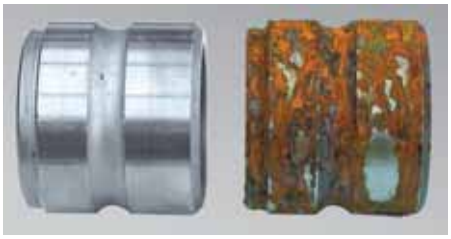
New roller bearing treatment

The Schaeffler Group and its FAG bearings division has introduced a new treatment for roller bearing components to provide exceptional resistance to corrosion in aggressive environments.

The new material named Cronitect is a high-grade martensitic hardening steel, developed specifically for rolling bearings. It offers maximum corrosion resistance under extreme conditions, for example, in dry running applications or when the bearings are in contact with water, acids or cleaning agents.

Based on the consistent refinement of high-grade NIROSteels, Cronitect achieves a very high hardness through its unique chemical composition, in combination with a new thermo-chemical surface layer treatment process. The material is therefore able to withstand extreme conditions, including salt spray testing in accordance with DIN 50021 SS without any problems, even after 600 hours.



Cronitect will withstand extreme salt water and corrosive substance exposure here compared to other high grade bearing material

Battery tester measures capacity

Cadex claims that its Spectro CA-12 is the first hand-held battery tester that reads battery reserve capacity, CCA and state-of-charge in a single, non-invasive 15-second test. The instrument is based on 'multi-model electrochemical impedance spectroscopy'. Until now, this method was reserved for expensive laboratory peripherals and trained staff. The Spectro CA-12 makes the technology portable, affordable and simple to use.

The Cadex CA-12 battery tester

Methods for the rapid testing of lead acid batteries have been improving for many years but older technologies only verify the presence of energy and measure conductivity. Battery capacity remains unknown and is the most comprehensive means of assessing a battery, particularly the deep cycle batteries used on aerial lifts which can usually only be obtained with a full discharge/charge.

The strength of a battery tester is in identifying anomalies while the battery is still functioning. The Spectro CA-12 provides a linear state-of-health test range from 0 to 90 percent, meaning that the instrument can spot abnormalities before a performance drop is noticeable. This allows the replacement of a battery before failure occurs. The tester can interface with a PC and a printer to download the test information. The CA-12 is powered by a rechargeable lithium-ion battery which provides up to 50 full tests per charge with a three hour recharge time. Screen information is available in English, German, French and Spanish. Housed in drop-resistant ABS with rubber shock absorbing over-folds, the unit measures 172 mm x 248 mm x 61 mm and weighs just over a kilo.

Intelift's universal hook

Plug and play hook

Ingersoll Rand has developed a universal hook, featuring a sensitive control handle, for its Intelift pneumatic balancers. The hook has the advantage of being fully 'plug and play' and can be installed in just a few minutes, whatever the type of load or the gripping tool used. The universal hook is particularly suited for all repetitive tasks involving handling of loads of up to 230 kg in industrial environments.

By integrating the control handle in the hook holding the gripping tool or the load, Ingersoll Rand has developed a plug-and-play system that suits all types of handling tasks. It is no longer necessary to integrate the strain gauge in each gripping tool. The operator then uses a single sensitive control handle to deal with loads and set the Intelift balancer operating mode.

Clearly better

Over the past 10 years or so the inspection routines for slings and other lifting gear has been tightened up beyond measure. However the synthetic round-sling where the actual load-bearing material is hidden from a quick visual inspection by its cover is more often left in service until the cover becomes damaged or it is subjected to a more in depth inspection process.

It is entirely possible that the internal sling can fray and be weakened while the outer-cover, which has no load carrying duty, remains in good visual condition. Clearly this could lead to an accident. First Sling Technology of Oklahoma has introduced a round sling cover made from transparent polytetrafluouroethylene (PTFE), which allows visual inspection of the internal elements along with the benefits of being harder wearing and lighter weight than traditional nylon covers.

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