New high resolution encoder for DC motors and when to use them.

maxon motor release its new ENX 16mm RIO encoder with 65,536 counts per turn for DC motor applications requiring fine positioning and constant velocity.

This new encoder has been released with 262,144 quad counts per revolution. But where to use resolutions not seen in such a tiny size encoder? An example would be pick and place machines for the placement of electronic components during pcb manufacture. New microprocessors and FPGA devices can have up to 2601 contact points on a 0.4mm grid. The pick and place machine for this part would need a controllability of nine hundredths of a revolution and the accuracy would require an encoder to be fitted to the positioning motor with ten times this amount. Also applications with demanding constant velocity requirements require high resolution encoders. Enabled by continuously increasing processing speeds new high resolution encoders vastly improve the feedback loop. Each example requires the high resolution and also error free signals at high speeds. The RIO is an Reflective Interpolated Optical design that allows compact dimensions of 16mm diameter and 7mm length. Output signals are RS422 differential including an index pulse. Delta robots, Precision manufacturing tools, 3D printers and the semiconductor industry can all benefit from this new product.

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