

PoF — Offering More Than Just Your Standard Photoeyes

PhotoFoc's long nearly appointed own fitting of color, color and low-brightness objects. Whether you are trying to detect irregularly shaped or irregularly colored or having a clear view of objects, we have the products to solve your most demanding applications.

Technical Features

- Single-line and multi-line (point) detection and position sensing
- High resolution (up to 100 µm)
- Long range (up to 10m)
- Large field of view (up to 180°)
- Multiple ports for line and point detection and position sensing
- Analog and digital outputs



Low-brightness Sensors

- Detect invisible markings on irregular surfaces
- Detect markings of color, band of glass, fluorescent chalk and ink
- Analog output for mark detection
- Rugged metal IP67 housing



Color Sensors

- Identify various color markings for sorting, palletizing and quality control
- Long range (up to 10m)
- Long-life white light source
- Knight riding, pulse width modulation
- High resolution (up to 100 µm)



For more complete information on PhotoFoc's sensors, visit our website at www.foc.com

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NEWS

WHERE'S THE PROBLEM? New controls make palletizer simple to debug

A noteworthy aspect of a new pallet-building cell is that it lets plant personnel easily iron out software problems. One reason: On the production floor, it responds to a simple contact language. This thanks to the use of an SMLC (ServoWire Motion and Logic Controller) from **Ormec Systems Corp.**, Rochester, N.Y. (www.ormec.com).

The GPI is a single-position gantry typically used as a pallet-build or depalletizing station. Designed by **Automated Motion Inc.**, Edgewood, Md. (www.automated-motion.com), it handles cases, cans, trays, or similar containers. Users include drug companies such as Abbott Labs.

It is the first palletizing device to incorporate the new Ormec controller, say developers at AMI. The SMLC employs off-the-shelf components to keep hardware costs in line and uses a real-time operating system to manage tasks. It simpli-

The scalable gantry palletizing/depalletizing system from Automated Motion Inc. can be configured to palletize up to 10 pallets simultaneously. An Ormec SMLC (inset) handles motion-control tasks. The system also uses a special vacuum-gripping end effector that can grip products without making a seal over the entire surface of its platen. That lets one gripper handle a variety of products, carton, case, or can sizes and shapes.



fies installations, says Ormec, by eliminating PC-based motion-control boards and proprietary motion-control languages. The controller uses IEC 61131-3 programming for motion and I/O control. (OEMs can also program it in either Visual Basic or C/C++.) It also handles industrial I/O and up to 16 servos directly from a PC using a standard IEEE-1394 (FireWire) network.

— Leland Teschler

For more information on Ormec Systems Corp., Circle 415
 For more information on Automated Motion Inc., Circle 416