POWER TO THE READERS

by Mike Bacidore, editor in chief
Machine builders, users and integrators raise their voices in our 20th annual Readers’ Choice Awards

This year marks the 20th anniversary of the Control Design Readers’ Choice Awards. The past two decades have been as liberating as they’ve been innovative. Remote capabilities and software-driven enhancements have pushed technology forward so fast there seems to be no limit to what can’t be automated or upgraded. The impossible has become the standard, and industry has shaken off technological restrictions without looking back.

When is the last time you even heard someone utter the word, “bandwidth”? The future is here, and, while many of the technologies and products are new, the majority of the suppliers have gone the distance, innovating new solutions or acquiring them to complement an existing portfolio. Once again, the readers of Control Design have delivered on identifying their favorite component and system suppliers.

Methodology
For the 2020 Control Design Readers’ Choice Awards, more than 15,000 individuals who identify themselves as having buying influence or authority were invited to access our confidential ballot. All of the voting is unaided, meaning that no list of supplier choices is provided for guidance or assistance in the ballot. It is created entirely by the participants, who may vote for first, second and third preferences in each category. The results are grouped by Control, Hardware, Motion, Networking, Safety, Sensing and Software categories. The results do not knowingly include votes from any suppliers in the final tally.
## Network Router/Switch
1. Cisco
2. Rockwell Automation
3. Red Lion
4. Siemens
5. Moxa
6. Phoenix Contact

## Input/Output System
1. Rockwell Automation
2. Phoenix Contact
3. Siemens
4. Wago
5. Turck

## Machine-Mount Input/Output
1. Rockwell Automation
2. Turck
3. Balluff
4. Siemens

## Remote Machine Access
1. HMS Industrial Networks
2. Phoenix Contact
3. Rockwell Automation

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## SAFETY

### Industrial Enclosure Purge System
1. Pepperl+Fuchs
2. nVent
3. Rittal

### Intrinsic Safety Components
1. Pepperl+Fuchs
2. Banner Engineering
3. Eaton
4. Pilz
5. Rockwell Automation
6. Phoenix Contact

### Machine Safety Components
1. Rockwell Automation
2. Omron
3. Banner Engineering

### Programmable Safety Controller
1. Rockwell Automation
2. Sick
3. Siemens
4. Pilz
5. Beckhoff

### Safety Network Components
1. Rockwell Automation
2. Cisco
3. Siemens

### Safety Relay
1. Rockwell Automation
2. Banner Engineering
3. Phoenix Contact
4. Omron
5. Pilz

### Load Cell/Weighing Measurement
1. Mettler Toledo
2. Rice Lake
3. Hardy
4. Omega

### Sensing

#### Linear Position Sensor
1. Balluff
2. Turck
3. Keyence
4. MTS
5. Pepperl+Fuchs
6. Heidenhain

#### Encoder/Resolver Measurement
1. Rockwell Automation
2. Encoder Products Co.
3. BEI
4. Dynapar
5. Heidenhain
6. Turck

#### Flow Measurement
1. Emerson
2. Endress+Hauser
3. Ifm efector
4. Keyence
5. Siemens

#### Level Measurement
1. Endress+Hauser
2. Emerson
3. Vega
4. Pepperl+Fuchs
5. Siemens

#### Pressure Measurement
1. Emerson
2. Omega
3. Endress+Hauser
4. Pyromation
5. Ifm efector

#### Temperature Measurement
1. Emerson
2. Omega
3. Endress+Hauser
4. Pyromation
5. Ifm efector