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Turck Expands Weld Nut Sensor Offering with Low-Profile Device for Reliable Presence Sensing in Automotive Applications

MINNEAPOLIS, MN (Nov. 23, 2016) – Metal detection in the automotive industry requires more compact sensor technology to manage constant change in metals and application variations as parts move through the line. Turck's new low-profile weld nut sensor is a compact solution for applications that require a reliable detection for the presence or absence of a nut welded to sheet metal on various vehicle components.

Like the other sensors in this family, Turck's new low-profile design uses magnetic inductive technology and can be simply programmed to detect the presence of a metallic nut. An optional teach pendant can be used to program the sensor to differentiate between the sheet metal material and the weld nut. When the nut is properly placed, the sensor sends a signal to the PLC, which allows the robotic welder to weld the nut to the sheet metal.

"Turck's existing weld nut sensor offering is widely used and now we are introducing a more compact design optimized to sense weld nuts with diameters between 5 and 10 mm," said Andrew Fritz, Product Specialist at Turck. "They're also able to fit more confined applications because they are 30-40 percent shorter than existing solutions."

Turck's new low-profile weld nut sensor measures 61 mm, with a probe tip diameter of 4 mm to accommodate down to a 5 mm weld nut. The sensor has a titanium nitride coated probe for greater strength and protection in harsh applications. The cable version includes a robust TPE-style jacket with a molded M12 connector for flexible mounting possibilities, and a four-way LED for visibility from multiple sides.

Other sensors in this series will sense nut diameters of 6-12 mm and 10-20 mm, respectively, and are available with integral M12 connectors. All Turck weld nut sensors are IP67 rated.

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