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New MT ensures maximum safety and versatility...

MTS ENHANCES MOBILE HYDRAULIC LINE WITH REDUNDANT SENSOR

CARY, NC – (June 14, 2007) — MTS Systems Corp., Sensors Division has built upon its proven mobile hydraulic position sensor technology with a new product that provides fully redundant measurement capabilities. The Temposonics® MT sensor is a magnetostrictive position sensor specifically designed to be embedded in welded and tie-rod style cylinders or any space-limited cylinder application.

“As our first Mobile Hydraulics sensor products have attained market acceptance, we have found that certain applications require an additional level of inherent safety. In these applications, customers are often looking for fully redundant sensing solutions, and the MT is our response to this market need,” said Drew Smedley, director of global marketing, MTS. “Technologically, we had two serious challenges. The first was eliminating signal crosstalk while achieving true redundancy. The second was packaging, as we had to fit two sensors into a very small physical envelope in order for the product to be useful for our customers. We believe that we made breakthroughs in both areas.”

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MTS DEVELOPS REDUNDANT MOBILE HYDRAULIC SENSOR, PAGE 2

Each measurement system comprises a basic sensor element and evaluation electronics with separate output signal and supply voltage. The two sensor elements are housed in a standard-size, pressure-resistant, stainless steel pipe for direct stroke measurement in the hydraulic cylinders. The sensor's pressure rod installs into an industry standard cylinder end cap and piston rod assembly. A position magnet marker, secured to the piston head, travels along the sensor rod without making contact. The resulting sensing system provides highly accurate and reliable piston rod position feedback for the life of the hydraulic cylinder.

The redundant sensor outputs allow for the position measurement validity to be checked by totals formation with inverse output signal programming. Alternatively, the sensor interface electronics or control system can monitor the difference between the measured position values. If variations are detected, remedial measures can be taken immediately. The measurement systems are completely independent and can be switched on individually. The sensor version with two redundant measurement systems allows redundant measurement without the need for immediate replacement.

The MT sensor provides a measuring range of 50mm to 1500mm, while maintaining high levels of accuracy and repeatability. Linearity is less than 0.04% and repeatability is less than 0.005%.

The MT sensor operates over the full temperature range required by mobile hydraulics applications (-40 to +105°C), and comes standard with a robust cable connection that is compatible with typical mobile equipment electrical connector requirements.

For more information on the MTS Sensors Group and mobile hydraulic position sensing, please contact: Drew Smedley, MTS Sensors Division, 3001 Sheldon Drive, Cary, NC 27513; call (919) 677-0100; email drew.smedley@mts.com; or visit <http://www.mtssensors.com>

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MTS DEVELOPS REDUNDANT MOBILE HYDRAULIC SENSOR, PAGE 3

MTS Systems Corporation is the world leader in magnetostrictive linear-position and liquid-level sensor technology. MTS Systems Corporation 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 facility manufacturing rugged and reliable liquid-level and linear position sensors based on patented MTS 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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