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2
Step 2: Cut Split
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3
Step 3: Snap in
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4
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5
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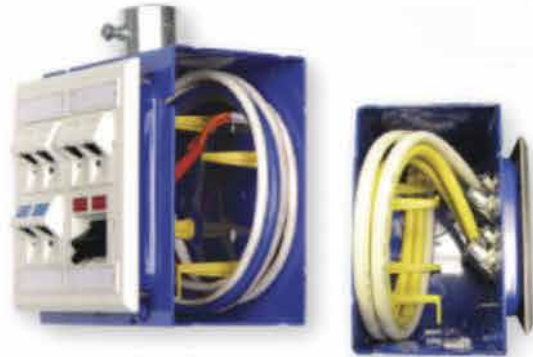
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- SUPPORTS CURRENT AND EVOLVING SYSTEMS
- SUPPORTS PoE PLUS
- SPECIFIED BY ENGINEERING FIRMS, HOSPITALS, UNIVERSITIES & GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

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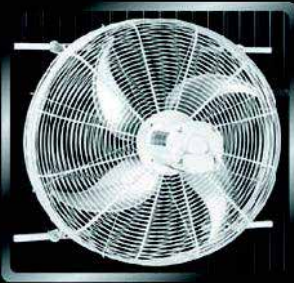
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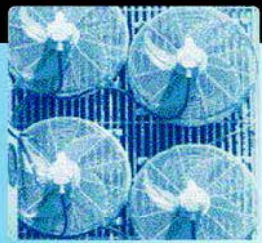

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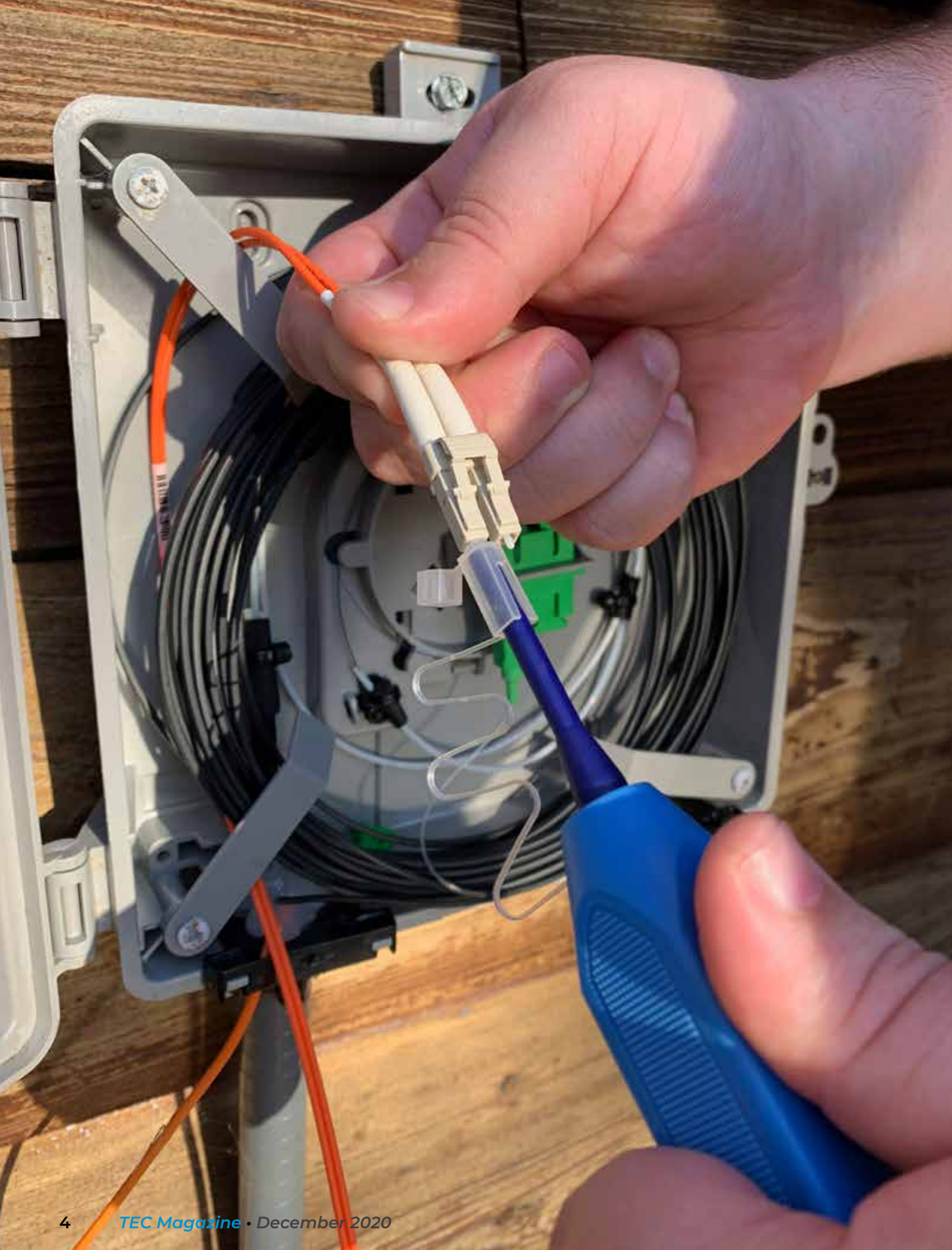
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GREAVES



Platinum Tools® Launches Fiber Optic Cleaner Line

Available in 1.25mm and 2.50mm Sizes, the Color-Coded, Pen-Style Cleaners Work with Virtually All Common Fiber Optic Connector Types

Platinum Tools® (www.platinumtools.com), the leader in solutions for the preparation, installation, hand termination, and testing of wire and cable, is proud to announce the launch of its new Fiber Optic Cleaner line. The two new color-coded cleaners are available in 1.25mm (p/n FC125) and 2.50mm (p/n FC250) sizes.

“These new, easy-to-use, pen-style cleaners have been designed to work with virtually all common fiber optic sizes and connector types, allowing you to clean connectors and ports for the best possible optical performance,” explained Sean Rothermel, Platinum Tools product manager. “With two sizes with color-coded tips for easy identification, all you need to do is push to effortlessly clean fiber ports or connectors. It really is that simple.”

Additional features and specifications include:

- Silk thread provides more than 900 cleanings and advances automatically after each use for particle-free connections
- Single push cleans with ease
- Unique two-position cap cleans ports and connectors with the same device
- Weight: only 2oz.
- Length: under nine inches (225mm)
- Blue tip = 1.25mm size for LC & MU connectors
- White tip = 2.50mm size for SC, FC & ST connectors
- MSRP for both sizes: \$87.50

For additional pricing and more information on Platinum Tools and its complete product line, please visit www.platinumtools.com, call (800) 749-5783, or email info@platinumtools.com.

About Platinum Tools

Platinum Tools LLC, an NSI Industries company, was created based upon two very simple objectives. First, develop the absolute best possible solutions for the preparation, installation, and hand termination of wire and cable. Second, implement an operational infrastructure that can deliver these products in an efficient, timely, and high quality manner.

All of our products must absolutely satisfy three critical benchmark criteria...utility of function; quality of function; and economic value. Our people are our company. They, too, must be focused on and work to satisfy three critical benchmark criteria...customer satisfaction; product knowledge and expertise; and willingness to learn and adapt.

Web-based Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) solutions deliver a new level of simplicity in installation, configuration and usability

Utilities of all sizes face the challenge of efficiently monitoring real-time substation performance across their networks. Each substation is a data-rich environment with hundreds of data points continuously sending data to a master station. Now, advancements in web-based SCADA systems are transforming the process of installing, configuring and managing a SCADA to easily monitor and manage substation performance.

Legacy SCADA solutions, which for decades were proprietary, standalone systems with their own communication protocols, have typically required time-consuming installations to connect to all endpoints and are difficult to maintain. Technicians access and view data through increasingly obsolete DOS-based screens lacking intuitive and easily configurable graphical user interfaces.

“Our legacy SCADA required two people to spend a week just to get a single device communicating with it, so adding RTUs to our 27-substation network was always an issue,” says Bobby Williams, vice president of engineering at Southwest Electric Cooperative, a utility founded in 1939 to serve rural communities in 11 counties across southwest Missouri.

“When our former SCADA vendor told us that they were going out of business, we wanted to replace it with a modern web-based system that would streamline installation and maintenance and give our engineers a modern user interface that they could easily configure.”

Engineering simplicity into the SCADA

A key advantage of web-based SCADA systems is the use of standard web-based protocols to securely communicate between RTU endpoints and a central monitoring terminal and for operators to view and interact with web pages. Southwest Electric Cooperative selected a SCADA from Lenexa Kansas-based Orion Utility Automation, a division of substation automation solution provider NovaTech.

“With our new SCADA we are able to take a device that we never used before, connect it and have it communicat-

ing to every intelligent electronic device (IED) we had in the field within a day. This was simply huge for us,” says Williams.

The topology of a web-based SCADA system is configured as either a centralized or distributed model.

“We opted for a distributed topology with a single Orion master station that talks to all of our substations,” says Williams. “And at each substation we have an Orion LX or LXm terminal.”

Mapping the topology often falls to the utility and can be a time-consuming process to identify locations and the associated data values that need to be brought back to the master terminal. “Digital mapping for devices was built into our new SCADA,” says Williams. “It was just a matter of selecting the IEDs we had in the substation, entering some values, and it was up and running.”

User interfaces bring configurability and ease of use. A web-based SCADA system enables an engineer to open multiple browsers in order to have graphical interfaces for the different substations and key remote monitoring features on different tabs making it easier to monitor a network. Multiple users can be logged in simultaneously.

NovaTech provides a library of over 500 pre-engineered “points pick lists” for the commonly applied substation IEDs from Schweitzer Engineering Laboratories, Eaton Cooper, GE, ABB, Beckwith, Basler and others. This is particularly helpful for smaller utilities where engineers may operate as both relay and substation engineers. Not having to spend as much time to program and manage a system is that much more critical.

“As a small co-op, our engineers wear many hats,” says Williams. “We needed a solution that would be easy to install, use, program and manipulate in order to gather the data that we need to manage our network.”

One of the big advantages is in configurability. Modern web-based GUIs can be easily configured so that faceplates match what they look like in the field on the screen. Further, the configurations use unlicensed software to make the changes, which reduces costs.

WE HAVE THE ROPE TO GET THE JOB DONE.



NovaTech integrates an XML protocol to transfer data into custom webpages. They also include Inkscape plug-ins to simplify point selection, for graphics libraries and to create additional interfaces that are not pre-packaged.

“Using Inkscape, our team can create a template then plug the numbers and the functions into it,” says Victor Buehler, vice president of IT at Southwest Electric. “We did not initially plan on tying in near points to the SCADA system, but we have since been able to easily add them after installation.”

Integrated into modern GUIs are built-in alarm annunciators and email notifications when thresholds are exceeded. NovaTech stores alarms, tags, SOE points and files in a non-volatile expanded memory within an open object-relational database management system.

“E-mails are automatically sent to us for breaker operations, undervoltage situations, things of that nature,” says Buehler. “We can have a notification based on a change or a set point for essentially any data we are bringing in. This ensures we are aware of issues before they become a bigger issue.”

According to Buehler, he was able to reproduce, create new substations and dive into customizations for how we want to view data, without having worked with a NovaTech product before.

“Installing our web-based SCADA was very easy for us despite the fact that we are a small IT team,” adds Buehler. “Even without a dedicated SCADA team, we can easily maintain the product. It does not require a big department.”

Maintenance and security

The elimination of annual ongoing licensing fees as well as the need to rely on the SCADA vendor for installation and maintenance was a major cost savings.

“We were paying tens of thousands of dollars a year in ongoing costs to maintain our legacy SCADA,” says Williams. “Software licensing was a major part of this expense.”

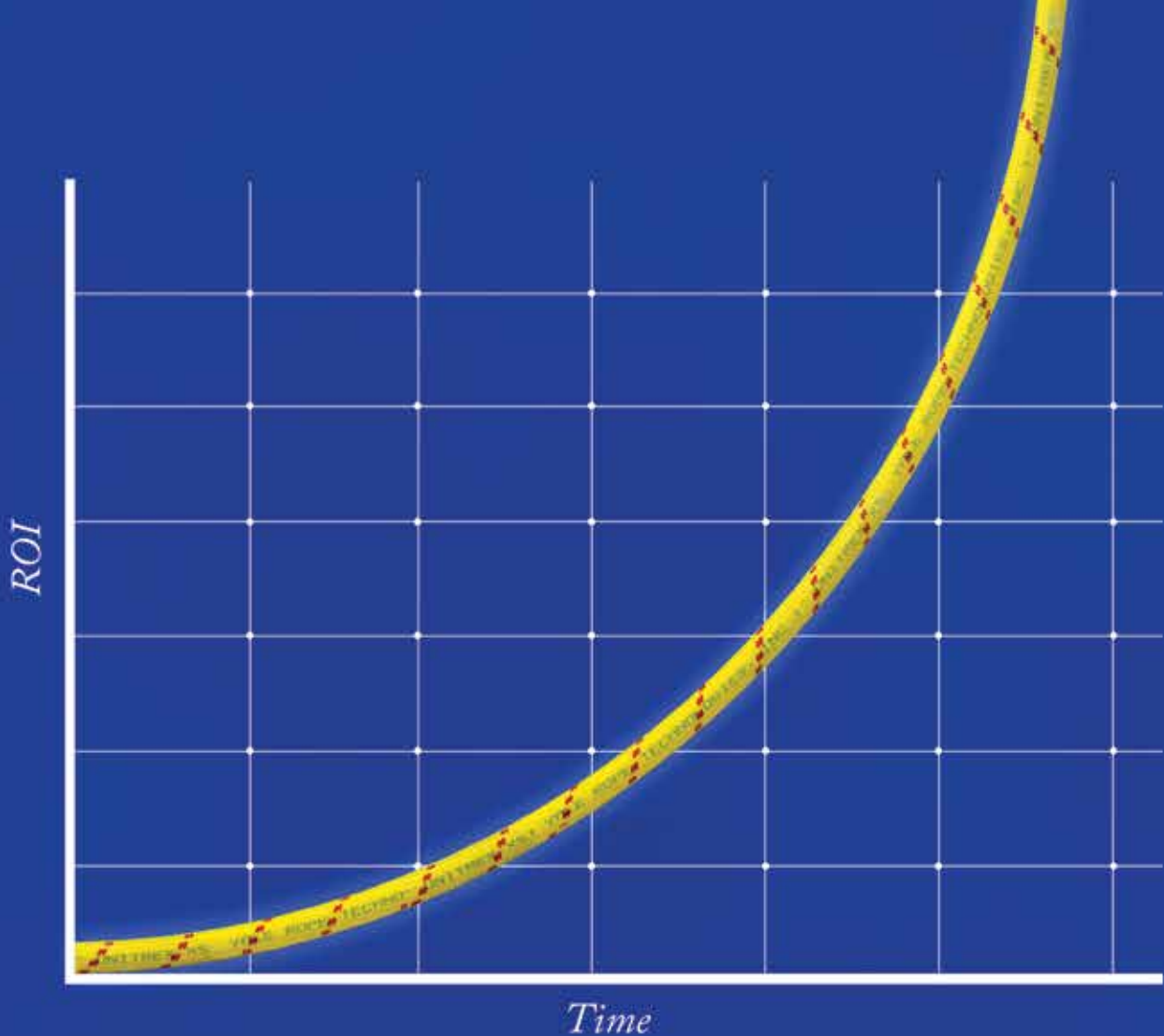
Security is also a key consideration for utilities which typically need to be compliant with North American Electric



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Reliability Corporation Critical Infrastructure Protection (NERC CIP) regulations.

Today's web-based SCADA solutions include strong passwords, user privileges, a stateful firewall, key cryptography, security logging. An HTTPS protocol adds secure sockets layer (SSL) based security – a standard for keeping an internet connection safe for sending sensitive data between systems.

"We run our SCADA system over a cellular VPN connection," says Williams. "Having this data from the endpoints to the master station encrypted is a big deal for us to maximize security. With the Orion system, it came encrypted out of the box."

As utilities add substations and more advanced remote terminal units (RTUs), the demands on a SCADA system inevitably evolve over time. As a hub for centralized access across the substation network, it needs to grow and reconfigure.

"A SCADA system really does not have an end," says Williams. "By its nature it is an ongoing modular effort that requires enhancements and upgrades in lockstep with the substation technology and performance. What is key for a utility considering replacing their SCADA system is to have an overall guiding strategy that will factor in ease of use, cost, scalability, redundancy, security, regulatory compliance and after-sale support to simplify what traditionally has been a very complicated, time-consuming process."

For more information about NovaTech and the Orion family of SCADA and substation automation solutions visit www.novatechweb.com or call (913) 451-1880.

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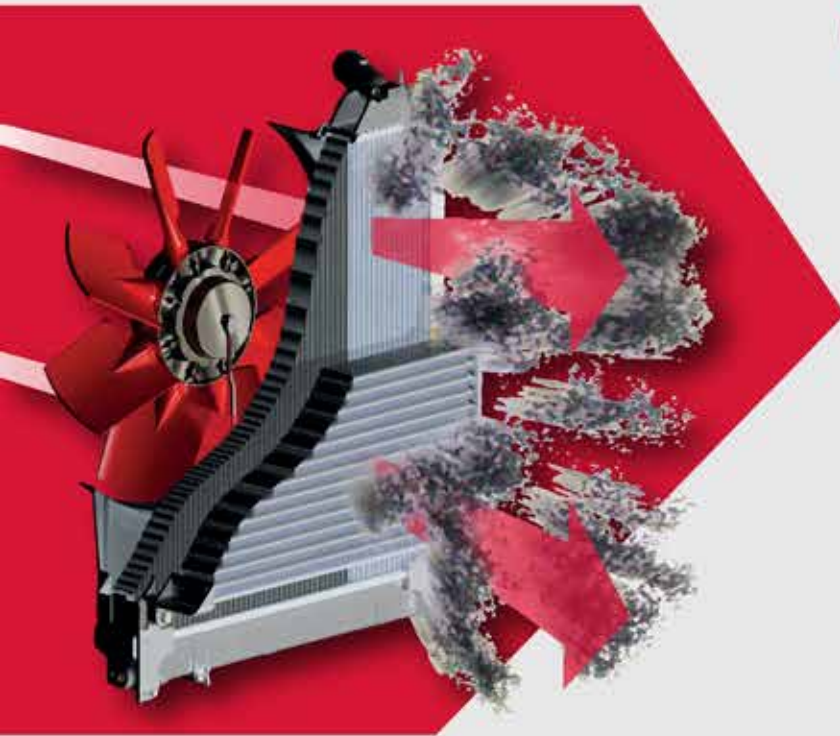
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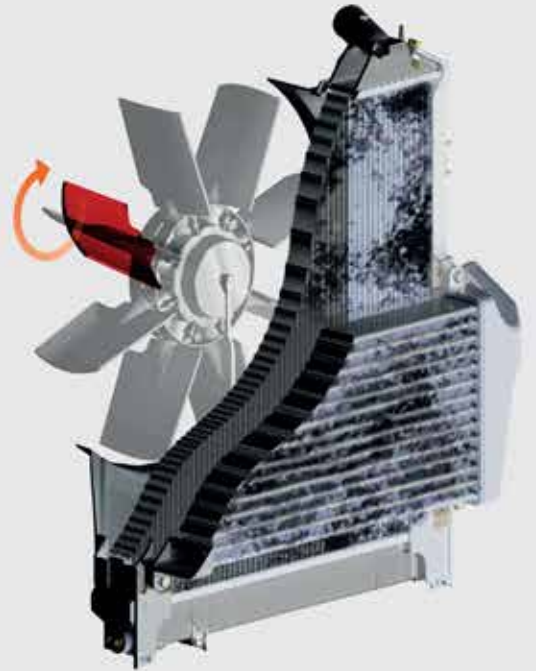
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