tank basis by making all relevant data available through a single display at the base. Second, the master panel, which is capable of monitoring multiple tanks from a single location, allows the same monitoring from a separate, non-hazardous location. Both offer invaluable redundancy features for tank farm operators.”

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The monitoring panels display real-time tank data, including level, interface and temperature data, as well as gross volume, net volume and diagnostic data, such as high/low indicators and sensor data.

MTS Sensors' new tank-side and multiple-tank monitor platforms operate in a Modbus RTU master/slave configuration, with standard master panels monitoring multiple individual slave panels. Information is provided via standard outputs from the M-Series Digital (MG) magnetostrictive liquid level sensors used to monitor the individual tanks.

The monitoring panels are UL-listed for hazardous locations, and the front panel is NEMA 4X/IP66 rated. They operate on +24VDC, and include data-logging capability and Ethernet ports for remote Web access.

The M-Series Digital sensor satisfies the demand for a digital communication interface in the Liquid Level marketplace for vessels from 20 inches to 60+ feet. The microprocessor-based design features surface-mount technology and a proprietary high-speed signal processing integrated circuits. In addition, the microprocessor firmware features a flexible command interface, high noise rejection capability, built-in test functions, and automatic data error checking. Outputs from the M-Series Digital (MG) tank gauge are communicated via a 4-wire multi-drop power and data bus (EIA-485), eliminating the requirements for individual cable runs from each tank. Serial asynchronous data formats (Modbus and MTS DDA) provide a direct interface to most types of computers and digital communication equipment, including the new control and monitoring options.

All Level Plus tank gauges use magnetostrictive technology and have only one moving part – the float. The simple design ensures no scheduled maintenance or recalibration will be required – ever.

For more information on the MTS Sensors Group and level sensing, please contact: Adrian Totten, MTS Sensors Division, 3001 Sheldon Drive, Cary, NC 27513. Phone: (919) 677-2332. E-mail: adrian.totten@mts.com or visit www.mtssensors.com.

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MTS Sensors is the world leader in magnetostrictive technology. MTS Sensors is a global operation, with facilities in the U.S., Germany and Japan. In the U.S., the MTS Sensors Division has an ISO 9001/2000 facility manufacturing rugged and reliable magnetostrictive position sensors, level sensors, and mobile equipment sensors utilizing patented Temposonics® technology. With a strong commitment to research and development, product quality and customer service, the Sensors Division is constantly seeking ways to bring the highest value to customers.

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