



Sensors allow mineral water bottler to meet hygiene needs

Ensinger Mineral-Heilquellen GmbH in the Esingen area near Stuttgart, Germany has chosen Leuze electronic's 55 series stainless steel opto-electronic sensors in its glass bottle line to meet its hygiene requirements in wet areas.

The region around Ensingen overlies two different sources of mineral water, which enables the mineral water bottler to draw from several different mineral water wells. One of the mineral water springs is within the company's grounds.

In addition to bottled mineral water, the spring water is also used in popular, low-calorie sport drinks and juice spritzers.

To serve this demand the company has two PET bottling plants and one glass bottling plant, serving southern Germany.

Quality assurance and quality control is of prime importance to Ensinger, with the company's analytic laboratory examining each and every production batch.

Special care is also given to the hygienic design of the bottling plants, as well as the normal demands for high efficiency and availability. These hygiene requirements in the wet areas, led Ensinger to select Leuze electronic's 55 series stainless-steel opto-electronic

sensors in its glass bottle line. The used bottles, which are reused up to 50 times, are intensively cleaned and sanitised before being discharged via a conveyor belt through a bottle inspection system.

The Leuze sensors are mounted on this conveyor belt and being retro-reflective can detect a wide range of bottle types, ensuring economical control of the bottle transport system.

The glass bottle line has a capacity of up to 45,000 bottles per hour, with the machines, the conveyor belts and the sensors subjected to intense cleaning and disinfection. In order to withstand the aggressive cleaning agents and long application times, the sensors are made of a high-quality V4A stainless steel (316L). The optics and operational controls are developed from non-diffusive and chemically resistant materials. In addition to protection classes IP67 and IP69K as well as the ECOLAB certification, the 55 series also satisfies the CleanProof+ standard defined by Leuze electronic.

A video about 55 series sensors is available on the new video section of the Leuze electronic website.

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