



James K. Taylor
 Practice Director
 T: 508.653.9000 x:121
 E: jimt@vdc-corp.com

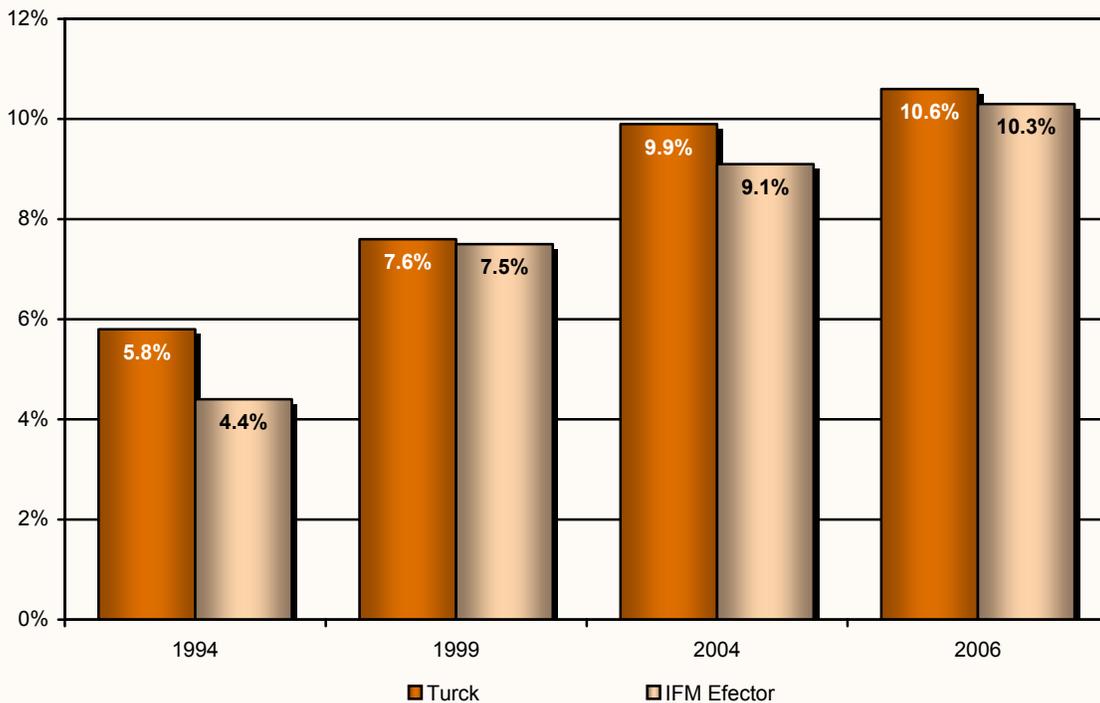
PRESS RELEASE

Proximity Sensor Market in North America Being Won by European Vendors

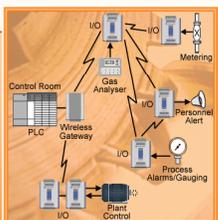
Natick, Massachusetts – September 12, 2007 – The North American market for proximity sensors – including capacitive, inductive, magnetic, magnetic actuated, photoelectric and ultrasonic products – totaled \$718.8 million in 2006 (exclusive of another \$38.4 million in photointerrupter sensors), according to a new market study by Venture Development Corporation.

The market for these products has increased at a moderate single-digit average annual growth rate over the last 15 years. However, during the same period (and particularly during the past three years), two European vendors, Hans Turck GmbH & Co. KG, and IFM Electronics GmbH – through their US subsidiaries Turck, Inc. and IFM Efector, Inc. – have each achieved approximately double the annual market growth rate, and are now the two leading suppliers in the market.

Share Growth of Turck and IFM Efector in North American Proximity Sensor Markets*



Note: Includes capacitive, inductive, magnetic, magnetic actuated, photoelectric, and ultrasonic types. Excluded are photointerrupters.



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Other leading suppliers in the market with shares above 5.5% in 2006 included:

- Banner Engineering
- Eldec
- Omron Electronics
- Pepperl+Fuchs
- Rockwell Automation

By far the largest product segments of the proximity sensor market are inductive and photoelectric sensors. Inductive products are the principal proximity sensors for both Turck and IFM, and these have accounted for most of the overall market gains for both firms.

TURCK Inc., the North American arm of privately owned Hans Turck GmbH & Co. KG headquartered in Mulheim in Germany, has operated in the U.S. since 1971. Their proximity sensors are produced in the US, Germany, Switzerland and China, as well as in their newest manufacturing facility built in Saltillo, Mexico in 2004.

IFM Efector, based in Exton, PA, is a subsidiary of privately owned IFM Electronic GmbH, which was founded in 1969 and is headquartered in Essen, Germany. Nearly all of IFM Efector's proximity and photoelectric sensors are manufactured by their parent company in Germany.

VDC's study forecasts a North American market growth rate of 4.3% for these proximity sensors over the next 5 years.

ABOUT VDC

Venture Development Corporation (VDC) is an independent technology market research and strategy consulting firm that specializes in a number of industrial, embedded, component, retail automation, RFID, AIDC, datacom/ telecom, and defense markets. VDC has been operating since 1971, when the firm was founded by graduates of the Harvard Business School and Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Today, we employ a talented collection of analysts and consultants who offer a rare combination of expertise in the market research process; experience in technology product and program management; and formal training in engineering and marketing. VDC's clients include thousands of the largest and fastest-growing tech suppliers in the world and the most successful investors participating in the markets we cover.

For further information about the study, *North American Position Sensor Market: Eighth Edition*, contact:

John Verostek, *Senior Analyst*, 508.653.9000 ext. 115, verostek@vdc-corp.com

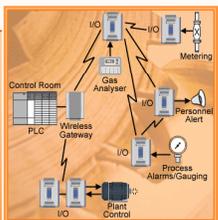
Jim Taylor, *Group Manager*, 508.653.9000 ext. 132, jimt@vdc-corp.com

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