

Flux Density Enhancement Using Shaped Field Magnets

Gerhard Martinek, Urs Wyss, Dave Maybury, Steve Constantinides Arnold Magnetic Technologies Corporation August, 2014





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Shaped Field Magnets (SFM)



Traditional Magnets





Shaped Field Magnets



Patent applied for process imparts a domain orientation pattern into the structure of the magnet.

Shaping the field redirects the magnet's force to where it is needed.

Advantages:

- Higher applied fields than previously possible
- Field shape is optimized for the application
- Higher-Temp lower remanence materials become competitive
- Increased design freedom around magnets
- Reduced overall system weight





Imparting the Shaped Field - example

Challenges



- Substantially more complex tooling.
- Orienting fields change during compaction.



Sensor Magnets

Possible configurations





uniform diametric



axial 2-pole



Shaped Field



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Sensor Magnet - In-plane



SFMs improve the in-plane case (Bx)

- For in-plane sensors, field strength is increased 20%
- Increased strength
 - More reliable signals
 - Greater standoff distance
 - More freedom of design



Sensor Magnets - In-plane

Experimental result





The through-plane case

Less costly approach

- Array of through-plane sensors, offset from the center of the sensor chip assembly
- SFM improves the through-plane case:
 - For through-plane sensors, field strength can be 50% greater





х-

∕ Y+

Sensor Magnets – through plane

Experimental result





...it's for real

Better-than-expected improvements measured in field trials, with angle errors less than 1°

Arnold is in an approval process for a new automotive application

Planned production in the coming year for >1.2 million pieces



A Classic Case – Torque Transfer Coupling

Especially useful for pumping hazardous (hot, toxic, bio-hazard) liquids or gases





http://www.tapflo.com/site/en/pages/magnetic-drive-pumps

Pump

Motor



http://www.marchpump.com/site/files/966/110094/376709/645776/March_Pump_Catalog_2013.pdf



A Classic Case – Torque Transfer Coupling

- Traditional coupling: a pair of alternating-pole rings transfer torque without contact
- Steel backing provides mechanical support and a magnetic yoke for the magnets
- The system has certain inherent inefficiencies:
 - Back iron bulk for magnetic stability
 - Field fringing between neighbors on the same ring

Back iron bulk







A Possible Solution – Halbach Configuration

- By using magnets with rotating orientation, many aspects are improved by concentrating the field in the working zone
- But this introduces several new disadvantages:
 - Cost
 - Complexity
 - More magnets
 - Increased weight

...a complex solution for most torque transfer applications









A Better Solution – Shaped Field Magnets

- With SFMs, the Halbach pattern is imparted into the magnet material itself
- Direct substitution of SFMs: coupling with 20% more torque than original design
- Design from the ground up with SFMs:
 - Gain torque in a fixed volume
 - Reduce coupling size and keep constant torque
 - Reduce cost by using a smaller system
 - Reduce overall mass, extending bearing life





Coupling Forces (Torque)











Torque-coupled Pump - Example

Enhancements in torque in a commercial coupling for chemical pumps.

Design optimized for shaped field magnets; same overall package size but with reduced steel allowing use of larger magnets.





Results for Torque Transfer

- Proof-of-concept SFM prototypes yielded an average of 19% increased torque.
- Arnold is currently working with a customer to deploy
 SFMs across their entire suite of products.

... increased efficiency for next-generation performance





Arnold Shaped Field Magnets - Summary

- Field permanently shifted to focused flux for optimum performance
- It is a structural change, not just a difference in magnetizing
- Can be applied to Neo, SmCo, Ferrite magnets
- Design possibilities include
 - Through-plane sensor application sees up to 50% improvement in flux density which allows greater stand-off distance and stronger, more reliable signals
 - Torque coupled drives: 20% or more improvement in coupling with overall lighter design using less back iron and down-sized pole pieces





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The science of doing more with less.



