

About Altra Industrial Motion

Altra Industrial Motion (NASDAQ:AMIC) is a leading multi-national designer, producer and marketer of a wide range of electromechanical power transmission products. The company brings together strong brands covering over 40 product lines with production facilities in nine countries.

Altra's leading brands include Boston Gear, Warner Electric, TB Wood's, Formsprag Clutch, Wichita Clutch, Industrial Clutch, Ameridrives Couplings, Kilian Manufacturing, Marland Clutch, Nuttall Gear, Stieber Clutch, Twiflex Limited, Bibby Transmissions, Matrix International, Inertia Dynamics, Huco-Dynatork, Ameridrives Power Transmission, Delroyd Worm Gear and Warner Linear. For information on any of these technology leaders, visit www.AltraMotion.com or call 815-389-3771.

Warner Electric

Boston Gear

TB Wood's

Formsprag Clutch

Wichita Clutch

Marland Clutch

Industrial Clutch

Nuttall Gear

Warner Linear

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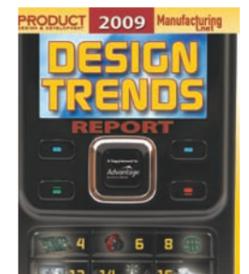
Kilian Manufacturing

Ameridrives Power
Transmission

Braking Trends



As seen in
**Product Design & Development
eNewsletter**
Design Trends Report 2009



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Braking Trends

Designers are looking for anything that gives their equipment greater capabilities or more flexibility to fit a wider range of applications.

As component suppliers and designers of power transmission components, companies within the Altra Industrial Motion family are uniquely positioned — we're standing on both sides of the industrial product design fence. In fact, we often get a third view. We're designers too, working closely with our OEM customers, but also with end-users to often find solutions to applications the machine designer may not have envisioned.

Designers Are Looking For...

This varies from one market to the next, but as a generalization, designers looking at power transmission components are seeking characteristics such as:

- Greater torque.
- Greater power.
- New materials with longer service life or greater reliability.
- Energy savings.
- Greater ease of use for the end user.
- Designs that make maintenance easier and faster.
- Interchangeable parts (for repair or replacement).
- Standardized mounting or fastening systems.
- Simplified designs with fewer parts.
- Components that can withstand harsh environments.

Designers are looking for anything that gives their equipment greater capabilities or more flexibility to fit a wider range of applications. Plus, anything you can do to make your components more robust, which in turn makes their equipment more robust, will reduce their customer service issues.



TB Wood's Dura-Flex couplings employ a light-weight element that absorbs shock loading and torsional vibration. A specially formulated elastomeric material offers superior chemical, dynamic, and weathering properties.

Warner Electric Magnetic Capping Headsets feature smooth torque technology that eliminates over-tightening of bottle caps.



Products Making Headway...

At Warner Electric, we recently modified the ERS series of electrically-released, spring-engaged brakes to serve as pitch brakes for wind turbine applications that require both "static" holding power and the ability to withstand high inertia dynamic stops in an emergency situation. The electromagnetic brake is mounted outboard of an inductive encoder which is mounted to the back of a motor to position the blades to the proper pitch. In normal use, the brake functions as a static brake to hold the blades from rotating in a power-off situation, during routine maintenance or for other reasons.

The largest brake in the Warner Electric ERS series, the 11.3-pound ERS 68, has been tested to a capacity of more than 20,000 fully-loaded dynamic stops, surpassing the design spec by a factor of 20.

The ERS 68 brake offers:

- 100 ft. lbs. of static torque.
- A maximum of 2,000 RPM.
- A brake release time of 0.2 sec.
- A one-piece design.
- Full enclosure.
- Painted to withstand extreme environmental conditions.

Previous to the new design, pitch brake models have utilized two-piece designs that require an adapter plate, extra fasteners and an external boot-type seal in the gap between the brake and the adapter plate to prevent contamination.

Warner Electric is also expanding its installations of smooth torque capping headsets in the bottling industry. The magnetic headsets provide constant torque, which eliminates the over-tightened caps that result from pulsating torque headsets. Bottlers report that over-tightened caps is the #1 problem for them, and those with the new headsets are seeing major reductions in the variation of removal torque. The magnetic headsets also generate less shock in the system compared to pulsating torque headsets, enabling longer life of machine components, especially retention knives.

From Boston Gear...

The new stainless steel 700 series speed reducer offers advantages for poultry, meat and beverage processing and packaging applications requiring equipment that can withstand the rigors of frequent caustic washdowns.

- The housings, motor flange, and carrier are crafted from 316SS to endure tough, caustic washdowns.

- The integral input worm and shaft are made from high-strength, case-hardened alloy steel for long-lasting performance.
- The rounded housing design, plastic hardware covers, and two-piece mounting base prevent particle accumulation or fluid pooling on or under the unit.
- The two-piece mounting base has the same footprint of the standard 700 Series for easy replacement.
- The large internal oil reservoir is filled with H1 food-grade lubricant Klubersynth UH1 6-460 and sealed for life.

From Wichita Clutch...

To improve the corrosion resistance of marine-duty offshore oil platform winch brakes and to provide the power to control larger anchoring systems being installed today, Wichita Clutch has redesigned its Kopper Kool series of heavy duty clutches and brakes. In 2008 Wichita introduced the new AquaMaKKs series with top-of-the-line, marine-grade components and engineered designs that have advanced the state-of-the-art in this series of clutches and brakes which are also used in heavy-duty mining applications, in logging and forestry, and in water treatment/wastewater industry. The most critical components in heavy duty offshore platform winch brakes are those that cool the units during operation when friction discs are actuated to provide tension control to the winch cable. The units transmit torque by applying axial force from the pneumatic, hydraulic or spring-set actuator that provides accurate torque control for constant tensioning.

The friction discs are alternated with copper plate water jackets that absorb heat using a closed-loop water circulation system. Previously constructed from cast iron, the AquaMaKKs water jackets are the first in the industry to be constructed from non-metallic, composite material — an idea borrowed from aerospace — that offers the best corrosion resistance available on a winch brake.

The AquaMaKKs offers additional capacity that is needed to meet the more stringent requirements of the larger anchoring systems being installed in the Gulf and other parts of the world.

The design of the new series of clutches and brakes was a collaborative effort between engineers from Wichita Clutch (Wichita Falls, TX), Wichita UK (Bedford, England) and Industrial Clutch (Waukesha, WI).

Using full 3-D solid modeling and Finite Element Analysis (FEA), the engineering team worked to maximize the heat dissipation and torque capacities of the units, provide superior corrosion protection and reduce the component count as well as the weight of the units.

From Warner Linear...

Warner Linear recently optimized its K2x rugged-duty electric actuators for two new customer applications requiring capabilities to withstand harsh environmental conditions.



The Boston Gear 700 Series Stainless Steel Speed Reducer.

The Warner Linear K2x Electric Linear Actuator offers rugged-duty capabilities with available engineered modifications.

To meet the demanding requirements of the construction industry, Warner Linear engineered a new, two-way clutch that allows the K2x to raise the dump box on construction-rated ATVs with a 2,700 lb. load capacity and lower the empty box at a load capacity of only 200 lbs. The two-way clutch helps prevent damage to the framework of an empty dump box while lowering the box. Warner Linear also designed a bi-directional current limit control called a Quick Stop as an optional safety device on its K2x actuators for ATV dump box applications. The Quick Stop:

- Sets a limit on the amp draw of the actuator to shut off the motion when the amp draw reaches a pre-set limit.
- A control that immediately stops the motion of the dump box based on a spike in the amp draw.

In The Future

Energy efficiency is an important initiative in nearly every market sector and nearly every component or equipment designer has this in mind when they're contemplating new products or product enhancements. By engineering products and power transmission processes focused on energy savings, we and others are helping customers run production lines and operations with less energy, at lower cost per output, and often at faster speeds. This isn't just an environmental initiative — it's a serious cost-saving opportunity for end-users and an opportunity to gain competitive advantage and market share for OEMs.

Advanced materials are also playing an important role in product design today, and will continue in the immediate and distant future.

Green industry and alternative energy applications will grow in the coming years. We're currently testing with one of the world's largest manufacturers of wind turbines to supply pitch brakes that offer superior service life which is important to reduce maintenance on these turbines.

Another alternative energy development is in harvesting the energy of tidal power. These kinds of innovative projects will grow and will need the expertise of power transmission engineers who have long years of experience and the ability to adapt products to meet new demands.