

Press release



SKF eDrive Ball Bearings enable higher electric motor efficiency and power density

SKF today launches the new SKF eDrive Ball Bearing. This bearing has been developed based on the SKF Energy Efficient deep groove ball bearing (E2) design. It addresses the specific requirements of high power density electric motors for electric and hybrid vehicles. The SKF eDrive Ball Bearing enable lower levels of friction and heat dissipation, supporting higher electric motor efficiency and operating speeds. These combined together increase mileage for electric and hybrid vehicles.

As well as improving the motor efficiency and power density it also contributes to extend the battery lifetime by enabling a reduction in the number of charging cycles.

SKF eDrive Ball Bearing benefits from a number of innovative design features, including optimised internal geometry, ultra-low friction sealing, long life and wide temperature grease, and a patented, energy efficient polymer cage design. This enables a reduction of friction loss by 20 to 30 percent compared to conventional designs. These features enable higher operating speeds with low self-heating and low friction torque, and virtually no variation of friction torque either during the product's lifetime or under axial loading conditions.

SKF eDrive Ball Bearing can also be integrated with other sensor-bearing units like for example the SKF Rotor Positioning Sensor-Bearing Unit. This combination enables a further enhancement of electric motor efficiency.

Gothenburg, 8, May 2012

Aktiebolaget SKF
(publ)

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SKF is a leading global supplier of bearings, seals, mechatronics, lubrication systems, and services which include technical support, maintenance and reliability services, engineering consulting and training. SKF is represented in more than 130 countries and has around 15,000 distributor locations worldwide. Annual sales in 2011 were SEK 66,216 million and the number of employees was 46,039. www.skf.com

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