POSITAL's Draw-wire Position Sensors Offer Convenient Push-button

POSITAL's MDW draw-wire linear position sensors with analog voltage or current output are ideal for use in low-cost analog control systems. Operating parameters – including range and sensitivity – can be programmed on-site through a convenient push-button and LED interface. When an MDW sensor is used to replace an unreliable motion sensor, such as a string pot, it could be programmed to precisely match the characteristics of the device it replaces, eliminating the need to modify the control system. Alternatively, an MDW could be programmed so that the full scale of the output (voltage or current) precisely spans a preset range of motion, maximizing overall system accuracy.

MDW position sensors are especially attractive as an alternative to devices based on conventional multi-turn potentiometers. Based on a non-contacting magnetic measurement technology, they are not susceptible to the wear, corrosion etc. that can degrade a potentiometer’s accuracy. MDW position sensors are used in a wide variety of applications – from packaging machinery to medical equipment – to provide accurate, instantaneous measurement of linear displacement over a 0 to 16 ft. (0 to 5 meter) range. MDW sensors are also available with serial (SSI) or CANopen digital interfaces.

MDW encoders operate reliably in harsh conditions, thanks to rugged enclosures, seals and bearings that protect internal components, plus heavy-duty spools that are rated for over one million draw/rewind cycles. There are no mechanical limits to the number of turns that the encoder element experiences (unlike 10-turn potentiometers) which eliminates the possibility of damage to the sensor if the draw-wire is extended beyond its normal range.

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Posted by Janine E. Mooney, Editor

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