

Press Release

FAG Top-Laser INLINE – Optimized shaft alignment from a laptop

PC-based shaft alignment system enhances availability of rotating machinery – Greater accuracy thanks to laser-controlled alignment – Simple installation and operation

Herzogenrath, Germany, August 5, 2003 – With the FAG Top-Laser INLINE, FAG Industrial Services GmbH (F'IS) is debuting a PC-based shaft alignment system that enables the availability of rotating machinery such as motors, gearboxes, turbines, fans, etc. to be significantly enhanced. This new system can be used on any modern laptop with a PCMCIA card slot. Thanks to its laser control, the Top-Laser INLINE operates with considerably more accuracy than conventional methods, such as dial gauge and straightedge.

Like the entire F'IS product portfolio, the new shaft alignment system, also, helps to minimize the risk of unexpected shutdowns. The Herzogenrath-based service provider's long years of experience have shown that around 60 percent of all unexpected machine shutdowns result from alignment and balance problems. Laser-controlled alignment aids in reducing vibration and friction losses, and the resulting longer machine operating times contribute to significant productivity gains. At the same time, it is also possible to extend the maintenance intervals for the machinery; in combination with reducing unscheduled shutdowns to a minimum, which leads to considerable cost savings

It couldn't be easier to install the Laser sending and receiving unit and reflector; the sending and receiving unit is connected to the laptop by means of the supplied I/O PCMCIA card. The intuitive user interface of the Top-Laser INLINE software – which includes a toolbar for frequently required functions, for example – also makes the new shaft alignment system very easy to operate. The system is outstandingly suited for employment in combination with the third generation FAG Bearing Analyzer portable vibration analysis unit. If vibration problems that are identified early on are attributable to incorrect shaft alignment, the cause of the problem can be eliminated immediately after the analysis with the aid of the Top-Laser INLINE system.

FAG Industrial Services GmbH (F'IS)

Since the beginning of 2001, FAG Kugelfischer AG & Co. KG, a member of the INA Schaeffler Group, has consolidated its independent service operations at FAG Industrial Services GmbH (F'IS), which is headquartered in the town of Herzogenrath near Aachen. As an independently operating company, F'IS offers vendor-neutral maintenance-related services and service products. This means that F'IS is able to assist its customers in reducing maintenance costs, optimizing plant availability and avoiding unexpected plant shutdowns.

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