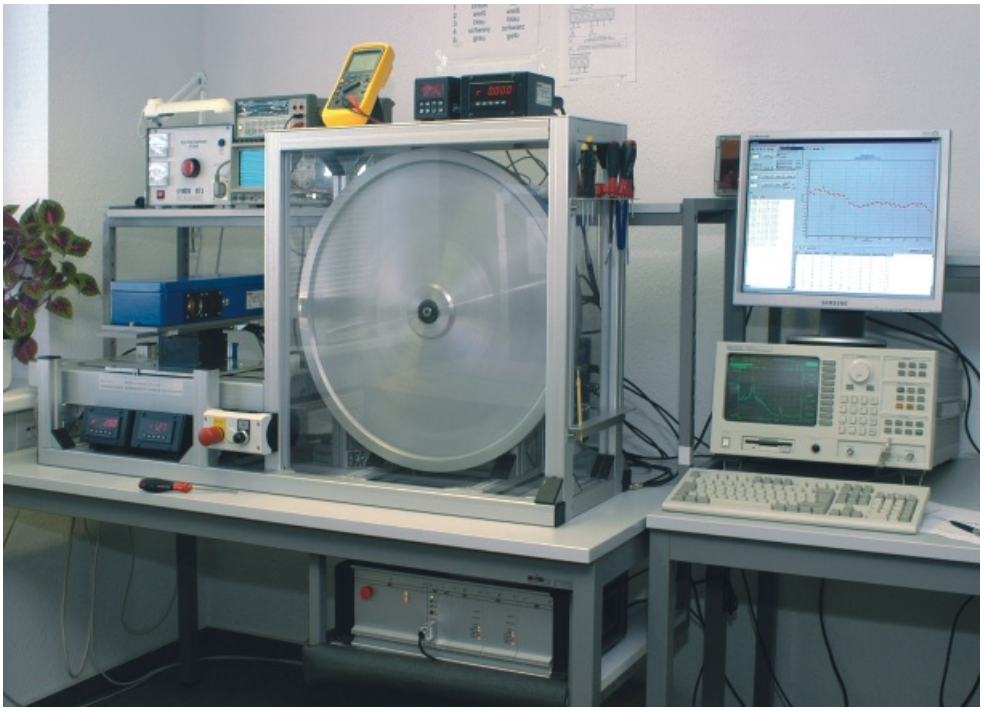
News from ASTECH GmbH

SENSITIVE 1/2005

ASTECH
Angewandte Sensortechnik

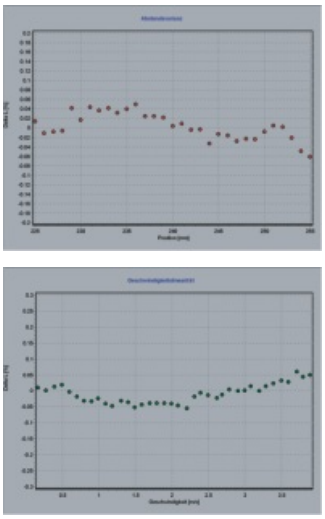
New test stand for the VLM 200 series

In order to further improve the quality standard of the VLM 200 equipment, we have developed a new test stand. More effective operating sequences and a higher level of automation have thus been achieved.



The new test stand for VLM 200 gauges

Each and every piece of equipment belonging to the VLM 200 series is thoroughly tested to ensure its functionality before it is delivered to the client. In addition to the electrical inspection of the inputs and outputs, measurement criteria relevant to practice such as distance and velocity variances are gauged. A 24-hour test proves the long-term stability of the equipment. Calibration of the equipment ensures that the measurements taken from the equipment comply with the real physical values for velocity and length so that the customer can rely on the test readings.



Typical VLM 200 test charts showing velocity variance and distance variance

In November 2004, the then current test stand was replaced by a new testing device. A precision-turned aluminium disc with a circumference of 2 m and an improved tolerance of 0.02% is driven by an asynchronous motor. Its running surface provides the device with the moving surface on which the measurements are made. It can run at speeds of between 0.01 and 50 m/s. The measuring device is run by a linear drive in order to test the distance variance.

A PC with the software VLMTEST, designed especially for the test stand, controls the measuring process.

The measurements can be read-in as pulses or as serial data strings via RS232, RS422 or TCP/IP. A graphic evaluation provides the machine operator with immediate conclusions about the measuring function. The aluminium disc of the test stand, for example, can be balanced using the measurements of a VLM 200 from the S series. In addition to functions for setting the optical instruments and the lighting equipment of the measuring device, various automatic measuring processes can be performed. The high repeat accuracy of the measuring processes improves the quality of the measuring device.

The new test stand has considerably improved production and testing processes and made them more effective. ■

We moved

Since its establishment in 1992, the ASTECH GmbH has been based in the Technologiezentrum (Technology and Research Centre) Warnemünde. As part of the expansion of our production department, we have decided to relocate to the newly-developed "Center für Technologie & Gewerbe" the "CTG" close to the centre of Rostock.
The new company premises are equipped with modern network and telephone technology. The production department now has more space available; the dispatch department and the mechanical workshop are now in separate rooms. The company continues to have its own training room and enjoys additional storage capacity.
The new location allows us to further improve the operative processes and to increase production capacity. This means that we are in a position to react in a faster, more flexible manner to our customers' requirements. Since we were using the telephone system at the Technologie-zentrum and now have our own telephone system, our phone and fax numbers are changing. You can reach us at our new address:

The CTG building the new company headquarters of the ASTECH GmbH

ASTECH GmbH
Schonenfahrer Str. 5
18057 Rostock
Germany

Tel: +49 381/ 44073 -0
FAX: +49 381/ 44073 -20

Our Internet address www.astech.de and our e-mail addresses remain unchanged, as do the mobile telephone numbers. ■

The new LDM series laser distance measuring device

The LDM 41/42 A is an opto-electronic industrial sensor for reflectorless distance measuring. It works contact-free according to the principle of phase comparison measuring (amplitude modulation), and enables the precise measuring of distances. The sensor LDM 41 A is highly accurate as well as being largely independent of the test object.
The red, easily-visible laser beam enables simple alignment. The measured values can be output serially (RS 232 / RS 433) and as a 4-20 mA analogue signal. Profibus DP and further options and accessories are available. The LDM 41 A and the LDM 42 A replace the tried and tested LDM 40 A. The new LDM 41 A is equipped with a rear connecting flange. A preassembled connecting cable is included in the scope of supply.
The LDM.42 A has been designed for fast distance measuring on white surfaces. The LDM 42 A is both mechanically and electrically compatible with the LDM 41 A. It achieves a measuring rate of 50 Hz and is designed for measuring on white surfaces and suitable reflectors.

Typical applications:

- Measurement of distance and position indication
- Monitoring and positioning of cranes and conveyors
- Level measurements
- Sag measurements
- Monitoring of safety-relevant components
- Monitoring of hoisting equipment and hoisting height measurements
- Elevator positioning
- Positioning tasks in automatic transport systems
- Measurement of the diameters of rolls

Further information on the LDM 41/42 is available at www.astech.de ■

ASTECH GmbH
Schonenfahrer Str. 5
18057 Rostock
GERMANY

Phone: +49 381 44073-0
Fax: +49 381 44073-20
e-mail: info@astech.de
Internet: www.astech.de