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PhoenixTM has strengthened the FIS04 system with an intrinsically safe data logger.



INNOVATIONS: PRESENT&FUTURE

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## PhoenixTM Company History

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PhoenixTM was founded in 2010 by Michael Taake, Ian Budden and Dave Plester. Two company headquarters were established, PhoenixTM GmbH in Bad Oeynhausen and PhoenixTM Ltd. UK based in Earith near Cambridge.

The three company founders before creating PhoenixTM had worked very closely together in the Industrial Temperature Profiling industry, in the specification, design, promotion and support of temperature monitoring solutions. Together they accumulated over sixty years of experience. Michael Taake knows the heat treatment market and customer requirements very well through his time in sales. Ian Budden was involved in development and has very precise knowledge of the requirements for the system components in the heat treatment area. Dave Plester, on the other hand, was an industry expert of high temperature applications such as steel and aluminum processes and brought valuable knowledge and further developments into the company's know-how. Sadly, Dave passed away in 2017. The two companies' headquarters in Germany and Great Britain have grown continuously in recent years, so that PhoenixTM GmbH moved to larger premises at its current location in Bad Oeynhausen in October 2017. PhoenixTM Ltd in the UK also moved in 2015 from Ely to Earith and larger premises with improved production and services facilities. PhoenixTM GmbH with now nine employees, the sales areas Europe, Mediterranean countries, Middle East and Russia as well as their former republics are served from here. In many of these countries, PhoenixTM GmbH has cooperation partners who have been involved to a large extent from the very beginning and are very familiar with the products and possible applications. This guarantees competent and always available customer support on site. In addition to sales, customer service is a major component of the company philosophy. At the location in Bad Oeynhausen, the data loggers are calibrated and repairs are carried out. Calibrations according to UKAS guidelines are carried out in England. The next milestone is the targeted DAkkS certification of the German location in order to further expand the service for customers. PhoenixTM started with temperature measurement systems for the high temperature range. This is still one of the core competencies today. Gradually, more and more areas of application were added, driven by close collaboration with an increasing customer base. Thanks to the many years of intensive cooperation with many customers, PhoenixTM has successfully brought many innovate unique new technology break throughs in the heat treatment monitoring onto the market. For example, the Oil Quench TS12 system, which

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### A glimpse of the company.

was developed in close cooperation with the IWT. This system made it possible for the first time to measure a complete carburizing process including an oil quench bath. Not only the furnace temperatures are measured, but also the heat transfer in the quenching bath is also made visible. Vapor formation or insufficient flow can be optimized easily based on the measured data.

Another example for a new product development is the TS27 thermal barrier series, which, depending on the specific needs, can be individually adapted to the respective customer requirements. For example, in the robot assembly of heat treatment furnaces, this is an important aspect in order to enable smooth loading and unloading of the furnaces. The containers are designed to fit into an engine block, for example, and, if necessary, can be inserted into the production line at any time without interrupting production. The gripper of the robot can handle the complete measuring system as easy as a normal work piece. Other collaborations take place in the area of software development and integration in, for example, the furnace controls. With

short decision-making processes and close cooperation with development and production in England, such projects can be implemented quickly and easily. The latest development is a system that was continued from the FIS04 coating system to meet the requirements of the ATEX regulations (ATmosphere EXplosive = explosive atmospheres). Since the last change in 2014, these have passed from the BetrSichV (Industrial Safety Ordinance) to the GefStoffV (Hazardous Substances Ordinance). In the course of this transfer, various new requirements for the regulations were added, which must now be taken into account. In order to be able to offer legal security to those responsible for security in the company, PhoenixTM has strengthened the FIS04 system with an Intrinsically safe data logger to comply with the valid ATEX approvals according to Directive 99/92 / EC (or ATEX 137). It has been certified accordingly and is approved for Ex Zone 2. This is particularly important for wet painting systems, as the paints are outgassed while curing and,

depending on the recipe, can produce explosive gases. Temperature monitoring is and remains an important part of production, in the high temperature sector (steel and aluminium applications), in coating, but also in the ceramic industry and in the food sector. Due to the constantly increasing demands on quality and product safety, but also new market developments, such as the advancing conversion of the automotive industry to electric cars, it is becoming increasingly important to gain safe and precise knowledge of the applications and processes. Process reliability and product quality are not the only important factors. The efficiency of the furnace and the optimization of operating costs and CO<sub>2</sub>(g) emissions are equally important. All of this is directly related to the correct setting of the ovens. The aim of every oven measurement is to balance the energy input and the quality of the products in such a way that the two are optimally balanced. This is exactly what the PhoenixTM temperature measuring systems offer. ○