Press Release

Globally Valid Benchmark for Productivity: Overall Equipment Efficiency

Rexroth increases machine availability with intelligent software

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25/08/2010

Manager Industry Sectors Food, Packaging and Printing of Bosch Rexroth AG

Shorter changeover times, automated parameter resets and the "Productivity Agent" condition monitoring system are the means used by Rexroth to increase machine availability in the packaging and food industry. This way the drive & control manufacturer improves the "Overall Equipment Efficiency" index, which for end users is an important benchmark of a machine's actual productivity.

Overall Equipment Efficiency (OEE) is establishing itself throughout the global packaging and food industry as the chief benchmark for assessing the productivity or machines and plants. The OEE index is calculated by multiplying a machine's actual running time with its output of products in perfect quality. For more and more capital expenditure decisions, end users are specifying concrete and very high OEE values. "Short changeover times, fast restarts after manual interventions and timely warnings about wear increase the actual availability of machines and therefore the Overall Equipment Efficiency," stresses Steffen Winkler, who holds world-wide responsibility at Bosch Rexroth AG for sales and industry management activities in the food, packaging and printing segments. Rexroth improves the

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OEE index notably through the innovative software functions of its IndraMotion for Packaging system solution.

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Fast and safe: system-based changeover

With batch sizes continuing to shrink, fast changeover to new production runs combined with the shortest possible cycle times is becoming more and more important in day-to-day operations. With the FlexProfile function, Rexroth helps you to change over to new formats and products even more quickly. When the parameters for one axis are changed, Rexroth FlexProfile automatically adjusts the parameters for all other related axes. Steffen Winkler: "Rexroth FlexProfile reduces product and format changeovers to pressing a button on the controller."

Help in saving time is also provided by the certified safety functions which are provided directly in the Rexroth servo drives: "Safety on Board protects operators and maintenance personnel without the entire machine having to be disconnected from the power supply. This means that the machine is fully productive again as soon as any essential intervention is completed," explains Steffen Winkler.

At the same time, the "Productivity Agent" integrated in the drive software warns of any wear in the electromechanical axes. "Through the timely detection of wear at the actuators, users can schedule the replacement of components in good time and avoid expensive machine downtimes," adds Steffen Winkler.

Rexroth supports machine manufacturers and owner-users with intensive advice on applications and with comprehensive engineering assistance in integrating the automated format and product changeovers, the certified safety technology and the cost-efficient condition monitoring systems in their solutions.

Rexroth will be exhibiting at the FachPack in Hall 1, Stand 254.

Bosch Rexroth AG is one of the world's leading specialists in the field of drive and control technologies. Under the brand name of Rexroth the company supplies more than 500,000 customers with tailored solutions for driving, controlling and moving. Bosch Rexroth is a partner for industrial applications and factory automation, mobile applications and using renewable energies. As The Drive & Control Company, Bosch Rexroth develops, produces and sells components and systems in more than 80 countries. In 2009 Bosch

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Rexroth part of the Bosch Group, achieved sales of around 4.1 billion Euro with 34,200 employees.

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For more information please visit: www.boschrexroth.com

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