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Reading barcodes in hazardous areas

New intrinsically safe barcode reader from Pepperl+Fuchs

The PScan-D, a high-performance barcode reader for hazardous areas, is now available. It replaces the Ex-Dragon-D101. PScan-D is the cabled version in the new PowerScan product line. This barcode reader has been improved to be more robust, and thanks to its patented technology is able to read poorly printed or damaged labels.

PScan-D can be used in Zone 1 and Zone 22 hazardous areas. Typical applications include data acquisition and logistics applications in hazardous areas. The main area of improvement is the housing. The robust design with recessed display and protected scanner window guarantees that the device will function even after a fall from a height of two meters. The newly designed aiming function allows precision scanning of barcodes positioned close together at the maximum reading distance. The barcode reader does this by projecting a point of light onto the code it is about to read. The read command is then issued. If the code is read successfully, it is confirmed by two more LEDs located on the top and the rear of the cover. There is also an audible acknowledgement.

The PScan-D can read all commonly used barcodes from a distance up to 1100 mm. The data is processed by an integrated decoder and transmitted to the host system. Using a cable with a maximum length of 150 meters allows PowerScan to be connected directly to a host computer located in the safe zone. Alternatively, it can be used in conjunction with TERMEX operator panel or VisuNet or iPC-Ex operator workstations from Pepperl+Fuchs.

The product is configured by scanning in system barcodes. The PScan-D conforms to ignition protection class ib and has a housing with a protection rating of IP65.

Key words: PowerScan, PScan-D, ignition protection class ib, barcode, barcode reader, logistics, operating data acquisition, IP 65, zone 1, zone 22, category II 2G 3D, Ex-Dragon-D101

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Fig. 1: PScan-D acquires operating data, even in hazardous areas