



With its new Sinamics G115D, Siemens presents a new, compact, and powerful drive system specifically designed for horizontal conveyor applications. (Courtesy: Siemens)

Sinamics G115D drive system designed for conveyor applications

With its new Sinamics G115D, Siemens is introducing a new, compact and powerful drive system specifically designed for horizontal conveyor applications. The drive system comprises the motor, drive, and gearbox in one unit and is offered in two versions – wall-mounted and motor-mounted.

The Sinamics G115D drive system is characterized by a robust design with a high IP protection class (up to IP66/UL Type 4X) and is suitable for harsh environments. Thanks to its compact dimensions, the Sinamics G115D can be easily installed in confined areas. The drive system can also be operated reliably over a wide temperature range of minus-30°C to 55°C (minus-22°F to 131°F), enabling operation in deep freezing applications.

Sinamics G115D is suitable for applications in intra-logistics and airports,

as well as in the automotive and food and beverage industries. Its power ranges from 0.37 to 7.5 kilowatts (1/2 to 10 hp) for wall-mount applications and 0.37 to 4 kilowatts (1/2 to 5 HP) for motor-mounted applications. The drive system can be put into operation quickly and easily with comprehensive integration into the Totally Integrated Automation (TIA) portal including Startdrive commissioning software or the Sinamics Smart Access Module (SAM) web-server for wi-fi setup and diagnostics.

To be prepared for digital transformation and to enable cloud-based analysis, Sinamics G115D is integrated into the entire MindConnect portfolio and is compatible with MindSphere applications such as Analyze MyDrives.

Thanks to Profisafe, the Sinamics G115D has safety integrated in the form of STO (Safe Torque Off) SIL2, which standardizes and facilitates the certification process. For flexibility in terms of installation, service and maintenance, the solution is equipped with

a plug-in connector and flexible connection possibilities. The device is particularly suitable for interaction with Simatic controllers such as the Simatic S7-1200 or Simatic ET200 for motion control.

Siemens offers warranty extensions for Sinamics G115D through its service protect package. As part of this service package, an additional one- or two-year warranty extension may be purchased for failure coverage. The package offers simplified processing under normal warranty conditions for the extended period.

MORE INFO www.siemens.com

Affolter unveils AF160 gear hobbing machine with digital CNC control

The experts of the Swiss family enterprise Affolter Group, a world technology leader



The new CNC control Pegasus integrates IoT, making preventive maintenance possible and minimizing downtimes. (Courtesy: Affolter Group SA)

in high-precision gear hobbing solutions, have introduced their newest machine. The AF160 is the most versatile Affolter gear hobbing machine to date.

“The AF160 is designed for high precision manufacturers that need versatility and maximum efficiency,” said Vincent Affolter, managing director of Affolter Group. “With eight axes, a state-of-the-art digital CNC control, a variety of automation solutions, and a maximum module of 2mm, it is ideal for manufacturers in industries such as automotive, aerospace, aircraft, gearbox, medical, or robotics.”

The AF160 can process parts with an outside diameter of up to 60mm and a length of 250mm. The machining length is between 110 and 180mm. The 8 axes – all of them independent – make the AF160 the most flexible Affolter machine to date. It can produce straight gears, helical gears, straight bevel gears, face gears, straight or helical crowned gears, worm screws, worm wheels, cyclo gears, and internal gears. Power skiving, the milling of worms and shafts, as well as chamfering, is possible, too.

“The AF160 enables manufacturers to produce an impressive variety of high precision gears, worm screws and worm wheels on the same, compact machine,” said Affolter. The footprint of the machine is only 4 meters. Including the loader, AF72 it is a little more than 6 meters.

With the AF160, Affolter does not only introduce a groundbreaking new gear cutting machine. “We think of it as a solution, not a machine – a solution that meets the needs of our customers. Thanks to the new CNC Control, various automation systems and peripherals, and the versatility of the

AF160, we can offer maximum productivity for high-precision manufacturers in a very broad range of applications,” Affolter said.

The engineers of Affolter Group cooperated with Beckhoff Automation to launch the brand-new CNC control Pegasus. The high processing power ensures extremely fast regulation.

It controls all machine axes as well as a multitude of peripherals for various options and automations, according to Affolter. Programming is simple, intuitive, and user-friendly with a 19-inch touch screen. The new CNC control integrates IoT. Data can be shared on the Cloud, streamlining after-sales service and preventive maintenance, and therefore minimizing downtimes. Software updates can be done remotely.

Depending on the application and production processes, manufacturers need automation solutions to facilitate an autonomous operation for 12 to 24 hours. Affolter provides a range of such automation solutions. The universal multi-axes part loading and unloading system AF72 was especially designed for the AF160. It features a double gripper system for parallel loading and unloading and offers different methods of feeding based on the volume, product, and application. The AF160 can also be equipped with the deburring unit AF54, integrating the deburring process into the gear production. Different clamping systems provide for added versatility. Customizable coolant systems and chip extraction conveyors are available as well.

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