

Press Release

Neu-Isenburg, November 2011

ROCKINGER presents first sensor towing hitch

ROCKINGER, one of the world's leading manufacturers of towing hitches for agricultural machinery, will present the first sensor towing hitches for agricultural applications at Agritechnica 2011 on 13-19 November 2011. Electronic monitoring ensures significantly better safety and convenience.

ROCKINGER has developed the first wireless sensor system for towing hitches for agricultural machinery and will present this technology at Agritechnica 2011 in Hanover. The new electronic sensor system is the first to offer the ability to signal via a display in the driver's cabin that the towing hitch is correctly locked. This ensures that the coupling process can be monitored both conveniently and safely. It is no longer necessary to exit the cabin to check the locking indicator on the coupling, and the possibility of misjudging the connection is eliminated. The system consists of two modules: the sensor/transmitter module and the display/receiver module. The sensor, radio transmitter and battery are combined in a dirt- and water-proof unit and solid cast. This sensor module is attached to the towing hitch locking mechanism and verifies the correct position of the locking bolt. Only once the bolt is completely engaged does the module transmit the appropriate signal to the receiver in the driver's cab. Thanks to the patent-pending sensor developed by ROCKINGER itself, the sensor/transmitter module requires extremely little power. Power can therefore be supplied by the cast-in battery, which will power the sensor and transmitter for up to three years. Thanks to radio transmission, the towing hitch can, if neces-

sary, also be removed from the tractor's drawbar bracket as usual and without additional steps and be reinserted later. The receiver and display are also combined in a single module. This module can be installed in the driver's cab quickly and easily and is powered by the on-board electrical system. The new wireless sensor system is suitable for all ROCKINGER automatic towing hitches, regardless of the tractor make or model. Following extensive field testing, ROCKINGER plans to launch the series next year.

In addition to its wireless sensor system for interchangeable automatic couplings for tractors, at Agritechnica 2011, ROCKINGER will also present a wired sensor system for permanently mounted towing hitches, such as those primarily used on combines, forage harvesters and other self-propelled machinery. In this system, ROCKINGER uses inductive sensors, which have been field in on-road applications over many years, to verify the correct position of the locking bolt during coupling. An LED display in the driver's cab provides the driver with a reliable indication of whether the coupling is fully locked, eliminating the need to exit the cab repeatedly to check the towing hitch. With this sensor solution, power is supplied to both the sensor and the display by the on-board electrical system. The signal is transmitted via the CAN bus system supplied or a separately installed cable. This sensor system is suitable for all permanently mounted ROCKINGER automatic towing hitches and can be installed on vehicles of any manufacturer.

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JOST is the worldwide leading producer of vehicle connection components for systems, modules and components for truck & trailer. Under the umbrella brand name of JOST, the comprehensive range of products is broken down into three areas. The JOST brand includes fifth wheel couplings, telescoping landing gears and accessories for semi-trailers, ball bearing turntables, king pins and container locks and components for alternating systems. Under the traditional brand name of ROCKINGER, the company produces towing hitches and drawbar eyes for both transporters and trucks, as well as for use in the agricultural industry. With REGENSBURGER ZUGGABEL, JOST completes its range of products for coupling technology with towing drawbars for both road and agricultural use. TRIDEC is the leading provider of steering systems and single wheel suspensions for trailers.

JOST is the only supplier that can provide its products and services all around the world. The company is located on all continents, with distribution, production and development. With production plants in Germany, Spain, Hungary, Poland, Romania, the US, Brazil, Australia, South Africa, China and India, JOST is the global partner of choice for the commercial vehicle industry. JOST employs around 2000 employees worldwide.