



Rough, Tough Stainless-Steel SICK Sensors Thrive in the Harshest Environments

WITH the release of Inox versions of its **GR6** rectangular and **GR18** cylindrical sensors, SICK has delivered rough, tough, high-availability photoelectric performers for detection duties in harsh environments such as chemical washdown or the presence of aggressive oils, lubricants and dust.

Designed for universal compatibility and easy installation in industrial machines, the SICK GR6 Inox and GR18 photoelectric sensors are ECOLAB-certified and feature corrosion-resistant V4A (316L) stainless steel housings rated up to IP69K, combined with specialist screen coatings and seals that ensure high resistance to corrosive chemicals.

While the GR6 Inox is no bigger than a sugar cube, the GR18 Inox offers standard M18 thread-mounting, so the sensors together present versatile options for through-beam, retro-reflective or proximity sensing duties. Their precision PinPoint red light or infra-red LED light spot options combine with intelligent signal evaluation that is immune to interference from ambient light, dirt, moisture, and electromagnetic fields. So, the sensors reassure with reliable switching, high levels of availability and a long service life.

Says David Hannaby, SICK's UK product manager for presence detection:

"For tough applications such as machine tool operation, materials handling and some assembly processes, plastic sensors offer limited durability and need frequent maintenance. In aggressive washdown environments, especially in food processing and pharmaceutical machinery, sensors not only need to cope with acid or alkali chemical cleaning regimes, but the effects of rapid temperature changes during washdown, causing pressure differences that suck moisture into inferior devices.

"For too many operators, the temptation to choose lower-grade plastic sensors in the pursuit of economy has often meant sacrificing reliability and putting up with frequent device changes and downtime.

“Now the release of cost-effective Inox versions of our GR6 and GR18 photoelectric sensors has made available a range of rugged, hard-working sensors that can withstand aggressive oils, lubricants and dusty atmospheres as well as ambient temperatures between -25°C and +55°C.”

The versatile SICK GR6 Inox and GR18 Inox offer complementary choices for electrical connectivity, reflectors and mounting solutions specifically-designed for use in challenging environments and washdown conditions. The sensors can also be easily identified after years of use because their product name is laser-etched into the housing surface. Set-up and adjustment is easy with a user-friendly potentiometer and highly-visible indicator LEDs.

THE **SICK GR6 Inox** product family comprises over 40 variants, so that almost any object, no matter the surface texture or colour, can be detected under the harshest of conditions. Easy mounting is assured with M3 threaded mounting holes.

The standardised M18 cylindrical design of the **SICK GR18 Inox** comes in a standard length and a space-saving shorter version with both M12 male connector and 2 m cable variants, together with quick and space-saving mounting in either in a through-hole or using a mounting bracket.

For more information about the SICK GR6 Inox or SICK GR18 Inox, please contact Andrea Hornby on 01727 831121 or email andrea.hornby@sick.co.uk.

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