



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**FIRST OF ITS KIND “BOLT-ON” PRODUCTION MONITOR
DELIVERS REAL-TIME DATA ACROSS THE ENTERPRISE**

Itasca, IL (June 15, 2005) – Vorne Industries is pleased to announce the XL800 Production Monitor – a breakthrough product for performance management, productivity improvement and lean manufacturing. It is well-documented that optimum performance results from challenging employees with attainable goals while giving them the information and tools to effect change. Until now, the solution for most companies has been to integrate PLCs, displays, and software – creating expensive custom systems that were inflexible, hard to maintain, and financially out of reach for most applications.

The XL800 offers a compelling alternative by integrating everything needed in one package; providing an easy-to-implement “bolt-on” solution that can be up and running in literally minutes (Vorne’s *Lean Approach To Lean™*). Equally important, it requires no change to existing processes while providing over 100 key performance indicators to front-line employees and managers alike – all in real time.

Conceived as a “Swiss army knife” for plant floor productivity, the XL800 is a “six-in-one” product that combines a large-area visual display, a high-performance production monitor, expandable I/O, a multiple channel communication hub, a program executioner and a data warehouse – all in one package.

The XL800 visual display provides an open canvas for delivering real-time information that informs, alerts and motivates employees. The display screen incorporates ultra-bright LED technology and anti-glare lensing for crisp factory-floor readability – even at distances of 100 feet and beyond. Up to 16 concurrent visual controls enable mixing text, graphics, and tables in any combination on any screen. Popular screen formats include KPI tables, break timers, down event statistics, SMED/changeover timers, production status indicators, shift scorecards, safety messages with visuals, human resource announcements, and current date/time. Screens automatically change context with plant-floor events (e.g. line down, break start, shift change), and virtual pages allow unlimited amounts of data to be displayed.

The XL800 production monitor includes eight tightly focused performance management modules: Count, Rate, Cycle Time, Production Time, Visual OEE™, Target, Goal, and Process Time. Designed for plug-and-play simplicity, just two sensors can generate 100+ process variables and provide highly accurate automated run/down detection. For example, the Visual OEE™ module delivers a real-time OEE (Overall Equipment Effectiveness) score concurrently for job and shift, as well as the underlying Availability, Performance and Quality metrics. The net effect is to provide immediately actionable information that truly opens a window to plant floor performance.

The XL800 I/O block provides sensor and auxiliary connections with six high-speed inputs and an on-board sensor power supply; as well as an SPDT relay output for additional annunciation. I/O is expandable with 16-input expansion cards and 6-relay output cards.

The XL800 communication hub provides multiple options for plant floor connectivity with three standard ports: 10/100 Ethernet, RS-232, and RS-485. Option slots provide future connectivity for additional ports. One recommended configuration is using the free Vorne *Display-Pro® XL* software to generate dynamic web pages that deliver real-time plant floor visibility across the entire enterprise via a simple web browser. View the XL800 webcam with live *Display-Pro® XL* output at www.vorne.com/xl.

The XL800 program executioner can be used to fine-tune operation for specific application by simply connecting triggers to commands. Triggers are automatically generated by I/O points, setpoints, the production monitor, the time scheduler and other XL trigger sources. High-level commands are available for process timer control, I/O control, numeric and string manipulation, math operations, display screen control, and more. Commands can be sequenced in up to 1,000 flash memory programs.

The XL800 data warehouse provides a unified register architecture that supports both data distribution and data acquisition. Hundreds of user data registers are available to be loaded with information by external devices such as PLCs, ERP systems and MES software. All process variables generated by the XL800 production monitor are also exposed through data warehouse registers. Register data can be linked and embedded in visual display messages, accessed through any of the communication ports, or even reflected back to *Display-Pro® XL* for inclusion in dynamic web pages with enterprise visibility.

The feature set of the XL800 has been honed and optimized through an extensive prerelease program. Here are a few of many comments we have received from program participants.

“Vorne figured out how to put an Industrial Engineer inside their display. Regardless of the degree of automation in the process, ‘bolting-on’ an XL unit allows you to collect performance information and communicate it to the front-line employees all within one device. This approach lets you to collect downtime without creating downtime.”

**Mike Pendleton, Product Manager
I/Gear Inc.**

“The flexibility of the XL800 is outstanding. Whatever approach we wanted to take with our production monitoring the XL800 covered all bases. More than anything for us, the value is in the visual indication of how the line is producing in real time.”

**Jerry Wiley, Engineering Manager
Alcan Plastic Packaging**

“Having the Vorne XL800 production monitoring displays throughout our organization allows our production lines to visually monitor their own performance. At the same time, the remote monitoring of the data provides real time feedback to our 1st and 2nd level supervisors allowing them to react to changes in production throughput increasing our efficiency and reducing downtime.”

**Rick Troeger, Manufacturing Manager
Bestop, Inc.**

The XL800 is available in four display configurations: the 32080T (26" wide), the 32120T (38" wide), the 32160 (50" wide), and the 32240 (74" wide). All models include a three-year limited warranty, free technical support, and free *Display-Pro® XL* software. Units are available now, starting at \$2,990 each in single unit quantities. Online information resources are available at: www.vorne.com/displays/xl800.htm

About Vorne

Vorne Industries specializes in the design and manufacture of a broad range of visual display and productivity improvement products including many models with integrated data collection, real-time OEE tracking and performance management features. Focusing exclusively on the industrial manufacturing environment, Vorne products feature extensive real-time data collection capabilities and a wide variety of viewable display output choices.

Vorne products are based on an innovative “bolt-on” design philosophy that combines data collection and display in a single easy-to-implement package. Vorne's extensive research on lean manufacturing principles coupled with over thirty years of industrial manufacturing application experience make Vorne products an excellent choice for plant productivity projects.

For Additional Information Contact:

Adam Moran
Vorne Industries, Inc.
amoran@vorne.com
www.vorne.com
1-630-875-3600 x107

###