

The Engineer's Guide to New Products and Design Ideas

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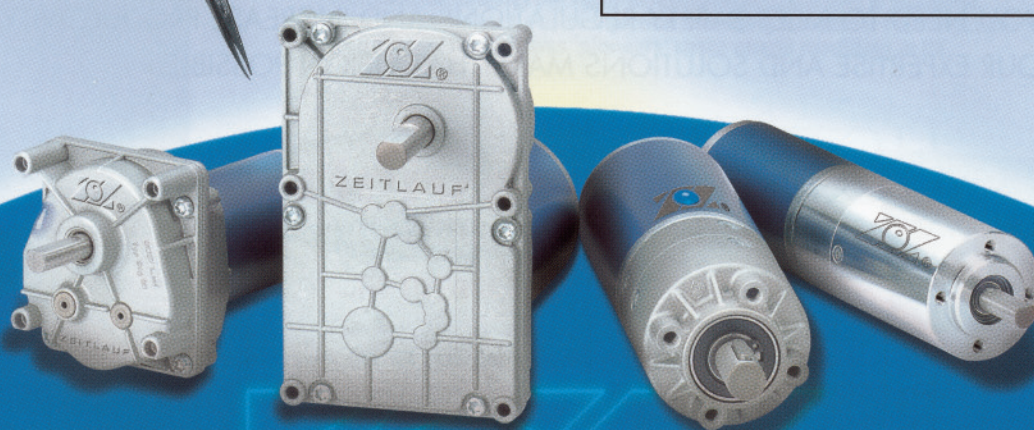
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Introducing Zeitlauf - a new name on the UK scene for motor gear-heads

Zeitlauf, based in the Bavarian town of Lauf, has been manufacturing high-performance motor speed reduction gearboxes for some 50 years.

Now, this 175-strong German company has established a UK based subsidiary at Milton Keynes under the leadership of Chris Robinson, and is poised to promote its range of planetary and spur gearboxes, as well as its extensive customisation capabilities, to UK customers.

Products, such as the Performax range of planetary gear-heads, are particularly illustrative of the company's strengths in this sector. These have a standard modular construction, with first stage

helical plastic gears and second stage cast steel gears, offering ratios of 3.18:17 (first stage) and 21.25:204 (second stage).

Standard modular Performax units, together with the company's Compactline and Flatline spur gearheads, can offer up to 472 motor/gear-head combinations - and with various brakes and encoders added, up to 2,378 different drive options.

Even with this variety and number of options, the company is still able to guarantee a 48 hour ex-works despatch from receipt of order (orders up to 20 units). Variants of the standard Performax product include 'Noiseless' (ultra-quiet operation), 'Focus' (low backlash) and 'HRL'

(high radial load). Planetary gear-heads are available in sizes of 32, 42, 52 and 63, and are subjected to 100% testing.

Over half of the company's turnover comes from customisation work. The company fields a team of dedicated engineers, which is on call to discuss customer problems and formulate optimum solutions. Zeitlauf gearboxes can be found in a variety of applications, in medical and mobility equipment, door and access automation systems, materials handling and transport sectors - in all parts of the world.

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