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New VM600 Machinery Monitoring System Gains Acceptance

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Vibro-Meter SA of Switzerland recently introduced the VM 600 - a digital, modular, scaleable hardware and software solution for Plant Usage Optimisation, providing integrated machinery protection, condition and advanced performance monitoring from a single source. Unlike some systems that apply only to power generation with gas turbines, it is useful for all kinds of power generation, oil and gas extraction, petrochemical and process applications.

Following detailed tests and extensive trials, the VM 600 protection system has been **approved by Siemens** in Germany for standard use with their gas turbines.

The VM 600 is a complete suite of products. The simplest configuration is a stand-alone machinery protection system, comprising a 19" 6U rack fitted with a power supply (or two for redundancy) and the required number of MPC 4 machinery protection cards. The MPC 4 has 4 dynamic channels and 2 speed channels, and can be software configured to perform any machinery monitoring function with any appropriate sensor - one card fits all. Up to 12 MPC 4 cards may be installed, a total of 48 dynamic channels per rack. Racks may be linked together for large installations. There are very flexible relay options with Boolean logic, together with DC level and AC signal outputs. A network card is available to permit remote system configuration (card by card) and interrogation. For more extensive communications a CPU card can be installed, allowing "single shot" configuration over a network, interfaces with other systems using standard protocols such as MODBUS[®], and remote access over a modem. Protection functions are always independent of any data links, networks or remote PCs.

The CMC 16 is a card designed specially for condition and performance monitoring data acquisition. It has 16 channels, accepts any normal sensor or analogue input (again, one card fits all) and contains on-board signal processing. It samples intelligently and adaptively as the machinery operates in various modes - run-up, normal, no load, run-down and so on. CMC 16 cards may be placed in any position in the rack, with or without MPC 4 cards. The VM 600 condition monitoring software is powerful and fully featured, while remaining easy to learn and to use, running under Windows[®]NT/2000, SCO Open Server[®] (Unix) or Linux[®], on standard networks. Full remote access with multi-level security is available.

For full control over turbomachinery running costs Vibro-Meter provides VM 600 performance monitoring software. Using data from the VM 600 and other systems, the operator sees the exact condition and performance of his machinery. Advisory functions include maintenance actions required, cost optimisation, hot parts life calculation, emissions tax calculations and more. Performance monitoring is usually applied to gas turbines and the VM 600 software excels in this, while also covering steam turbines, compressors and pumps.

Vibro-Meter SA and Vibro-Meter, Inc. are part of Meggitt Aerospace Systems, a division of Meggitt PLC. Vibro-Meter manufactures systems, sensors, and equipment primarily for the aerospace and industrial industries. Meggitt PLC is traded on the London Stock Exchange.

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