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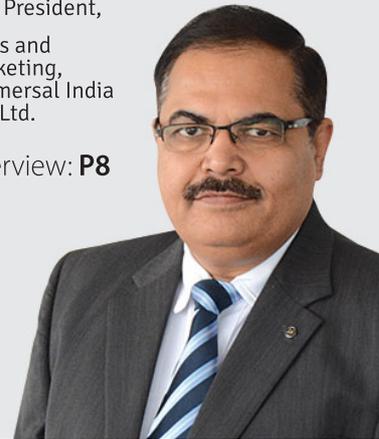
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Ramji Singh,

Vice President,
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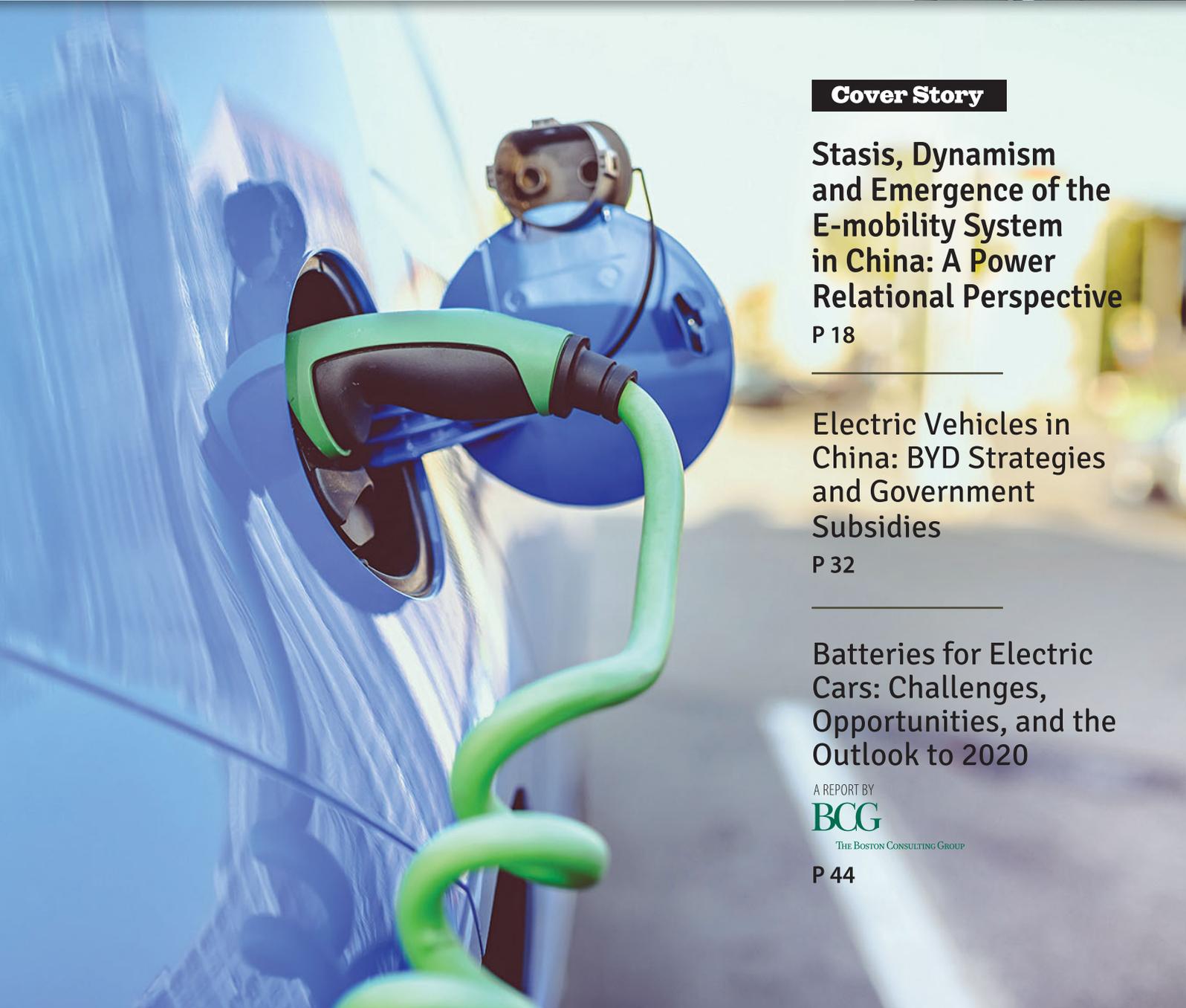
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Interview

Ramji Singh, Vice President, Sales and Marketing, Schmersal India Pvt. Ltd.

“Think about Machine Safety Right from the Start to Achieve Greater Cost Efficiency”

With its tailor-made systems and industry solutions for machine safety, Schmersal Group offers an extensive range of safety switching appliances and systems worldwide for the protection of human life and machines. In a special interaction with Industrial Product Review (IPR), Ramji Singh, Vice President, Sales and Marketing, Schmersal India Pvt. Ltd. talks about how Industry 4.0 goes hand in hand with Safety 4.0, the current scenario of Indian industry in respect of industrial safety and how Schmersal’s tec.nicum initiative has been extending one-stop safety solution for industry at large.

Industrial safety and Indian scenario

Safety is of utmost importance – as the employer is responsible for the health of its employees. It is a prerequisite in any industry to improve efficiency and also ensure to avoid the cause of production loss and economic damage. However, there is a common perception in India that safety is one of the obstacles in productivity, which is certainly not true. Such misconception grows because many times the safety norms and standards were not getting due attention at the designing stage of the machine. Hence, the need of the hour is machine safety should be involved at the early stage of the machine conception. For example, while procuring any new machine, the company should first impose the safety specifications that need to be incorporated so that machine supplier can involve safety consultant at the design stage itself. To achieve a high-level machine safety, we, at Schmersal, recommend three steps of safety assessment. Firstly, we assess safety at the design stage, then we ensure to incorporate all safety measures during the production stage and lastly, we make sure all the safety standards are in place by actually monitoring the real-time performance of the machine

when it gets deployed at the shop floor of the end user. In India, there are several demanding industrial safety norms and acts are in place. However, more attention needs to be paid on the implementation part.

SCHMERSAL



Ramji Singh, Vice President, Sales and Marketing, Schmersal India Pvt. Ltd.

About tec.nicum – Schmersal’s international division for safety services

Machine safety is a compound phenomenon. In India, many industries still stick to old machines that may create hazardous situations. Hence, with an aim to reach out to more and more companies to make them aware about the wide range of safety standards Schmersal has formed a separate division tec.nicum. tec.nicum is an independent body, that offers neutral consultancy services on all the latest regulations to the industries. Schmersal has a global network of safety consultant who are certified by TÜV. The tec.nicum service portfolio is based on four segments: Sharing of knowledge/seminars; consultancy services; technical planning and implementation. Customers can order just one single module of the tec.nicum portfolio – or the complete package from consulting to implementation of a customized safety solution

In tec.nicum Planning, we do entire engineering and offer complete turn-key solutions. As of now, numerous industries across India are getting benefited due to Schmersal’s tec.nicum division.

Highlighting the risk and neutralizing it

Our Functional Safety Engineers, are specialists in the field of safety technology with widespread experience. Thanks to the global tec.nicum network, they have expertise in international laws and regulations. tec.nicum conducts risk assessments and identifies potential hazards. tec.nicum provides support in selecting standard-compliant protective devices – based on an absolutely product and manufacturer-neutral consultancy. tec.nicum plans and implements complex safety solutions - worldwide and in close collaboration with clients.

Enhancing quality infrastructure for Indian machine safety norms & standards

We would like highlight that GIZ (the German government agency) which is having the working group on quality infrastructure with relevant Indian ministries. One chapter of this quality infrastructure project is machinery safety. Meanwhile, the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has announced to gradually transfer all the ISO Standards to Indian Standards and GIZ is also part of this major initiative. While BIS and GIZ is working together on this front and, as a result of such development, BIS is in the process of developing 32 Indian Standards which have been adopted from the corresponding ISO Standards and Schmersal is working as a knowledge partner to support them.

Schmersal welcomes the decision of the BIS to adopt the ISO Standards. This will facilitate immensely the import and export of machines to and from India – thus, it will contribute to economic growth in India. Employees in India will benefit from improved safety standards. All these ongoing developments are going to improve safety standards in India and ought to play a major role in Indian market to improve health & safety. Our customers, too, do not need to fear the introduction of the ISO standards. On the contrary, they should welcome this development, especially because all Schmersal products already comply with these ISO standards that means: when our customers buy our products, they can be sure that these components are 100 % compliant to the new Indian norms – at no extra cost involved. Also, when Schmersal designs more complex safety solutions for specific applications, our customers can be sure that these solutions are compliant to the new norms. In addition, we will support our customers with our expertise. Schmersal's status as "Machine safety system, solution & services expertise" is based on our more than 70 years of experience in this field and our position as globally leading supplier.

Correlation between Industry 4.0 and Safety 4.0

Industry 4.0 is not feasible without safety. Safety solutions have to adapt to the more dynamic processes in Industry 4.0

Industry 4.0 is an evolutionary process and we must understand that implementation of Industry 4.0 is not feasible without taking into consideration various safety aspects. Safety solutions need to adopt the more dynamic process in the Industry 4.0. The ongoing

tec.nicum: Schmersal's one-stop safety solution

tec.nicum provides mechanical engineers, operators, systems integrators, and distributors competent, independent consultancy services for all questions about machines and occupational safety. In addition, the experts at tec.nicum plan and implement complex safety solutions - worldwide and in close collaboration with clients.

- The tec.nicum service portfolio incorporates four segments:
- Sharing of knowledge - tec.nicum Academy
- Consultancy services - tec.nicum Consulting
- Technical planning - tec.nicum Engineering
- Implementation - tec.nicum Integration

The specialists at tec.nicum provide support, especially with complex legal and technical questions. They are certified as Safety Consultants by TÜV and are specialists in the field of Machine safety services, technology & solutions.

industrial revolution is all about cyberphysical interface in which data exchange, strong communication channels and intelligent networks play a very crucial role. In this respect, Schmersal has recently launched a series of safety controller called PSC1 which is Industry 4.0 compliant, and it enables construction of modular safety architecture. Our new safety installation systems also represent a flexible Plug and Play solution which can deliver comprehensive diagnostic data, which can be used for predictive maintenance.

Schmersal recently presented a new "Safety to Cloud" Solution, i.e. this solution enables the communication from the sensor right up to the cloud.

Robotics and safety solution

Robots play an important role in modern manufacturing industry. An essential face of Industry 4.0 is autonomous production methods powered by robots that can complete tasks intelligently, with the focus on safety, flexibility, versatility. We will see an increasing number of collaborative robots i.e. robots that cooperate directly with humans without a separating fence. For these collaborative Robots Schmersal has developed a special controller. However, the majority of robot workstations will still need separating protective devices.

Schmersal offers a comprehensive range of products to safeguard the robot workstations, such as optoelectronic protective devices, safety mats, RFID based interlocks etc. In addition tec.nicum provides consultancy services e.g. conducts risk assessments for robotic workstations.

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