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News from Renishaw

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Renishaw wins fourteenth Queen's Award for laser-based tool recognition system

Renishaw plc, a global engineering technologies company, is pleased to announce that it has received a Queen's Award for Enterprise 2011 in the Innovations category, the company's fourteenth Queen's Award since its formation in 1973, and its fifth in just eight years. This Award has been granted for the development of the highly innovative TRS2 laser-based non-contact broken tool detection system which is used for detecting broken or missing cutting tools on computer numerically controlled (CNC) machining centres.

The Queen's Awards for Enterprise are the UK's most prestigious awards for business performance, which recognise and reward outstanding achievement by UK companies. For Renishaw, which earns some 95% of its sales revenues overseas, the international credibility of the Awards is also very important.

Said Sir David McMurtry, Renishaw's Chairman and Chief Executive, "It is always very special to have our commercial and technological achievements recognised by a highly respected independent assessment process. This latest Queen's Award should be a source of great pride for our staff around the world who regularly turn great ideas into a successful commercial reality, from design and manufacture, through to marketing and sales. At a time when we are also seeking to recruit over 230 talented individuals into our UK operations, this Award also gains us additional credibility in the eyes of potential new employees."

The TRS2 broken tool detection system is widely used within machining operations in the automotive and consumer electronics sector. In contrast with previous systems, the TRS2, which incorporates a laser transmitter and receiver in a single housing, is positioned on only one side of a cutting tool to analyse reflected light patterns and thus determine tool condition. The product can assess the conditions of a variety of tools, with diameters as small as 0.2 mm, at a range of distances. Benefits to users include more accurate assessments of tool condition and the elimination of the problems caused by broken tools in terms of scrap, re-work and machine downtime.

The Queen's Awards for Enterprise are made each year by Her Majesty The Queen, on the advice of the Prime Minister, who is assisted by an Advisory Committee that includes representatives of Government, industry and commerce, and the trade unions. The Awards are given solely on merit and competition is fierce. The number of Awards presented each year is not pre-set and depends on the quality of the applications received.

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About Renishaw

One of the world's leading engineering technology companies, with expertise in metrology and healthcare, Renishaw plc has been honoured with fourteen Queen's Awards to date, recognising Technological Achievement, Export Achievement and, most recently in April 2011, for Enterprise in the Innovations category. Throughout its history the company has made a significant commitment to research and development (R&D), with around 18% of annual sales invested in R&D and engineering.

The Renishaw Group currently has more than 60 locations in 31 countries, with over 2,400 employees, of which more than 1,500 people are employed within the UK, primarily at its five sites within Gloucestershire. Due to strong growth the company currently has over 230 vacancies within the UK, including specialist engineering roles, graduate positions, apprenticeships and undergraduate placements.

More information is available at www.renishaw.com.