

News Release

Contact: Correy Robertson
(412) 394-6611
correy.robertson@bm.com

Cooper Crouse-Hinds Introduces Variable Frequency Drives for Hazardous Environments

Industry-first ACE Series Explosionproof VFD can be installed directly in Class I, Division 1 or 2 areas, reducing installation cost and energy consumption.

SYRACUSE, N.Y., June 28, 2011 – Cooper Crouse-Hinds' new [ACE Series Explosionproof Variable Frequency Drives](#) (VFD) are the only NEMA 7 VFD solution that can be safely and reliably installed in Class I, Division 1 or 2 hazardous areas. VFDs are already widely used to optimize the speed of motors controlling process equipment, but until now they have not been used inside classified enclosures because heat generated by the VFD inside the enclosure causes it to fail. Instead, VFDs are installed in control rooms outside of the hazardous area, resulting in expensive and impractical installations. The new explosionproof VFD from Cooper Crouse-Hinds, a leader in manufacturing electrical and instrumentation products for harsh and hazardous environments worldwide, provides an innovative solution to the costly challenge of utilizing a VFD in a hazardous environment.

Currently available up to 60HP, the ACE Series Explosionproof VFD features a NEMA 7 enclosure with patent pending active cooling technology that allows a VFD to be housed inside the classified enclosure without the risk of overheating and failing. Expensive and complicated installations are eliminated, as there is no need to run long lines of conduit and motor cable, navigate around obstacles, or build off-site control rooms in non-hazardous areas to house VFD clusters.

In addition to installation savings, ACE Explosionproof VFDs can lower energy consumption, decrease maintenance costs, and reduce downtime. ACE Explosionproof VFDs allow a motor's power level to be adjusted exactly to performance needs, significantly lowering energy consumption. Built-in diagnostics constantly monitor equipment information and operating conditions, bringing real-time visibility to potential problems, which can prevent plant downtime. The ability to lower system speed and loads, plus soft start capabilities, helps reduce stress on the overall electrical system so there is less risk of damage or dangerous plant brownouts.

“We are excited to bring the ACE Explosionproof VFD to our customers,” said Grant Gawronski, President, Cooper Crouse-Hinds. “This product is the result of over two years of innovative research and development at Cooper Crouse-Hinds, and it is gratifying to introduce a product that will be revolutionary for plants in tough industries. The challenge of realizing the benefits of VFDs in hazardous installations has always been a big one for the industry, and Cooper Crouse-Hinds now provides a unique solution. The ACE Explosionproof VFD is the simplest, safest and most cost effective VFD solution for motor control in hazardous areas.”

The new product is built using the reliable EJB Explosionproof enclosure with an epoxy paint finish for superior corrosion resistance, and includes an explosionproof keypad and window that allows for operation of the VFD without opening the enclosure door. The ACE Explosionproof VFD features a heavy duty blower inside the enclosure that creates airflow, allowing it to operate in ambient temperatures up to 50°C.

Designed to meet the demanding requirements of the oil and gas industry, the ACE Explosionproof VFD is suitable for a wide range of tough applications, including petrochemical, water and waste water and OEM skid builders.

To learn more about Cooper Crouse-Hinds, visit www.crouse-hinds.com or call (866) 764-5454.

About Cooper Crouse-Hinds

Headquartered in Syracuse, N.Y., Cooper Crouse-Hinds integrates a comprehensive line of electrical and instrumentation products with expert support, industry insights and local availability, engineering safety and productivity in the most demanding industrial and commercial environments worldwide. Cooper Crouse-Hinds manufactures over 100,000 products, including conduit and cable fittings; enclosures; plugs and receptacles; industrial lighting fixtures; signals and alarms; controls and electrical apparatus; commercial outlet boxes and hubs; and electronic components and protection equipment for process control branded MTL Instruments Group. Cooper Crouse-Hinds products are sold worldwide and meet all local and international code requirements. They are used in general construction or in harsh and hazardous environments across the globe, performing to the highest standard of safety and reliability. For more information, visit www.crouse-hinds.com.

About Cooper Industries

Cooper Industries plc (NYSE: CBE) is a global electrical products manufacturer with 2010 revenues of \$5.1 billion. Founded in 1833, Cooper's sustained success is attributable to a constant focus on innovation, evolving business practices while maintaining the highest ethical standards and meeting customer needs. The Company has seven operating divisions with leading market positions and world-class products and brands including: Bussmann electrical and electronic fuses; Crouse-Hinds and CEAG explosion-proof electrical equipment; Halo and Metalux lighting fixtures; and Kyle and McGraw-Edison power systems products. With this broad range of products, Cooper is uniquely positioned for several long-term growth trends including the global infrastructure build-out, the need to improve the reliability and productivity of the electric grid, the demand for higher energy-efficient products and the need for improved electrical safety. In 2010 fifty-nine percent of total sales were to customers in the

industrial and utility end-markets and thirty-nine percent of total sales were to customers outside the United States. Cooper has manufacturing facilities in 23 countries as of 2011. For more information, visit the website at www.cooperindustries.com.

###