

# radiomatic® pilot



**HBC world premiere:**

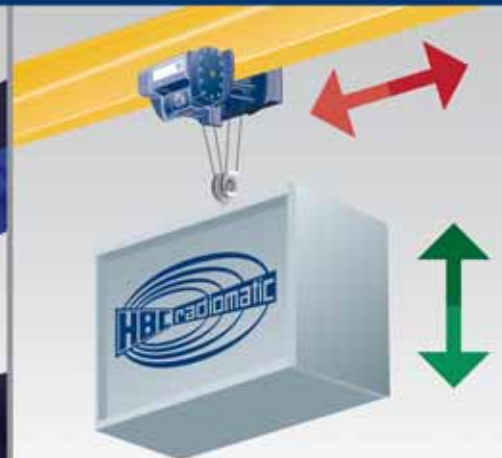
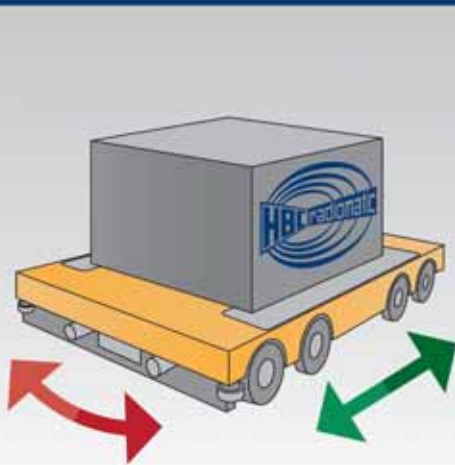
## Radio control by hand movements!

radiomatic® pilot is the name of a completely new and revolutionary operating concept by HBC-radiomatic. This important innovation allows the operator to easily and intuitively control functions by natural hand movement.

The integrated inclination function provides this unique capability. By horizontal and / or vertical inclination of the transmitter, the groundbreaking radiomatic® pilot solution enables the operation of analog, single- or two-step drives. A newly developed HBC Micro Joystick is available for the control of additional functions.



**This is how it works:**



# Hitachi implements new paint process

UK based Advantage Chemicals has installed an innovative paint process at the Hitachi Construction Machinery plant in Amsterdam, which it claims will save at least €60,000 a year on labour, energy and disposal costs. The old process used a standard sinking system, in which paint would sink and form as sediment at the bottom of the water pool under the paint facility, producing around 260 tonnes of waste which had to be removed twice a year.



Advantage developed a real time coagulation chemical and system that causes the paint to float to the surface, so that it is easily skimmed off and pumped into a waste treatment tank. The annual waste produced from this process is

estimated at just 30 tonnes, a reduction of more than 88 percent.

Robin Huijsman, product engineering manager for Hitachi, said: "Cleaning the pool beneath the paint facility was an expensive, difficult and dirty job. Thanks to the new process the

facility is cleaner and the filtering system that removes paint particles from the air functions better. We are delighted with the results as the reduction in chemical waste is one of our key environmental objectives."

## Swiss solution to blind spots

A Swiss-based research company, Swiss Technologies and Intellectual Property, in Yverdon les Bains, Vaud, will begin site trials of its new PACHOM personal anti-collision system later this month.

The company was charged by the French safety authorities with finding a method to reduce or eliminate vehicle reversing accidents on construction sites through blind spots and the ignoring of traditional alarms. The standard reversing alarms fitted to most vehicles are relatively ineffectual on a noisy construction site, where

several machines might be reversing at any one time, causing the alarm to blend into the background of what can already be a noisy environment.

The solution, developed over several years, involves a narrow band short distance radar beam emitted from the rear of the vehicle. Developing a radar beam that remains within the overall width of the machine for up a couple of metres or so, rather than fanning out over a wide area, was the greatest challenge of the project. When close enough, the beam is picked up and returned by a small and inexpensive receiver/transmitter which warns both the driver and the

person in the way of the risk. Initially it was thought that this could be incorporated into a badge, however the developer, having found that just using audio alerts are not fully effective and so built in a mobile phone type vibration function, and incorporated it into a Swiss watch. It could equally be fitted into a wrist band, but the thinking is that site workers are more likely to wear a heavy duty watch than a wrist band.



One of the special watches

The third part of the system is an indicator and alert in the cab of the vehicle to warn the driver when he is reversing if he comes within pre-set distance of anyone wearing one of the watches. The watch and the cab indicator vibrates or sounds - more rapidly as the two become closer. It is also possible to provide an additional protection level where other workers in the vicinity receive a different warning, causing them to look out for those who might be in danger.

Initial tests show that the system works and can withstand the worst on site conditions from dust to water and oil. It can also be produced economically enough to make it a standard item on sites. The next step is to run full trials on several sites before a commercial launch.



## Comatrol's hydraulic flow divider

Comatrol has introduced the PFD10-OD, a proportional flow divider with built-in pressure compensator, providing precise, repeatable flow sharing between two hydraulic circuits regardless of the loads on the circuits or motors. When no current is applied to the coils, the inlet flow is divided equally between the two ports, with flows of up to 40 lpm. The flow ratio is then varied proportionally as current is directed to the coils. The product was originally created for a unique custom application, but the company has found that the design has significant potential as an off the shelf pre-engineered solution.



### enquiries

To contact any of these companies click on the 'Access & Lifting Directory' section of [www.vertical.net](http://www.vertical.net), where you will find direct links to the companies' web sites for up to 12 weeks after publication.

To have your company's new product or service featured in this section, please send in all information along with images via e-mail to: [editor@vertical.net](mailto:editor@vertical.net) with 'Innovations' typed in the subject box.