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RFID and IT

- Lamerholm Launches ShockWatch EquipManager for Fleet Management and Monitoring



The new ShockWatch EquipManager from Lamerholm Electronics is a fleet management and monitoring system that wirelessly monitors usage, controls vehicle access and ensures safety compliance to increase productivity and reduce costs. The RF based system, primarily for forklift trucks, has been designed to capture equipment operation and user data that can be used to monitor damage to facilities, equipment and products. It is also a vital tool to improve efficiency and lower maintenance costs. This new product complements Lamerholm's existing range of ShockWatch equipment monitors for improving forklift safety and therefore saving money throughout the materials handling industry. This comprehensive range of products will be on show on stand 19J162 at IMHX in March 2007.

ShockWatch EquipManager has been designed with a display that is mounted on the dashboard of the truck. Through this display, users have the ability to programme an interactive safety check, without which the forklift truck cannot be used. This safety check is a unique feature and helps companies comply with Health and Safety procedures. The process comprises a series of Yes/No questions and the system can be programmed to enable operators to input details such as tyre and pressures. A delay is incorporated to allow the checks to be made.

This new device features real-time impact detection and recording through a patented, user adjustable sensor. A messaging system has also been incorporated and designated people or trucks can receive e-mail notification when the operating parameters have been exceeded.

The versatility of the system means that fleet managers can select which parameters are to be monitored. These can include speed, weight of load, number of lifts, running time, in fact up to 10 parameters that will improve the efficiency of the trucks and therefore lower maintenance costs. Specialist engineers at Lamerholm will be able to advise and train customers on how to use the system or can provide a fully programmed system depending on customer requirements.

Unlike other systems on the market, ShockWatch EquipManager can also provide general positional information on where trucks are located in the factory. This option conforms completely to the 802.11 standard, without the need for modification.

Vehicle access can be controlled via a number of different

options including iButtons, barcodes and HID proximity cards. This means that only fully-trained personnel can use the equipment and also increases operator accountability, awareness and performance as well as reducing injuries and associated compensation claims.

The software, running on Windows NT, 2000 and XP, provides users with the ability to analyse all the data and pinpoint problems or areas for improvement. This will help to ensure that the fleet is

being used and serviced in the most efficient way possible, saving companies both time and money. Wireless collection of data also eliminates time spent manually retrieving and inputting the information, which, in the new system, can be analysed locally or via LAN, WAN or over the internet.

Lamerholm Electronics Ltd has its headquarters in Letchworth, Hertfordshire. The company designs, manufactures and markets a wide range of damage prevention and industrial safety products. Worldwide distribution is carried out through a national sales force and a network of strategic partners and resellers.

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