Advancements in Magnetic Encoders

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January 21, 2015 • Orlando

Originally Presented at the Motor and Drive Systems 2015 Conference
PRESENTATION OUTLINE

- Timken Introduction
- Market Demand for High-Resolution Off-Axis Sensors
  - Off- vs. On-Axis Overview
  - Magnetic Sensor Advancements
- Applications
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  - Off Road
  - Medical
  - Linear Encoder
- Trends
  - Increased Sophistication
  - Customization
  - Speed to Market
  - Application Diversity
- Conclusions
TIMKEN OVERVIEW

- Industrial components manufacturer serving diversified markets, including:
  - Aerospace
  - Mining
  - Energy/wind
  - Rail
  - Construction
  - Truck
  - Automotive
  - Distribution
- Established in 1899
- Headquartered in Canton, Ohio
- Global footprint with operations in 30 countries
15 YEARS IN SENSOR BUSINESS

Supplier of integrated Hall encoder products serving industrial customers and critical vehicle systems
ON-AXIS VS. OFF-AXIS MAGNETIC ENCODERS

On-axis
1 pole pair

Off-axis
32 pole pairs

4096 counts
1 revolution

128 counts
1/32 of revolution
4096 total/revolution

Deep interpolator required to get full resolution from 1 revolution
Shallow interpolator used to get 1/32 of the resolution from 1 pole pair
OFF-AXIS ENCODERS

- Multi-pole magnet: Typically 17 to 300 mm diameter axial or radial
- Sensor IC typically has an 8- to 16-Hall element array
- Produces a sine and cosine signal for each pole pair; signals are converted to an A, B, Z quadrature or serial position signal

Multi-pole magnet

Signal conversion

Sensor chip and target
MAGNETIC ENCODER ADVANCEMENTS

- Resolution up to 16 bits/turn
- Data rates in excess of optical encoders
- Advancements in magnetic target accuracy and size
- End of line/field programmability
- Rejection of external magnetic fields
- Extended operating temperatures -40° to 125°C
- Large air gaps without sacrificing accuracy
- Absolute position capability
APPLICATIONS

Off-axis high-resolution magnetic sensors are used on motors and specialty applications

Velocity feedback for a mining truck

Compact designs

Timken
APPLICATIONS

- Off-axis high-resolution magnetic sensors are used off highway

- New applications include axle torsional measurement
APPLICATIONS

Off-axis high-resolution magnetic sensors are used on medical and laboratory equipment

Medical test and laboratory equipment for precise and consistent positioning in moist or harsh environments

Medical equipment for patient diagnosis
APPLICATIONS

- High resolution and contaminant resistance make magnetic encoders a good choice for linear actuators
- 3D print head position feedback

High-resolution linear magnetic sensors for automation, actuation, 3D printing
MAGNETIC ENCODER MARKET TRENDS

- Increased sophistication
- Customization
- Speed to market
- Application diversity
INCREASED SOPHISTICATION

- Higher resolution
- Higher accuracy
- Faster update and data speed
- End of line or field programmability
CUSTOMIZATION

ASIC-based design lends itself to various customizing capabilities:

- ASIC and custom target
- Kit encoder PCB and custom target
- Modular encoder
SPEED TO MARKET

- New systems on chip encoders are programmable for a variety of resolutions and electrical outputs
- Magnetic targets are easily designed and customized for optimal performance and size to meet customer requirements
- Rapid customization of modular kit designs can be used to meet compressed customer timelines.
INCREASED APPLICATION DIVERSITY

- New magnetic encoder designs allow high-resolution sensing from benign to harsh environments using cost-effective technology
- Virtually eliminate the need for bulky and expensive environmental protection for traditional feedback devices
CONCLUSIONS

- Because of advances in technology, it is possible to use modern magnetic sensors in applications where traditional magnetic sensors could not be used.

- Market trends show large increases in system feedback requirements, including magnetic encoders.

- Modern off-axis magnetic sensors incorporate innovative circuitry that permits accurate high-resolution sensing in diverse environments.

- Rapid customization allows users to integrate magnetic encoders into products with reduced lead times.