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Pepperl+Fuchs and R. STAHL agree to support the future technology DART

Mannheim / Waldenburg, August 18, 2009: Mannheim/Germany based Pepperl+Fuchs GmbH and R. STAHL Schaltgeräte GmbH in Waldenburg/Germany are worldwide leading manufacturers of components and solutions for explosion hazardous areas in the process industry. Both companies have signed a license agreement for using the new DART technology (Dynamic Arc Recognition and Termination). The open DART licensing model allows the unlimited use of this patented technology in order to supports its fast international acceptance. Both companies also expressed their common interest to support the international standardization of this technology.

In order to completely exclude the development of sparks strong enough to cause ignitions, conventional solutions for intrinsically safe electric circuits drastically limit the effective power available for devices within explosion hazardous areas. In contrast, DART recognizes the typical current and voltage pattern which indicates the development of a spark. This technology immediately cuts off the power supply within a few micro seconds, thereby „extinguishing” the spark before it is able to develop sufficient energy to ignite any explosive mixture of gases. With DART technology, the requirements of IEC 60079-11 regarding the protection of devices by means of intrinsic safety are raised significantly, allowing the intrinsically safe supply of up to 50 watts of effective power to devices within the ex zone.

About Pepperl+Fuchs

Pepperl+Fuchs has nearly 4,000 employees in more than 30 countries and is a world leader in the design, manufacture, application and support of a broad range of automation solutions. Pepperl+Fuchs is the market leader for intrinsic safety interfaces and hazardous location equipment. The FieldConnex[®] fieldbus installation system for PROFIBUS and FOUNDATION

fieldbus provides maximum flexibility to modern process automation applications. Additionally, Pepperl+Fuchs' Bebcos EPS purge and pressurization system provides rugged protection for any type of instrumentation. This comprehensive range of explosion protection systems and interface equipment is complemented by technologies such as EXTEC visualization and operation systems, as well as on-line corrosion monitoring transmitters and level sensing instruments.

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About R. STAHL

R. STAHL is one of the top names in safety technology for use in explosive atmospheres. The company is a market leader in explosion-protected electrical and electronic components and systems for control and distribution, installation, and operating and monitoring tasks. R. STAHL also leads the way in camera surveillance systems as well as in automation, lighting, and signalling and alarm technology.

In particular, R. STAHL is one of the world's leading suppliers of automation solutions comprising isolators, Remote I/O, and fieldbus technology. R. STAHL's explosion-protected IS1 Remote I/O, for instance, is the most widely used Remote I/O system in Zone 1 and Division 1 applications throughout the world. The company's key expertise is in creating customer-specific systems solutions for hazardous areas. In order to comprehensively meet application needs and client requirements, R. STAHL provides individual packages that integrate tailored product combinations and an extensive range of services.

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