

the sensor people



## **CAPACITIVE SENSORS**

Reliable detection of objects and fill levels



## CONTACT-FREE AND REACTIONLESS

Capacitive sensors make reliable detection of almost all materials in automation possible.



#### SOLID, LIQUID OR GRANULAR

Capacitive sensors are able to detect different objects and media without contact and regardless of shape. With these sensors, the fill levels of liquids or bulk materials can also be detected in direct contact with the medium or through a non-metallic container wall. In addition to object positioning, material flow monitoring, overflow protection and leak detection are therefore also important areas of application. Due to their high sensitivity and capability of detecting both electrically conductive and non-conductive objects, capacitive sensors are used anywhere where other measurement principles no longer work.

Together with our overall portfolio of optoelectronic and inductive sensors, you can therefore find solutions for all detection requirements from a single source.



#### THE OPERATING PRINCIPLE MAKES THE DIFFERENCE

The function of a capacitive sensor is based on changes to the electrical field in the surroundings of its active zone. If the capacitor plate which is arranged behind the active zone is supplied with current, an electrostatic field is generated. This reacts to capacitance changes which are caused by an introduced object. Measurement variables which are interesting from a production-related point of view such as distances or fill levels can be transmitted to the control.

- Contactless and wear-free operation
- Detection has no influence on the product
- Resistant to interferences and contamination e.g. dust in the air
- Resistant to electromagnetic influences
- No moving parts, so the life expectancy is independent of the switching frequency
- Sensors suitable for different installation situations

#### easyhandling.

- The large operating range makes presence detection possible in packaging or containers
- Particularly suitable for applications in contaminated and dusty environments
- Simple product selection via design and operating range in the product selector on our website
- Standardized connection technology, M12 and M8 connectors or cables for quick and error-free initial setup
- Adjustable switching distances for functional reliability and flexibility during use
- Broad range of connecting and attachment accessories

#### think modular.

- Selectable output types PNP/NPN with NC/NO switching function
- Variants for embedded and non-embedded mounting
- Cylindrical designs M12 to M30 in plastic, Teflon (PTFE) and metal housing with adjustable switching distance
- Cubic designs in plastic with adjustable switching distance, e.g. for attachment at pipelines
- IO-Link types with teach button for setting of switching distance and for permanent process optimization
- Versions for use in pharmaceutical or food processes in Teflon (PTFE) housing available
- Products with optimal function range for typical applications and for more complex application cases

# WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT CAPACITIVE SENSORS

Basic technical know-how for successful use of capacitive sensors.

### TWO DESIGNS ARE AVAILABLE FOR YOUR APPLICATION

Capacitive sensors are available with embedded and non-embedded design.

#### Embedded-mounted sensors

These sensors, which have a linear electrical field, scan solid objects (e.g. wafers, components, circuit boards, hybrids, cardboard boxes, stacks of paper, bottles, plastic blocks and panels) or media through a non-metallic dividing wall at a distance.

- Also suitable for solid objects with a low dielectric constant
- Object detection through non-metallic container wall (max. 4 mm thick)
- Detection of liquids and granulates is possible

#### Non-embedded-mounted sensors

These designs with a spherical-shaped electrical field should touch the product to be detected, i.e. bulk material or liquids (e.g. granulates, sugar, flour, grain, sand, oil and water), with their active surface in order to detect them reliably. Material stuck to the active surface does not impair sensor performance.

- Also suitable for bulk materials or liquids
- Sensor must touch the material to be detected
- Suppression of adhesions stuck to the active surface thanks to the spherical-shaped electrical field



### THE MOST IMPORTANT INFLUENTIAL FACTORS

The capability of the sensor to detect an object is essentially determined by the size of the object, the dielectric constant ( $\varepsilon$ ) and the distance from the sensor. Attention must also be paid to temperature-related influences and the speed of the measurement object.



#### YOUR DECISION-MAKING BASIS

Capacitive sensors have a unique technical characteristic, which determines their area of use and makes selection easier.

#### Advantages

- 1. Detection of metallic and non-metallic objects, liquids and solid objects
- 2. Sensors can "see through" certain materials (products in packaging and container walls)
- 3. Long life expectancy due to semiconductor technology
- 4. Diverse mounting options
- 5. Detection with or without contact possible

#### Note

- 1. The switching distance fluctuates considerably depending on the material to be detected
- 2. The detection of objects with low correction factor may be affected by environmental influences

#### **Typical applications**

- Level monitoring of bulk materials and granulates in silos and other containers
- Fill level monitoring of liquids
- Control switches for stack height control
- Breakage control of drive and conveying belts
- Material flow monitoring in mixing systems
- Edge monitoring of plastic sheeting
- Signal transmitter for counting tasks in the packaging and food industry and in the wood and plastic processing industry

### THE ROLE OF THE DIELECTRIC CONSTANTS arepsilon

The dielectric constant is a specific material property. This means that materials with large dielectric constants are easier to detect than ones with low values because the capacitive coupling between object and sensor depends on the size and the dielectric constants.

The theoretical correction factor relative to the switching distance is dependent upon the used material. The correction factor acts as a multiplier with the standard switching distance in order to take the material-related influence into account.

Object material	Correction factor
Alcohol	0.85
Epoxy resin	0.15 0.35
Grain	0.15 0.30
Glass	0.20 0.55
Rubber	0.15 0.90
Wood, wet	0.60 0.85
Wood, dry	0.10 0.40
Flour	0.05
Nylon	0.20 0.30
Polyamide	0.30
Salt	0.35
Sand	0.15 0.30
Water	1.00
Sugar	0.15

# CYLINDRICAL AND CUBIC DESIGNS

#### Cylindrical sensors LCS 1/LCS 2

	LCS 1	LCS 2
	Extended Series	Advanced Series
Operating range	1 – 30 mm	
Switching frequency	Up to 100 Hz	
Types of installation	Embedded/non-embedded	
Certifications	UL/CE	CE
Housing material	Plastic / stainless steel	Plastic / brass, nickel-plated

Reliable detection in demanding environments

Large adjustment range of the operating range via potentiometer at all models

NPN or PNP sensor output with NC or NO switching function

M12 connection or cable, cable material PVC or PUR

Cylindrical sensors with PTFE -Special applications LCS 1

	LCS 1
	Extended Series
Operating range	1-30 mm
Switching frequency	Up to 100 Hz
Types of installation	Non-embedded
Certifications	UL/CE
Housing material	Teflon (PTFE)

 Cylindrical sensors in Teflon (PTFE) are available for use in pharmaceutical packaging systems or food processes

- Only available with extruded cable for hygiene reasons
- Particularly suitable for semiconductor production
- NPN or PNP sensor output with NC or NO switching function
- Connecting cable in Teflon
- Detection in aggressive and polluted environments

Detection in rough and soiled environments



Completeness monitoring in the packaging industry



#### Cubic sensors LCS 1

	LCS 1
	Extended Series
Operating range	1 – 20 mm
Switching frequency	Up to 100 Hz
Types of installation	Embedded
Certifications	UL/CE
Housing material	Plastic

- Reliable detection of granules or liquids
- Flat design for fitting to exterior of containers e.g. for fill levels
- Different variants available: 40 x 40 x 10 mm and 54 x 20 x 5 mm

#### IO-Link LCS 1

### OIO-Link

	LCS 1
	Extended Series
Operating range	1–10 mm
Switching frequency	Up to 10 Hz
Types of installation	Embedded
Certifications	UL/CE
Housing material	Plastic

- Process data via IO-Link
- Teach button
- With IO-Link interface for direct parameterization via the control
- Configurable switching behavior of the output

Leak monitoring of liquid containers



# OUR PRODUCT RANGE OF CAPACITIVE SENSORS

Our wide range of variants provide an optimal solution for any application.

	😵 IO-Link		
)	375 (D))	ODE ODE	1007
	Cylindrical sensors Extended series	Cylindrical sensors, Extended series with IO-Link	Cylindrical sensors, Extended series with PFTE housing
	M12/M18/M30	M18/M30	M12/M18/M30
Dimensions	M12: Length 61–75 mm* M18: Length 75.5–88.5 mm* M30: Length 66.5–79 mm*	M18: Length 87.3 mm M30: Length 87.3 mm	M12: Length 53mm M18: Length 73mm M30: Length 72mm
Operating range	1 – 25 mm	1 – 10 mm	1–30 mm
Switching requency	100 Hz	10 Hz	100 Hz
Switching unction	PNP/NPN NO/NC	PNP/NPN NO/NC (adjustable)	PNP/NPN NO/NC
Types of nstallation	Embedded/ non-embedded	Embedded / non-embedded	Non-embedded
lousing	Stainless steel / plastic	Plastic	Teflon (PTFE)
Connection	M12 connector / PUR cable 2 m	M12 plug	PFTE cable 2 m
Certifications	UL/CE	UL/CE	UL/CE
Degree of protection	IP 67	IP 67	IP 67 (M12: IP65)
O-Link*	-	Specified in accordance with version 1.1	-

\*Type-dependent



	Cubic sensors Extended series	Cylindrical sensors Advanced series	
		M12/M18/M30	
Dimensions	54 × 20.3 × 5.5 mm 40 × 40 × 10 mm	M12: Length 55–68 mm* M18: Length 70–85 mm* M30: Length 85–98 mm*	
Operating range	1–20 mm	1 – 30 mm	
Switching frequency	100 Hz	100 Hz	
Switching function	PNP/NPN NO/NC	PNP/NPN NO/NC	
Types of installation	Embedded	Embedded / non-embedded	
Housing	Plastic	Brass, plated / plastic	
Connection	PUR cable 2 m / 0.3 m with M8 connector	M12 connector / PVC cable 2 m	
Certifications	UL/CE	CE	
Degree of protection	IP 67	IP 67	

\*Type-dependent

# THE RIGHT ACCESSO-RIES COMPLETE THE PRODUCT RANGE

The best sensor is always only as good as the right accessories.

### EVERYTHING PERFECTLY COORDINATED

AC D18M CS: Quick change adapter



BTU D18M-Dxx: Sensor attachment for rod mounting

BT DxxM: Sensor mounting bracket





MC0xxK: Mounting clamp

Sensor distribution box with M8 or M12 ports: Sensor distribution boxes with 4/6/8/10 ports provide greater transparency in installation

Connection and interconnection cables with M8, M12 and M23 connectors, straight or angled, optionally with LED







# OUR PROMISE TO YOU

### SMARTER PRODUCT USABILITY

With regard to our product developments, we systematically place emphasis on the especially good usability of all devices. To this end, simple mounting and alignment are taken into account – just as the uncomplicated integrability of the sensors in existing field bus systems and easy configuration, e.g. via a web browser, are.

### SMARTER APPLICATION KNOW-HOW

Whoever can do it all, can do nothing right. Which is why we concentrate on selected target sectors and applications. There, we are specialists and know all aspects inside out. For this purpose, we optimize our solutions and offer a comprehensive product range that makes it possible for our customers to obtain the absolute best solutions from a single source.

### SMARTER CUSTOMER SERVICE

The technical and personal proximity to our customers, and a skilled, straightforward handling of queries and problems, are among our strengths – and will remain so. Consequently, we will continue to expand our service offerings and, indeed, also forge ahead in new directions to persistently redefine the utmost in customer service. Whether on the phone, on the Internet or on-site with our customers – regardless of when and where the expertise of the sensor people is needed at any time.

#### Info at: www.leuze.com

## SMART SENSOR BUSINESS

Martina Weil, Employee in the Customer Care Center

#### Switching Sensors

Optical Sensors Ultrasonic Sensors Fiber Optic Sensors Inductive Switches Forked Sensors Light Curtains Special Sensors

#### **Measuring Sensors**

Distance Sensors Sensors for Positioning 3D Sensors Light Curtains Forked Sensors

#### Products for Safety at Work

Optoelectronic Safety Sensors Safe Locking Devices, Switches and Proximity Sensors Safe Control Components Machine Safety Services

#### Identification

Bar Code Identification 2D-Code Identification RF Identification

#### Data Transmission/

Control Components MA Modular Connection Units Data Transmission Safe Control Components Signaling Devices Connection Technology and Passive Distribution Boxes

#### Industrial Image Processing Light Section Sensors Smart Camera

Leuze electronic GmbH + Co. KG In der Braike 1 73277 Owen Phone +49 7021 573-0 Fax +49 7021 573-199 info@leuze.de www.leuze.com