

## Hannover Messe 2007

# Innovative technologies make splash at Hannover Messe

By Mike Edwards

Hannover Messe is a showcase for cutting-edge technologies right across the industrial spectrum. And it's not just a matter of showing the latest products – there's a strong emphasis on industrial technology as a series of integrated systems, where individual products work together as parts of a greater whole.

The Hannover Trade Fair provides a complete overview of new technologies and their place in the end-to-end industrial process chain, according to Wolfgang Pech, Deutsche Messe senior vice president. "It used to be more of a general industrial show but now more themed with different target groups of engineers."



The trade show "Motion, Drive and Automation" at Hannover Messe, which takes place once every two years, is a good example. It covers electric, mechanical and fluid power transmission in a display that embraces every aspect of industrial automation. Pech maintains that engineers still need to attend shows like the one in Hannover: "the Internet isn't good enough – it is important to talk to exhibitors for systems solutions and to find referrals to other technologies at the fair."

More than 6000 exhibitors at Hannover Messe occupy 200,000 m<sup>2</sup> of display space, with over half of the exhibitors originating from outside of Germany, said Pech.

Below are few snapshots of just a few of the new technologies that were on display at Hannover Messe 2007.



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1. SEW-Eurodrive premiered its new series of industrial gear units, the X series (see also cover story). The helical and bevel-helical gear units come in the torque range from 58,000 to 175,000 Nm with unit weights of one to four tons. The gear units are available with two, three or four stages and cover a gear ratio range of  $i = 6.3$  and  $i = 400$ . Even higher ratios of more than  $i = 1000$  can be achieved in combination with a primary gearmotor.
2. The Application Park Production Line featured the IT-Powered Automation exhibit. Vendor participants included Phoenix Contact, Rittal, Bosch Rexroth, Festo, Kuka Robot Group, Pepperl + Fuchs, SICK AG, Trumpf, SAP and Brady.
3. Visitors to the IT-Powered Automation exhibit could order their own personalized coffee cup at a PC outfitted with signature recognition. The cup was then produced, custom-printed in a laser station, quality tested, packaged in a box, stored in a depot and output by entering an individual RFID number.
4. Siemens Automation and Drives (A&D) introduced a new range of IEC low-voltage motors with aluminum housing. The new motors of the 1LE1 series are offered in the efficiency classes EFF1 and EFF2. The energy-efficient EFF1 motors achieve their high efficiency through the use of copper rotors.
5. With its new MTpro software, Bosch Rexroth simplifies professional planning, layout and procurement of components and complete modules for assembly technology. Designed with user workflows in mind, the software includes an electronic product catalog, extensive CAD tools and a display of all essential ordering information.



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