



Intelligence in a new form – Slewing ring bearing from igus simplifies equipment monitoring

New isense slewing ring bearing notifies users when maintenance is needed

November 3, 2017 - Slewing rings from igus are used in applications that handle high cycle speeds and loads, including control desks, welding equipment, indexing tables and chainsaws. Therefore, the slewing rings need to be extremely durable and reliable. iglide slewing ring bearings from igus have plastic sliding elements between aluminum or stainless-steel inner and outer bearing rings. These sliding elements are made of the high-performance, self-lubricating iglide J plastic, making them maintenance-free and friction and wear resistant. Further enhancing the slewing ring, igus has now developed an intelligent slewing ring bearing (SRB) that is installed with an isense PRT.W sensor. “A sensor that detects wear is mounted in a slot under the sliding elements, which measures the axial lowering of the SRB head ring caused by abrasion, and then it passes the information on the icom communication module,” explained René Achnitz, head of the business unit for iglide bearings. “After the information has been compared with a predetermined application-relevant wear rate, the need for a replacement can be indicated with enough time in advance via the icom module.” The communication module receives the data from the sensor and sends the information to the users’ desired end devices via WLAN. This allows users to repair or replace the necessary components before failure occurs, making for greater safety and reliability in production.

isense: maintenance made easy

Under the product family name “isense,” igus has developed various sensors and monitoring modules over the last few years, making production processes simpler and more reliable. In addition to the isense PRT.W, igus also offers measuring systems for drylin linear guides, energy chains, cable carriers and chainflex continuous flex cables, which send their data to the icom communication module. The module collects all the values of the respective isense systems, such as the speed and acceleration of e-chains, the electrical properties of highly flexible chainflex cables or the abrasion values of linear guides and slewing ring bearings. The data is then sent to the user and can be retrieved via web browser. Since only one wireless

icom module is needed for multiple systems, it is extremely simple to integrate it into the production process. Additionally, customers can connect status-monitoring, data-generating units of other manufacturers to the icom module.

Caption:



Picture PM5017-1

Mounted in a slot under the sliding elements of the polymer slewing ring bearing, a sensor measures the abrasion and indicates the need for replacement via the icom communication module in good time. (Source: igus GmbH)

About igus®

igus® develops industry-leading energy chain® cable carriers, chainflex® continuous-flex cables, drylin® linear bearings and linear guides, iglide® plastic bushings, and igubal® spherical bearings. These seemingly unrelated products are linked together through a belief in making functionally advanced, yet affordable plastic components and assemblies. With plastic bearing experience since 1964, cable carrier experience since 1971 and continuous-flex cables since 1989, igus provides the right solution from over 100,000 products available from stock. No minimum order required. For more information, contact igus at 1-800-521-2747 or visit www.igus.com.



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