



IR's IntelliTorque™ Offers Automobile Owners Peace of Mind

- Enter the Make, Model, and Year of the Vehicle, and Patented System Provides Precision Torque Management for Fastening Wheels -

WOODCLIFF LAKE, N.J., September 19, 2001 – Ingersoll-Rand Company (NYSE: IR), a leading diversified industrial firm, today announced that its Tool and Hoist business unit has introduced the IntelliTorque™ integrated lug nut fastening system, which significantly reduces variability in the tire-changing and repair process. The IntelliTorque System, which uses proprietary software, enables tire retailers to input the make, model and year of the vehicle, as well as the number of wheels needing service. With this data, the fastening tool is automatically programmed with the correct lug nut torque according to OEM specifications – including the number of lug nuts to be fastened. Because the system alerts the tire technician when each lug nut is properly tightened, it minimizes the potential for overlooking lug nuts on a wheel. In addition, the IntelliTorque system reduces the possibility of over and under tightening lug nuts on a wheel. As a result, there is less risk of technician error, which helps to ensure that tires are properly fastened to the vehicle.

Preventing Maintenance Problems

Automobile wheels fastened too tightly can break wheel studs and damage brakes. Too loosely fastened, wheels can become separated from the vehicle. Unequal tightening can result in wheel vibration. As a fully integrated system, IntelliTorque greatly reduces the inconsistency in wheel fastening that leads to these common problems.

Prior to IntelliTorque, automotive technicians would have to determine the correct torque specification, select the proper torque stick and then check each tightening with a torque wrench. The IR system controls, verifies and archives lug nut torque data and automatically generates customer receipts and documentation. As a result, the system reduces the chance of technician error, eliminates additional expenses from unnecessary rework to both customers and service centers and helps prevent potentially dangerous situations caused by improperly tightened lug nuts.

“The IntelliTorque system provides our automotive service customers with a solution that enhances productivity and reduces risk,” said Joseph Jones, president and general manager of IR’s Tool and Hoist unit. “With IntelliTorque as the platform, we envision significant growth opportunities by continuing to develop innovative solutions for the tire services aftermarket.”

During the development of IntelliTorque, IR worked with several major tire retailers to design a comprehensive system for tightening wheels while meeting the needs of the tire technician. Penske Auto Centers, the largest independent tire retailer in the United States with more than 630 locations nationwide, has been testing IntelliTorque since February. Based on positive feedback from its auto centers, Penske will introduce IntelliTorque in a pilot program involving select Penske Auto Centers in Ohio and West Virginia. According to Jim Wheat, President and CEO, “As a leading provider of automotive services, a key element of our long-term growth is our ability to offer innovative services to meet our customer expectations. We believe that by expanding the scope of our pilot program to several other key markets, we will gain a better understanding how best to potentially position IntelliTorque as a value-added service for our customers nationwide.”

IntelliTorque™ is part of a comprehensive tire services™ strategy within IR's Industrial Productivity sector. This strategy encompasses other IR products designed specifically for complete tire-lane solutions. The Zimmerman suspension system is an ergonomic solution that suspends tools with a "zero-gravity" cable balancer, enabling tools to float in the same position when released by the technician. This suspension system reduces operator fatigue, minimizes safety hazards, and protects and extends tool life. In addition to the suspension system, the IR "Vehicle Services" solution includes air compressors and compressed-air plumbing, ARO lubrication systems and diaphragm pumps, other IR power tools such as ratchets, impact wrenches and sanders and onsite maintenance of IR products and accessories. To find out more about IR's tool and torque technologies, visit www.irttools.com.

Penske Auto Centers LLC is the largest independent tire dealer in the United States with 630 locations nationwide and more than 4,000 employees committed to being the leader in preventative automotive maintenance. In addition to its strong presence in the marketplace for tire sales, other services offered by Penske Auto Centers include 30-minute oil changes, wheel alignments, ATF fluid exchanges and brake service, just to name a few. Integral to the Company's overall success are its long-term growth strategy and strategic partnerships with organizations such as Kmart, Goodyear, Mobil, NAPA, Snap-on, Safety-Kleen and Exide Battery Company. For more information go to www.penskeautocenters.com.

IR is a leading innovation and solutions provider for the major global markets of Security and Safety, Climate Control, Industrial Productivity and Infrastructure. The company's diverse product portfolio encompasses such leading industrial and commercial brands as Schlage locks and security solutions; Thermo King transport temperature control equipment; Hussmann commercial and retail refrigeration equipment; Bobcat compact equipment; Club Car golf cars and utility vehicles; Torrington bearings and components; PowerWorks microturbines; and Ingersoll-Rand industrial and construction equipment. In addition, IR offers products and services under many more premium brands for customers in industrial and commercial markets. Further information on IR can be found on the company's web site at www.irco.com.