

Green Days

Hannover Messe 2012 Focuses on Energy and Environmental Technologies

Hannover Messe 2012 generated enough buzz that the 5,000 exhibitors “will have their work cut out for them,” according to Dr. Wolfram von Fritsch, chairman of the managing board of Deutsche Messe. “Green technologies are a viable business model with the power to drive growth around the world. Industry has the solutions needed for achieving sustainability in manufacturing. And green technology can translate into higher profitability for industry.”

According to Hannover Messe personnel, one in four visitors stopped by the IndustrialGreenTec show in Hall 26 during the exhibition. The five-day event provided a ringing endorsement of the organizer’s efforts to align the event with the global megatrends of energy and environmental technologies, mobility and urbanization. “The new themes launched at Hannover Messe over the past several years are now at the forefront of interest and are energizing the entire show. This means that our long-term strategy is proving to be right on target,” von Fritsch added.

The exhibition also demonstrated that industry has embraced the outstanding opportunities created by the energy shift. “Industry has the expertise required; now it’s time to get moving on implementation,” he continued.

This year’s Hannover Messe further strengthened its position as an event for top-level decision-makers, he reported: “One out of five visitors was a CEO or company owner.” Professionals accounted for 95 percent of all attendees— a jump of five percent compared with 2008. “This mix of international participation, thematic excellence and high-caliber decision-makers defines Hannover Messe as the international bench-



The 1,040 exhibitors at the “Industrial Automation” trade fair presented a wide array of automation innovations for manufacturing and processing (courtesy of Hannover Messe).

mark for new business generation and networking in the industrial, government and research sectors,” von Fritsch added.

China as this year’s featured Partner Country showcased solutions for sustainable growth under the slogan of “Green + Intelligence.” “Here in Hannover, China has raised the bar for future Partner Countries a notch higher,” von Fritsch said. “The People’s Republic has presented itself as an equal partner and an important market and technology driver.” China’s presentation at Hannover Messe was its largest-ever industrial showcase at a foreign venue. The 500 participating Chinese companies were represented in all display sectors at the event. Prime Minister Wen Jiabao opened the event jointly with German Chancellor Angela Merkel.

Some highlights during the show included new products and innovations from companies like Bosch Rexroth and ABB and the third annual “vector awards” from Igus, offering cash prizes for technology advancements for energy chains.

Bosch Rexroth

Bosch Rexroth offered the Sytronix family, a combination of the company’s hydraulic pumps and electric drives at Hannover Messe. The Sytronix family provides many advantages, as the design engineer can integrate the ready-to-install, pre-configured solutions very easily and quickly in the engineering environment without having to deal with the details of programming. Additionally, Rexroth now offers new features with the IndraMotion MLC system solution for minimizing time and effort for design and commissioning. The drive and



With the control system IndraMotion MLC, Bosch Rexroth minimizes time and effort for design and commissioning (courtesy of Bosch Rexroth).

control manufacturer neutralizes specifics for the user through electrical components and software with integrated hydraulic application expertise. Rexroth's IndraMotion MLC equally controls—decentralized and centralized—hydraulic, hybrid, or electric axes. The control software comprises a wide range of predefined hydraulic control functions; therefore the parameterization of motion profiles does not require any hydraulics expertise. Rexroth is now intensifying that simplification approach for the design and assembly of fast I/Os in typical applications such as forming or metallurgy. For more information, visit www.boschrexroth.com.

ABB

ABB launched its new generation 420kV Gas Insulated Switchgear (GIS) at Hannover. The new design reduces product volume by up to 33 percent (width × depth × height) compared to its predecessor resulting in a considerably smaller footprint. The compactness of the unit makes it ideally suited for installations where space is a constraint and also reduces the amount of SF6 insulating gas requirement by as much as 40 percent, making it more environmentally friendly. It is also designed to enhance resource efficiency by reducing thermal losses, lowering transportation costs and optimizing investment in infrastructure.

The new GIS can be factory assembled, tested and shipped as one bay in a container instead of multiple assembly units, saving site installation and commissioning time by up to 40 percent compared with traditional designs. Frontal access to drives, position indicators and service platforms enable easier operation, inspection and maintenance. Standardized modules and connection elements also enable flexibility in terms of configurations and building optimization.

The product features a fast single-interrupter dual motion circuit breaker and has been designed for current ratings up to 5,000 A. It is capable of providing protection to power networks with rated short-circuit currents up to 63 kA. "A compact and more user friendly design, faster on-site commissioning and lower environmental impact are some of the key features of this latest generation of Gas Insulated Switchgear," said Giandomenico Rivetti, head of ABB's High Voltage Products business, a part of the company's Power Products division. "The introduction of this 420kV GIS is part of ABB's ongoing technology and innovation focus and follows the recent launch of our advanced 245kV and 72.5kV versions." For more information, visit www.abb.com.

Igus

Modern plastic energy chains ensure the safe supply of energy, data, pulses and operating media and are always in motion. They are suitable for multipurpose use in the crane and machine tool industries and in the robotics and clean room industries. Igus, a manufacturer of energy chain systems, cables and accessories, announced the results of the third global "vector award" competition during Hannover. The competition



During the five days of the show, a total of approximately 5,000 exhibitors from 69 different nations showcased their product innovations and solutions for industrial applications (courtesy of Hannover Messe).

jury included representatives from the automation association within the German central association for electrical engineering and industry (ZVEI), the tooling laboratory (WZL) of the RWTH Aachen and TÜV Rhineland. The winners received their awards at a special ceremony. The "vector award" is officially under the patronage of the Robotation Academy of the Hanover Industrial Fair. Winners in 2012 included Kuka Systems (gold), DEME (silver) and SCM (bronze). For more information, visit www.igus.com.

Overall, Hannover Messe was deemed a triumphant success. Planning is already underway for the next show that will be staged from April 8–12 2013. "More than 600 companies have already submitted their registrations for Hannover Messe 2013. Over the past few days many of them have even inquired about the possibility of booking bigger stands next year," von Fritsch added. "So next year's event is likely to fill the entire trade fair complex in Hannover." For more information, visit www.hannovermesse.de.