Are you in the market for Molten Metal Level Control?

*Look no further; all our sensors are LASER CLASS II!*

PreciMeter has developed a line of level control systems based on our patented CCD Laser Sensor Technology, for applications in your troughs, launders, molds and head-boxes.

1 Systems

PreciMeter has developed level control systems for automating the casting process aluminum foundries.

In direct chilled molds, the system consists of a laser sensor and a pin-positioner for each mold plus the PLC control system.

The PreciMeter level control system for trough and launder applications consists of a laser sensor at each control position.

In tap-out applications the typical system configuration consists of a laser sensor, a PreciMeter tap-out pin-positioner and PLC controller.

The PreciMeter level control system can be integrated into most PLC or process control systems. The process control system, however, must be capable of performing PID functions at a loop frequency of 10-25 Hz.
1.1 Level control for Mold and Head-box applications

Typically in this application, the laser sensor’s analog output, 4-20 mA, is connected to the process control system’s analog input. The process control system controls the laser diode’s on/off power through a digital output signal to the laser sensor.

The laser sensor has a digital output signal that tells the process control system that a measurement is taken place. The laser sensor also has a temperature sensor that gives an analog signal for temperature supervision. The Pin-Positioner’s controller has an analog input (4-20 mA) to control pin position, which is operated by the plant’s PLC or a process control system through one of its analog outputs. The pin-positioner also has digital inputs that drive the pin to a normally closed or full opened position when activated. This feature is used for calibrate of the pin position to either closed or opened.

1.2 Level control for Trough and Launder applications

Typically in this application, the laser sensor’s analog output, 4-20 mA, is connected to the process control system’s analog input. The process control system controls the laser diode’s on/off power through a digital output signal to the laser sensor.

The laser sensor has a digital output signal that tells the process control system that the measurement is taken place. The laser sensor also has a temperature sensor with a 4-20mA output that should be connected to an analog input on the process control system for supervision of the laser sensors operating temperature. The Pin-Positioner’s controller has an analog input (4-20 mA) to control pin position, which is operated by the plant’s PLC or a process control system through one of its analog outputs.

In a tap-out application, the level is controlled in the same fashion as for a mold level control system, either using a Tap-out actuator or by providing the signal for tilt-control of the furnace.

1.3 Furnace Level Control

In furnace applications it is important to be able to accurately determine the level in the furnace for metallurgical control and to avoid over or under-filling of the furnace.

1.4 Options

PreciMeter ProH sensors can be delivered with a PI-controller designed into the sensor itself or with customer specific functions.

1.5 Scope of supply

PreciMeter supplies the mechanical and electrical drawings as well as block-function and basic information for programming the control system. PreciMeter does not normally supply the control system since most of the plants already have an existing process control system. PreciMeter can, as an option, design, program and deliver process control systems.
2 System descriptions

2.1 Laser Sensor, PreciMeter®ProH

Sensor operation:

PreciMeter®Pro is a line of laser-based displacement sensors featuring advanced triangulation technology in a compact housing. The sensors have built-in signal processing that eliminates the need for external controllers and allows direct connection to PLC’s, PC’s or other equipment via standardized interfaces. The visible red laser simplifies installation and alignment. It is Laser Class II and operates at a low output power, which does not require additional safety measures in the industrial environment.

The CCD-based image detector provides a high degree impervious to stray light and secondary reflections. PreciMeter’s patented technology combines the advantages of the digital image detector with advanced modulation of the laser. This enables measurement on a wide range of surfaces of varying reflectivity and colors without need for recalibration.
2.2 Mold, Head-box, Trough and Launder level control

Typically one laser sensor, model ProH CD700R300-HPS, per launder is used. The laser sensor is mounted in a protective shield and is ready to be installed 700 mm (27.6") above and a little bit outside the trough or launder in order to minimize the need of cooling air. The laser sensor measures the level of molten metal within the measurement range of zero to 300 mm (12") at a distance of 700 mm (27.6") from the sensor. For cooling purposes dry and oil-free compressed air at a minimum pressure of 30 PSI and no warmer than 35°C (approx.100°F) should be used – warmer cooling air can be chilled by a Vortex cooler or similar. In the case of very high ambient temperatures, a water-cooled version of the protection shield can be supplied.

2.3 Holding Furnace level control.

The ProH CD800R1500-HPS has been developed for areas where a large measurement range in combination with a large clearance distance is important. The distance from the front of the laser to the point furthest out in the measurement range is 2300 mm (90.5”).

Furnace sensors can be supplied with special air lock chambers heat protection. As an option the sensor can be delivered with a water-cooling jacket, WCJ for hot environments.

2.4 Pin-positioner, PXP2000-2-E

A special motor controls the Pin-positioner. The position can be adjusted from 0-50 mm (0-2”). The pin-positioner is equipped with a spring-loaded air cylinder for emergency closure of the pin.

2.5 Tap-out actuator, TXP-6-E

The metal tap-out actuator TXP6-E is mounted to the furnace with a steel bracket. The steel bracket is hinged to allow the actuator to be swung out of the way between casts or during maintenance. The actuator is mounted with an offset of 350mm (13.5") from tap-out hole to minimize the effects of heat radiation from the molten metal.
3 Specifications

3.1 Laser Sensor, ProH CD240R325-HPS, Class II and ProH CD250R500-HPS, Class II

The laser sensor is mounted in an air-purged stainless steel protective shield for applications where molten metal is measured. The protection shield is mounted either by using bolts or welding it to a fixture.

The laser sensor comes equipped with a flexible stainless steel hose for cable protection and air-purge supply.

At the end of the cable is a industrial grade 16-pin Harting connector.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CD200R200-HPS</th>
<th>CD240R325-HPS</th>
<th>CD250R500-HPS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Part number Side outlet</td>
<td>84013</td>
<td>84005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part number Top outlet</td>
<td>85013</td>
<td>85005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clearance distance (CD):</td>
<td>200mm (7.8&quot;)</td>
<td>240mm (9.4&quot;)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Measurement range (R):</td>
<td>200mm (7.8&quot;)</td>
<td>325 mm(12.8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Analog output:</td>
<td>4-20 mA (optional 0-20 mA or 0-10 V DC)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication:</td>
<td>RS 232</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Digital input:</td>
<td>Laser On/Off</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Digital output:</td>
<td>Ready!</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temperature Output:</td>
<td>4-20 mA (optional 0-20 mA or 0-10 V DC)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Power requirements</td>
<td>18-32 V DC, &lt;1.0 A</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3.2 Laser Sensor, ProH CD700R300-HPS, Class II and ProH CD900R500-HPS, Class II

The laser sensor is mounted in an air purged stainless steel protection shield for applications measuring molten metal. Means of mounting the protection shield is either by using bolts or welding it to a fixture. The laser sensor comes equipped with a flexible stainless steel hose, for cable protection and air-purge supply, and a cable. At the end of the cable is an industrial grade 16-pin connector by Harting.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>CD700R300-HPS</th>
<th>CD900R500-HPS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Part number Side outlet</td>
<td>84002</td>
<td>84009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part number Top outlet</td>
<td>85002</td>
<td>85009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clearance distance (CD):</td>
<td>700 mm (28&quot;)</td>
<td>900 mm (35.4&quot;)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Measurement range (R):</td>
<td>0-300 mm (12&quot;)</td>
<td>0-500 mm (19.7&quot;)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Analog output:</td>
<td>4-20 mA (optional 0-20 mA or 0-10 V DC)</td>
<td>4-20 mA (optional 0-20 mA or 0-10 V DC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication:</td>
<td>RS 232</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Digital input:</td>
<td>Laser On/Off</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Digital output:</td>
<td>Ready !</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temperature Output:</td>
<td>4-20 mA (optional 0-20 mA or 0-10 V DC)</td>
<td>4-20 mA (optional 0-20 mA or 0-10 V DC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Power requirements</td>
<td>18-32 V DC, &lt;1.0 A</td>
<td>18-32 V DC, &lt;1.0 A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3.3 Laser Sensor, ProH CD800R1500-HPS, Class II

The laser sensor is mounted in an air purged stainless steel protection shield for applications measuring molten metal. Means of mounting the protection shield is either by using bolts or welding it to a fixture.
The laser sensor comes equipped with a flexible stainless steel hose, for cable protection and air-purge supply, and a cable.
At the end of the cable is an industrial grade 16-pin connector by Harting.
These sensors have been developed for areas where a large measurement range in combination with a large clearance distance is important.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CD800R1500-HPS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Part number Side outlet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part number Top outlet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part number WCJ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clearance distance (CD):</td>
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<tr>
<td>Measurement range (R):</td>
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<td>Analog output:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Communication:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Digital input:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Digital output:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temperature Output:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Power requirements</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3.4 **Pin-Positioner , PXP2000-2-E**

The Pin-Positioner consists of an electrically actuated motor operating an indexing unit. It is also equipped with an air cylinder with a spring return is used for emergency closing (or opening) of the pin. The Pin-positioner also has an inbuilt 4-20mA device for position feedback and a magnetic limit switch mounted on the air cylinder to indicate spring loaded.

The Pin-Positioner is connected to the control unit with a 2-meter (78.7”) cable. The cable has a 10-pin connector and is protected by a flexible metal hose.

Power requirement: 24 V DC, 1.2 A per unit.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specification</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Part number</td>
<td>86011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stroke</td>
<td>50 mm (2”)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type of motor</td>
<td>Stepper motor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergency operation</td>
<td>Spring-back spring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dimensions</td>
<td>450 x 188 mm (17.7” x 7.4”)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weight (without cables)</td>
<td>9.7 Kg (21.6 lbs)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Analog input</td>
<td>4-20mA (optional 0-10 V DC or 0-20 mA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Power requirement</td>
<td>18-32 V DC, 1.2 A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing</td>
<td>Stainless steel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Air pressure spring-back spring</td>
<td>min 57 psi, max 86 psi</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3.5 Metal Tap-out actuators

Metal Tap-out Actuator, TXP-6-E
Designed for accurate flow control from gravity furnaces with a capacity of less than 45 metric ton

- Part number: 86003
- Dimensions: 630 x 255 x 112mm (24.8 x 10 x 4.4”)
- Weight (less mounting bracket): 22 Kg (48 lb)
- Closing force: 800 Nm (600lbs/ft)
- Stroke: 150 mm (5.9”) (longer stroke available)
- Power requirement: 24 V DC +/- 20%, 4 amps.
- Positioning: stepper motor 10A
- Interface: 24 V DC Digital I/O
- Position control signal level: Voltage or Current
4 Documentation

User manuals and spare parts lists are provided in English.

4.1 Drawings

Electrical: - recommendation of type of cable, cable routing and selection of external equipment when needed.
Mechanical: - recommendation of mounting surfaces, protection plates and external equipment when needed.
Air: - recommendation of emergency stops, surge tank and air supply.
Programming: - block diagrams, programming recommendations.

5 Programs, project meeting and commissioning

This does not include travel expenses, which will be added. Additional time is billed at standard rates.
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