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PRODUCT NEWS

Fourth-generation operator interfaces offer more for less

Pilz Automation Technology is launching the fourth-generation PMI touchscreen operator interface and diagnostic display units that offer improved performance, yet they are now more competitively priced.

Both the PMIvisu and PMIopen series are available in the fourth-generation specification, with the PMIvisu models being suitable for diagnostics and visualisation with PNOZmulti modular safety systems, PSS programmable safety and control systems and SafetyBUS p networks. Furthermore, thanks to the use of standardised interfaces, the fourth-generation PMIvisu units can be used as graphics systems for all common programmable logic controllers (PLCs). If custom software needs to be run on the display, then the versatile PMIopen operator terminals can be specified.

The main feature of the fourth-generation units is the new hardware platform that features a high-performance 624MHz CPU with 128MB of RAM and 64MB of Flash memory. Brighter, high-contrast TFT displays have also been incorporated to improve legibility, and the LPT, VGA and USB interfaces that were previously optional are now integrated as standard. Ethernet (10/100Mbit/s) and dual serial ports are also standard, and customers can retrofit fieldbus modules for use with Modbus RTU, Modbus TCP/IP, Profibus DP and CANopen. The new models are fully backward-compatible with the third-generation PMIvisu and

PMIopen units, which makes it simple to upgrade to the improved models or replace units that have suffered damage.

While the panel cutout dimensions are unchanged, the housing has been redesigned so that the signal earth is separated from the housing earth, which makes it possible to monitor for earth faults on the control cabinet.

Typical application areas for the new PMI units include diagnostics on PNOZmulti modular safety systems, PSS programmable safety systems and SafetyBUS p networks, as well as visualisation of plant and machinery. An interesting feature is that the capability to use multiple PLC drivers simultaneously means that the same unit can be configured to monitor both control and safety systems. To meet the needs of different applications, the PMI is available with 6.5inch, 10.4inch, 12.1inch and 15inch displays.

Please contact Pilz to request more information about the PMI operator interfaces by emailing sales@pilz.co.uk or visit www.pilz.co.uk.

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Note to editors

Pilz Automation Technology develops, manufactures and supplies process and automation control products for use wherever there is a requirement to ensure the safety of plant, personnel or the environment. Included in the range are: safety relays; configurable safety controllers; programmable safety systems (safety PLCs) for use with or without the SafetyBUS p safe, open industrial fieldbus network; mechanically actuated and non-contact guard switches; safety light curtains; 2D and 3D vision-based safety sensors; emergency stop switches; conventional and touchscreen operator interfaces; plus control and monitoring relays for non-safety applications.

In addition, Pilz provides safety-related services, such as training, engineering, consultancy and competence management. For 20 years Pilz has taken a leading role in educating the market with regard to safety legislation. This has been through seminars on legislation, software packages that assist with standards compliance and product selection, and publications. Pilz has produced six editions of the *Guide to Machinery Safety*, a *Guide to Programmable Safety Systems*, and publishes a free monthly email newsletter

Pilz Automation Technology is a wholly owned subsidiary of Pilz GmbH & Co KG, a family-owned German company with global operations. Since its foundation in 1948, Pilz has remained at the forefront of safety technology, launching the first safety relay the first programmable safety system, the first safe, open fieldbus system (SafetyBUS p), the first solid-state safety 'relay', the first software-configurable modular safety controller, and the first safe camera system for monitoring three-dimensional zones. Future developments will see safety technology being integrated more closely with standard control, such as in servo drives with safety functionality.

Editors should contact Pilz if they would prefer to receive future press releases electronically or by post.

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