Media Release

Oerlikon Fairfield Assigned Patent for Development of Electric Wheel Drive

Lafayette, Indiana (USA), Feb. 5, 2013 – Oerlikon Fairfield has been assigned a patent for the development of an integrated spindle-carrier electric wheel drive.

The E01S drive features a 1.2kW AC induction motor, a 26.6:1 compact double planetary gearbox, and a spring applied electrically released brake.

The invention of the E01S drive is in the field of compact electric wheel drive assemblies for light, medium speed vehicles. Its unique and patented feature is the combination of the planetary carrier and wheel spindle to allow for an extremely compact, lightweight package.

The E01S meets the challenge of packaging an electric wheel drive in the same allowable space as a hydraulic wheel drive. The invention allows OEMs to have an electric drive option for their standard vehicle as opposed to completely revamping their machine frame and wheels.

A reduction in the number of parts makes this gearbox lighter and less expensive than other electric drives.

The E01S can be used on vehicles with a GVW of 2,500 pounds or less with speeds around 10 mph. Target applications include turf and lawn care, utility vehicles, floor scrapers, automated guided vehicles (AGVs) and sweepers.
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About Oerlikon
Oerlikon is a leading high-tech industrial group specializing in machine and plant engineering. The company is a provider of innovative industrial solutions and cutting-edge technologies for textile manufacturing, drive, vacuum, thin film, coating and advanced nanotechnology. A Swiss company with a tradition going back more than 100 years, Oerlikon is a global player with more than 17,000 employees at more than 150 locations in 38 countries and sales of CHF 4.2 billion in 2011. The company invested in 2011 CHF 213 million in R&D, with more than 1,200 specialists working on future products and services. In most areas, the operative businesses rank either first or second in their respective global markets.

About Oerlikon Fairfield
Oerlikon Fairfield is a global player in the gear and drive field with more than 90 years of experience. Today the company is focused on providing drive solutions for a wide variety of applications and industries, including agriculture, construction, energy, on- and off-highway, rail/transport and specialty industrial. With worldwide locations in the United States, India and China, Oerlikon Fairfield is well positioned to meet its customer needs for complete driveline systems, as well as single gearing components.