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# PRESS RELEASE

## **ULTRASONIC GAS DETECTION SYSTEM ENSURES EARLIER PROTECTION FROM COMBUSTIBLE GAS**

### **Oil and Gas Production, Petrochemical Refining, Storage, Compressor Stations**

Combining its highly reliable Gassonic detectors with its modular six-channel MC600 Controller, Gassonic and General Monitors now offer a fully integrated ultrasonic gas leak detection system that is suitable for a wide range of process safety monitoring applications in oil and gas production, petrochemical, refining, storage facilities, gas pipeline metering and compressor stations, and distribution facilities.

It is well-known that natural gas and other combustible gases are challenging to detect in open, well ventilated areas, especially outdoors. Lighter gases like hydrogen can furthermore easily ignite on contact with open flames, electrical sparks, or by static discharge enhancing the challenge even further.

Ultrasonic gas leak detectors offer a responsive, reliable new method for detecting gas that reduces the risk of fires and explosions. Ultrasonic gas leak detectors respond to the ultrasonic noise generated by escaping gas at pressures of minimum 145 psi for maximum coverage of 5-20 m in radius. A distinct advantage of ultrasonic technology is that it detects gas leaks regardless of ventilation rates, gas dilution, or the direction of the leak – and without the gas having to make physical contact with a sensor element. This makes ultrasonic gas leak detection the ideal choice for detection of pressurized gas leaks and for filling in gaps in the effectiveness of traditional gas detection systems.

Gassonic Ultrasonic Gas Leak Detectors use a robust and accurate stainless steel microphone that measures the sound pressure level (SPL) in the ultrasonic range. In addition, they feature the Senssonic™ integrated acoustic self-test, which periodically verifies the operation of the acoustic sensor to eliminate unrevealed failures. The detectors are suitable for use in SIL 1, 2, and 3 safety functions<sup>1</sup> and hold relevant C-UL and ATEX certifications.

With the addition of a General Monitors MC600 Multi-Channel Controller, process and plant engineers now have a flexible ultrasonic gas leak detection system. The MC600 is able to connect with up to six Gassonic detectors and displays the SPL as well as alarm, warning,

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<sup>1</sup> Gassonic Observers are SIL 2 and 3 suitable, while Gassonic Surveyors are certified for SIL 1 and 2 systems.

and time delay settings for each device. As with other General Monitors sensors, the controller permits users to configure relays for the ultrasonic gas leak detectors and select zones and voting schemes. The MC600 is designed with a rugged, corrosion and weather-resistant, Type 4X housing suitable for Class I, Division 2 areas.

The MC600 comes pre-configured from the factory, saving installation time. Removable terminal blocks allow for easy installation and wiring. A front panel user interface includes six independent LCD channel displays and keypad for setup, calibration and gas reading functions as well as ready, alarm, and fault indicators. The MC600's six auxiliary 8-Amp relays are user-configurable to activate external devices such as horns or beacons on any of the six channels' alarm or warning setpoints.

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