**PRESS RELEASE**

Flame detector saves valuable seconds in critical situations

***11 February, 2014:*** *An advanced multi-spectrum flame detector designed specifically for industrial applications has been launched by MSA Africa - a global leader in the development, manufacture and supply of sophisticated products that protect people's health and safety.*

The MSA FlameGard 5 multi-sensor detector, recently launched locally, identifies fires by monitoring the ultraviolet (UV) and infrared (IR) spectral ranges, making it highly immune to false alarms caused by lightning, arc welding, hot objects and other sources of radiation.

According to MSA Africa product manager for gas detection products, **Robbie Taitz**, the MSA FlameGard 5 detector is suited to numerous applications, ranging from aircraft hangars and chemical plants, to compressor stations, gas turbines and fuel loading facilities.

"The MSA FlameGard 5 detects fires and provides alarm outputs directly from the unit, while maintaining its false alarm immunity. What's more, it provides more data, increased detection distances, faster response times and better performance under various environmental conditions, making it suitable for a wide range of applications," he explains.

Another major benefit of the MSA FlameGard 5 detector is its continuous optical path monitoring (COPM) feature, which checks the optical path integrity and the unit’s electronic circuitry once a minute. Taitz adds: "By continuously checking the optical path integrity, or window cleanliness, and electronic circuitry - the COPM self-test feature eliminates the risk of inaccurate performance, thereby ensuring greater peace-of-mind with regards to safety in an emergency situation."

The MSA FlameGard 5 detector also features an RS-485 serial output with ModBus RTU protocol, which enables the linking of up to 128 detectors in series, or 247 with repeaters. "For improved turnaround times in emergencies, the ModBus and HART user-interface ensures full status and control of all detectors located across a site, from one centralised control room," Taitz concludes.

***Ends***

**Notes to the Editor**
There are numerous photographs specific to this press release. Please visit [http://media.ngage.co.za](http://media.ngage.co.za/) and click the MSA Africa link.

**About MSA**
MSA been the world's leading manufacturer of high-quality safety products since 1914. MSA products may be simple to use and maintain, but they’re also highly-sophisticated devices and protective gear - the result of countless R&D hours, relentless testing, and an unwavering commitment to quality that saves lives and protects thousands of men and women each and every day. Many of MSA's most popular products integrate multiple combinations of electronics, mechanical systems, and advanced materials to ensure that users around the world remain protected in even the most hazardous of situations. MSA's dedication to safety has been the key to its impressive year-over-year growth. In eight of the past ten years, MSA has achieved record growth numbers, with annual revenues of more than US$1 billion.

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