

## Bi-parting drive reduces cost of conveyor centering

Festo has introduced an electric bi-parting drive that provides a highly cost-effective and adaptable means of securing simultaneous movement of two carriages in opposite directions on the same linear axis.

ELGG drives have a pair of bearing guides supporting two identical carriages, driven by a toothed belt attached to the top of one carriage and the bottom of the other. This arrangement causes the carriages to move simultaneously away from or toward the centre line of the axis.

Typical applications include centering items on a conveyor system, opening and closing safety doors on processing machines and large-format gripping equipment.

A choice of 35, 45 and 55 mm wide profiles are offered with maximum standard stroke lengths per carriage of 400, 500 and 750 mm respectively.

Longer stroke lengths are available to order. The moving carriages can be equipped with sliding bushings or with recirculating ball bearing guides for higher speeds and loads.

Depending on configuration, all models are capable of speeds as high as 3 metres/second and can provide repeatable positioning accuracies to within  $\pm 100$  microns. They also have a very long in-service life.

The feed force available from bi-parting drives is averaged between the two carriages.

This means that if one carriage is subject to zero load, for example when centering an item on a conveyor system, the other carriage can provide the full feed force, making this a very cost-effective form of actuator for this type of application.

**Festo**

T: 01252 775000  
www.festo.com

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## Robot palletiser provides flexibility



**Problem:** Feed manufacturer ABN required an automatic palletiser for installation on an existing game feed bagging line, working within a restricted installation space and to precise budgetary requirements at its Damside Mill in Fife, Scotland.

**Solution:** Chronos BTH supplied an ex-demonstration robot palletiser. During the pre-installation phase machine trials were completed at the Chronos BTH manufacturing plant to ensure the smoothest possible on-site installation and commissioning.

The robot palletiser is housed in a separate part of the mill to the bagging line. Filled bags are conveyed and turned via an integrated conveying system that connects the two systems. Game feed is packed on a seasonal basis.

The flexibility of the robot palletiser allows ABN to accurately palletise other products as and when production demands require.

**Chronos BTH** T: 0115 9351351 www.chronosbth.com

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FOCUSED FLOW MEASUREMENT

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Thermate!® Enhanced Model TA2 measures direct mass flow without the need for pressure or temperature compensation. This is a "plug and play" device as it can be pre-calibrated for 1 or 2 gasses or 2 ranges and configured for your specific application.

