



PRESS RELEASE

NTN reinforces its range of wheel speed sensors

Anancy, January 2022 - Wheel bearing specialist NTN supported automakers in the development of ASB[®] (Active Sensor Bearing) technology, which has become the global standard. In 2017, the manufacturer drew on that experience in launching its range of wheel speed sensors intended for the automotive aftermarket. Today that range comprises 324 part numbers covering nearly 7,000 vehicle models and hasn't stopped growing. Four years later, NTN is accelerating the pace and has set an ambitious new goal for itself. By the end of 2022, the manufacture wants to add another 100 sensors to its range, pushing the total to over 400 part numbers.

WHEEL SPEED SENSOR: AN ESSENTIAL COMPONENT FOR SAFETY

Positioned above the wheel hub or the drive shaft, the wheel speed sensor was designed to detect the speed of rotation of each wheel. That information is then sent to the control unit. First developed in the context of the ABS system, this sensor thus permits the central processing unit to identify a significant reduction in speed on one or more wheels, which can lead to their blocking. It then intervenes rapidly to guarantee the proper function of the safety devices that are key to the braking system by modulating the pressure of each wheel individually. Braking is thus assured and the driver retains control over his vehicle, even in case of emergency braking.

High-quality and technically sophisticated products, today wheel speed sensors are indispensable for the proper function of many onboard system such as ESP (Electronic Stability Program), ASR (Anti Slip Regulation), cruise control or also the integrated navigation system. This safety product par excellence necessitates considerable know-how such as the expertise developed by NTN in order to be perfectly reliable.

With that in mind, 20 years after the launch of the series production of the first instrumented ASB[®] wheel bearing in the Haute-Savoie region of France, the manufacturer is now expanding its offering by proposing a range that combines its own experience with the core of its profession: the wheel speed sensor range. Today it comprises:

- 192 passive ABS sensor part numbers. These inductive sensors intended for toothed wheel

encoders represent 60% of the manufacturer's range.

- 132 active ABS sensor part numbers. Divided into three categories (Hall effect sensors, with or without magnetic ring encoder and magnetoresistive sensors), they are used for wheels with a magnetic encoder or toothed wheels.

As the original source of ASB[®] technology, NTN benefits from its legitimacy to impose itself on this market in continuous growth. In 2020, despite the health crisis, that market is estimated at 260,000 parts sold per year versus 220,000 parts in 2018. In parallel, more than 92 % of vehicles in circulation are equipped with 2 to 4 wheel speed sensors, most often mounted across from the bearing. A percentage that is unlikely to decline in the years to come, in view of the ever growing number of key functions that wheel speed sensors perform in the most recent models.

AN APPOINTMENT THAT SERVES TO REDYNAMIZE THE WHEEL SPEED SENSOR RANGE

In April 2021, Carole BERWALD joined the NTN team in order to take charge of the wheel and sensor ranges. After more than 4 years as International Product Manager in a large global corporation, Carole is here to put her experience, energy and knowledge of European markets to the service of the equipment manufacturer. As head of the wheel and sensor range, she reports directly to Nicolas DELAIN. In this role, her primary mission will be to ensure the proper development of the range throughout Europe by relying on the expertise of the Group. And especially the wheel speed sensor offering, which will be a focus of the equipment

manufacturer for the next two years:

2022: AN AMBITIOUS GOAL

To attain the objective that it has set for itself of having 400 wheel speed sensor part numbers on offer, the equipment manufacturer has already launched some 40 new part numbers so far in 2021. Far from stopping there, NTN continues to expand its offering with the goal of improving its coverage of registered vehicles. In all, nearly 100 additional sensors intended for all markets and all kinds of customers as a whole will enrich the range between now and the end of 2022.

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