



MAN MUNICH – BUILDINGS RENOVATED WITH ENOCEAN TECHNOLOGY

MAN has been producing heavy-duty trucks and commercial vehicles at its Munich plant since 1955. The site is about a square kilometer in area, and there are naturally a whole number of administrative buildings and production shops at the location. The time has now come for various buildings to be thoroughly renovated. In addition to constructional repairs, the intention is to create a friendly and modern atmosphere for the people employed here.

Michael Gartz of EnOcean International Sales spoke to Josef Mair, who is responsible for the planning and maintenance of electrical installations at MAN.

This is one of the biggest industrial sites in southern Germany. Could you give us a few details of your ongoing renovation project?

We're in the first phase at the moment. Three open-plan offices with an area of about 400 sqm each are presently being renovated. We've already completed one and a half floors. The overall renovation project affects five floors.

What are your special requirements and aims in carrying out this renovation?

The corporation wants to create a pleasant and modern atmosphere for the people who work here. You'll see that we're using very high-grade materials. We also want to produce maximum flexibility in how the space is divided up, which is the reason for the variable wall construction.

What was the situation like in this building when you started?

We had lots of little offices, which are now being

turned into bright, open-plan offices. And at the same time we're making space for conference rooms.

What kind of electrical fittings are being installed?

As you can see, we're using lights from well-known producers. They're controlled by batteryless radio switches from PEHA, operating with EnOcean modules. At the receiving end we have the WAGO 750 I/O system.

And how many switches have you put in?

About 30 for each office. They're located right close to the workplaces for convenience. We don't have to lay any cables for the switches, so we can even attach them to office cabinets.

Apart from this installation flexibility, are there any other benefits from using wireless technology?

The EnOcean technology is a big advantage because the radio switches don't need batteries, making them absolutely maintenance-free, and saving costs of course. There's also less risk of fire load



Top: the MAN offices during renovation

Modern lighting with a batteryless radio switch

Left: the MAN offices after finishing renovation



Flexibility in perfection – simple attachment of batteryless radio switches to office furniture

in the ceilings because there are no cables routed up there.

What's installation and operation of this wireless technology been like up to now?

Quite straightforward. A side-effect worth mentioning is that we saved three workdays and four technicians. That's a big economy compared to conventional cabling. And the system works very reliably. The transmitters and receivers are uniquely assigned, and we've had no disturbances..

And how are your people responding to these innovative wireless switches?

Well, I hope you won't be disappointed – they hardly noticed anything. It wasn't until I went round and started pointing out the advantages that they realized they were using radio switches. Then, when I got into explaining how energy was generated by piezo technology, even the non-technical people became quite fascinated.