

## Introduction – Torque arms

# Protect your most valuable resource

*Operator health is important. If your operators work with hand-held electric or pneumatic tools, the last thing you want is for their health to suffer. However light the tool, when an operator performs repetitive tasks daily, often with incorrect posture, the tool seems to grow heavier by the hour. Add torque reaction from the tightening process, and the result can be hand-arm-shoulder disorders that may lead to injury and even premature retirement.*

Give your operators an extra arm! Atlas Copco torque arms are labour-saving extensions of Atlas Copco hand-held tools that ensure accurate tightening, and raise individual productivity in your plant. Available for torques of up to 1000 Nm, these ingenious constructions are the perfect way to lighten the load when performing repetitive tasks on lines or benches.

### EASE THE STRAIN

Atlas Copco torque arms take the strain off your operators, and allow maximum freedom of movement and flexibility. Wide fields of reach mean that the operator has a large working area without stretching.

### FAST PAYBACK

Investing in torque arms is not such a major decision. With their benefits in terms of increased productivity and improved employee health, payback time is short.

### LINEAR TORQUE ARMS RAISE PRODUCTIVITY IN GERMANY

At its plant in Alpen, in the lower Rhine area of Germany, Lemken GmbH & Co. KG manufactures agricultural machinery. Previously, a safety critical bearing block joint was tightened using an impact wrench, followed by a torque wrench to reach final torque. The torque values required were between 300 and 500 Nm.

### SML TORQUE ARMS ABSORB REACTION FORCES

To improve productivity, Lemken installed an Atlas Copco Tensor DS electric angle nutrunner, mounted on SML 500 linear torque arms, to handle the task. The bolt is tightened to 300 Nm, then loosened 15 degrees and finally tightened to 300 Nm again. The SML 500 absorbs all reaction forces, and enables fast, accurate tightening, with good ergonomics for the operator.

### PAYBACK WITHIN ONE YEAR

Although the plant only operates on a single-shift basis, Lemken recouped its investment within one year. The company is satisfied with the equipment and enthusiastic about the flexibility of Atlas Copco tools.

### BASIC GUIDELINES FOR TORQUE ARMS

Tools used full days with a torque capacity shown in the table should always be used together with a torque arm in order to prevent work related injuries.

	Straight	Pistol	Angle
Ergonomical optimized*	> 4 Nm	> 7 Nm	> 30 Nm
Conventional tools	> 3 Nm	> 5 Nm	> 20 Nm

\* Ergonomically optimized tools is electric tools with two step softstop, turbotight or fast clutch pneumatic tool on a hard joint.

### TO CONSIDER

- However light or low torque, daily use of tools for repetitive tasks can result in hand/arm/shoulder disorders.
- On average a female operator can take 2/3 of the same force as her male colleague.
- Is there enough space for a torque arm at the workplace?
- Finished product quality improvement.
- With the use of a torque arm the arm will absorb all the reaction force from the tool and prevent the tool from spinning around its axis. To ensure highest possible accuracy of the clamp force a torque arm should be used to prevent movement of the tool.



## TPS – Tool Positioning System

### **CONTROL THE SEQUENCE AND THE POSITION**

With a TPS controller you are always sure that the operators tighten the joints in the correct sequence and the correct position. The TPS controller works together with the SML/SMS T-series positioning torque arms or the SMC POSI L/LA torque arms and tool controller. The torque arms are equipped with encoders, SMS T-series have 2 angle encoders and SML T-series have 1 linear encoder and 1 angle encoder. The SMC POSI L is equipped with 1 linear encoder to measure the distance the arm travels. SMC POSI LA is equipped with 2 encoders, to measure the distance the arm travel and the angle. The TPS works with digital I/Os for OK or NOK signals to the tool controller to determine the sequence and position of the tool, if the tool is out of position the tool will not start and when the tool is in position it will be able to start. After a correct tightening with OK signal from tool/controller the operator will receive an OK signal from the TPS and is able to start in the next position.

### **EASY PROGRAMMING**

The TPS can use self learning programming, position the tool in the arm over the selected joint and confirm position, go to next joint with the tool/arm and do the same procedure. When all joints are selected validate the job sequence and the TPS is ready for its new job.

### **50 JOBS – 500 POSITIONS**

The TPS can have up to 50 jobs and up to 500 positions (sequences). The TPS can send information to the tool controller to change Pset in the same job which means that it can be different torque settings in the same job and that the same joint can be tightened several times in the same job. When programming the TPS it can also be with different Psets for different jobs so that the operator always has the correct Pset from tool controller when the TPS job is selected.

### **FAST AND SMOOTH TO START TO INCREASE PRODUCTIVITY**

A job can be started by the operator by pressing the start button on the TPS



control and if the TPS is set to Level in job start the operator only needs to push the start button once, when the job is finished with Level setting the same job starts automatically again. Jobs can also be started by a switch button, from tool controller or on timer from previous job.

### **STAND ALONE SYSTEM**

The TPS is a stand alone system that works together with Power Focus, Tensor DL/DS Drive D312/D31, Micro Torque controllers and EBL RE driver. A pneumatic license and air tool package is available to make the TPS work with RE controlled air tools.

### **OPTIONS**

All options are activated by a license code. The license code is ordered separately.

### **BARCODE READER LICENSE OPTION**

Use a barcode reader to start a job and/or identify a job for the TPS to select the correct Pset.

### **RESULT REPORT FUNCTION OPTION**

Save the results to a PC. The results can be saved in two ways, report on job or report on sequence and job.

### **PNEUMATIC TOOL LICENSE OPTION**

The pneumatic tool license also includes the necessary valves and hoses for a correct set up of RE controlled air tools.