Today’s industrial manufacturing environments have a level of complexity never seen before.

Increasing demands include:

- **High product mix**: The ability to make many different type of parts on a single system
- **High product diversity**: Even within one part family, many configurations may exist
- **Highly fluctuating volume**: The same production line could be asked to make thousands of units, or just one unit, and this could change minute by minute
- **Mass customization**: Just as in the consumer realm, industrials products are being increasingly tailored and customized to the needs of specific customers

These new demands are testing automation technology to its limits. The same technology that enabled successful mass production may not be optimized or may not work at all in the face of such complexity. There is a need for a new type of production automation, a system which has the ability to switch from making thousands to making Lot Size 1, a system which can make thousands of product variants on a single line, and a system which does not require large amounts of time to reconfigure itself for new and emerging products and designs. **In short, modular, adaptive, and intelligent production technology is urgently needed, and HARTING’s FlexiMon fills this critical need.**

**HARTING FlexiMon Features:**

- Modular power and data connections
- Multi-layer architecture for decentralized control
- Adaptive, self-monitoring assembly cells
- Parallel execution of different products in a modular production line
- Real-time data acquisition and tracing of individual production history
- Mobile HMI (human machine interface) for interactive production process modeling and configuration
- Use of high level process language to control lower level real time behaviors
- Ability to rapidly shift between product types, product configurations, and from large volumes down to Lot Size 1

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