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MH SENSOR FROM MTS HELPS HIGH-PERFORMANCE BUGATTI VEYRON BRAKE ON A DIME

CARY, N.C. (March 7, 2007) – MTS Systems Corp. Sensors Division has adapted its mobile hydraulic (Model MS) Temposonics® magnetostrictive sensor for use in the Bugatti Veyron high-end passenger car, the world's fastest street-legal motor vehicle. The Model MS sensor's precision, speed, and reliability are critical to the operation of the Veyron's aerodynamic rear wing, which helps the car brake quickly at speeds of more than 200mph. Two Model MS sensors are used for height adjustment, and one sensor is used for angular adjustment monitoring control.

“Bugatti engineers needed a compact position sensor that was rugged, accurate, and reliable,” said Drew Smedley, Director of Global Marketing at MTS Sensors. “The modular construction and high electronic flexibility of our Temposonics technology made the MS sensor the ideal solution.”

The Bugatti Veyron is a passenger vehicle that can reach speeds of more than 200mph. These high speeds require extra braking power, which comes by raising the rear wing and generating additional braking forces. The Veyron can decelerate from 230mph to 0mph in only 7.5 seconds, largely due to the extra down force achieved with the rear wing, which is raised within 0.4 seconds to a 55° angle.

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This 55° angle is measured by the MS sensor, which is directly fitted into the hydraulic cylinder. The sensor housing and measuring pipe are made of stainless steel, and environmental factors such as dust, water and temperature variations do not affect the measured signal. The housing contains the electronic components for the sensor, which are properly shielded from electromagnetic interference.

The Temposonics Model MS linear-position sensor is based on the magnetostrictive measurement principle. The Model MS sensor doesn't require recalibration or resetting of reference points, due in part to its non-contact technology. To determine the position, an integrated position magnet generates a sound wave as a measuring signal by torsion in the sensing element that is mounted in the hydraulic cylinder. The pulse is propagated in the sensing element at ultrasonic speed and is converted into a standard output signal by means of run-time measurement. A direct contact between the position magnet and the measuring element is not necessary, so the Temposonics principle of operation is non-contact and without wear. A highly specific mode of signal evaluation, which virtually excludes signal interference and falsification, is an additional feature that makes the MTS sensor unique in the market.

The encapsulated and pressure-proof waveguide (the sensing element) is installed directly in the hydraulic style piston rod. The position magnet is the only mobile part; it is mounted in the bottom of the piston and provides non-contact signaling to the waveguide. Conditioned standard signals, which do not require additional evaluation circuitry, are output by the electronics integrated in the sensor housing.

For more information about the Model MS linear-position sensor, contact Drew Smedley, MTS Sensors Division, at 919-677-0100, drew.smedley@mts.com or via the Web at www.mtssensors.com.

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MTS Sensors, a division of MTS Systems Corp., is the global leader in the development and production of magnetostrictive linear-position and liquid-level sensors. Based on MTS' patented Temposonics[®] technology, the Sensors Division is continually developing new ways to apply magnetostrictive sensing technology to solve critical applications in a variety of markets worldwide. With facilities in the U.S., Germany and Japan, MTS Sensors Division is an ISO 9001 certified supplier committed to providing innovative sensing solutions that deliver customers with reliable, cost effective sensing devices.

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To request the electronic image, call 919-872-8172, or e-mail Erin Hatfield at ehatfield@btbmarketing.com.