**Hard on the outside, smart on the inside: igus develops intelligent plain bearing**

igus has developed an intelligent bearing that warns of specific wear level, enabling machine and equipment operators to plan maintenance, repairs or part replacement in advance. Called smart iglidur, the intelligent plain bearing was developed for difficult-to-access bearing points and for applications where no regular maintenance intervals have been planned.

Defects are detected before they occur, downtimes are avoided, repair times are shortened due to early intervention, and machine availability is increased. Scheduled maintenance inspections, therefore, become unnecessary.

The body of the new smart iglidur plain bearing consists of two components: the internal, lubrication-free iglidur material and an outer support polymer shell for protection. To measure the amount of wear, an intelligent sensor is mounted between the two components.

The measured data of the sensor can be used in various ways. For example, it is possible to inform the operator about the plain bearing's wear with a warning light. For high-end applications, the data can be sent directly to a control system, which, after analysis, passes the data on to a customised web interface via the icom communication module for the purposes of maintenance and repair.

For more information, please visit: [www.igus.co.uk/smartplastics](http://www.igus.co.uk/smartplastics) or call igus directly on: 01604 677240

**igus resources:**

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**About igus:**

Based in Northampton in the UK and with global headquarters in Cologne, Germany, igus is a leading international manufacturer of energy chain systems and polymer plain bearings. The family-run company is represented in 35 countries and employs 4,150 people around the world. In 2018, igus generated a turnover of 748 million euros with motion plastics, plastic components for moving applications.

With plastic bearing experience since 1964, cable carrier experience since 1971 and continuous-flex cable experience since 1989, igus provides the right solution based on 100,000 products available from stock, with between 1,500 and 2,500 new product introductions each year. igus operates the largest test laboratories and factories in its sector to offer customers quick turnaround times on innovative products and solutions tailored to their needs.

The terms igus, Apiro, chainflex, CFRIP, conprotect, CTD, drylin, dry-tech, dryspin, easy chain, e-chain, e-chain systems, e-ketten, e-kettensysteme, e-skin, flizz, ibow, igear, iglidur, igubal, kineKIT, manus, motion plastics, pikchain, plastics for longer life, readychain, readycable, ReBeL, speedigus, triflex, robolink, and xiros are protected by trademark laws in the Federal Republic of Germany and internationally, where applicable.

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