



"At the Heart of What Drives Your World"

NEWS RELEASE

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MARATHON ELECTRIC INTRODUCES NEW SHAFT GROUNDING RING TECHNOLOGY FOR INVERTER DRIVEN MOTORS

September 25, 2009 (Wausau, WI): Marathon Electric, innovators of energy efficient motor technology for the long run, has introduced the latest innovation in inverter-driven motor technology with a field installable Shaft Grounding Ring (SGR) accessory for industrial, commercial and HVAC/R motors. This option is especially suited for Marathon's Blue Max[®], Black Max[®], Micro Max[®] and NEMA Premium XRI[®] models.

Adding the SGR accessory to motors driven by variable frequency drives (VFDs) ensures the enhanced performance delivered with VFD technology. While VFDs can reduce energy costs by 30% or more, they also induce harmful currents on the shafts of the motors they control. Without effective shaft grounding, these currents may damage motor bearings, leading to noise, vibration, costly downtime, and premature motor failures that can negate the energy savings from using the VFD with the motor.

"As leaders in VFD systems using our MAX motor family, Marathon continues to search for solutions to not only make these systems more energy efficient, but more sustainable" said Rick Munz, Product Manager of Marathon Electric. He added, "The energy efficiency achieved by system improvements must be sustainable in order to be a truly 'green' solution."

AEGIS Shaft Grounding Ring[™] technology was developed by Electro Static Technology, a division of Illinois Tool Works (NYSE: ITW) to improve reliability of inverter driven motors such as those manufactured by Marathon Electric. The new technology has been successful in over 150,000 inverter driven applications in commercial HVAC, pump, industrial processes and countless other applications.

"We are impressed with Marathon Electric's innovative approach for this new option," said Adam Willwerth, Sales and Marketing Manager at Electro Static Technology. "We look forward to supporting Marathon and their customers with the shaft grounding ring."

The SGR can be added to the build up of over 90% of Marathon Electric motors during the assembly or it may be added through the Mod Central. These kits are designed to be a retro fit for all Marathon Electric NEMA T or TS shafts on non-flanged motors. They are easily installed and unlike conventional grounding brushes, are maintenance free with virtually no friction or wear for the service life of the motor.

Electro Static Technology is the global leader in the elimination and/or mitigation of induced electrical charges on rotating and moving surfaces. Electro Static Technology manufactures the patented technology AEGIS SGR™ shaft-grounding ring for the electric motors and generators and is a division of Illinois Tool Works (ITW), a \$16 billion diversified manufacturing company with operations in 44 countries.

Marathon Electric, RBC Manufacturing Corporation is a wholly owned subsidiary of Regal Beloit Corporation. Marathon Electric Motors delivers efficient mechanical power solutions using AC electric motors up to 1250 HP.

Regal Beloit Corporation (NYSE: [RBC](#)) is a leading manufacturer of mechanical and electrical motion control and power generation products serving markets throughout the world. Regal Beloit Corporation is headquartered in Beloit, Wisconsin, and has manufacturing, sales, and service facilities throughout United States, Canada, Mexico, Europe and Asia.

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