# LINEAR SERVOMOTORS

## **Linear Shaft Motor Overview**

# Simple, Non-Contact, High Precision

The Linear Shaft Motor is an ultra-high-precision direct drive linear servomotor consisting of only two parts: a magnetic shaft and a "forcer" of cylindrically wound coils. The forcer assembly, combined with the amplifier and control electronics, produces the force for the motor. The motor contains no iron, resulting in zero cogging, though the coils of the forcer provide the stiffness expected from an ironcore motor. Linear Shaft Motors are also non-contact. The magnetic shaft is built such that there is no space between the magnets within the cylindrical stainless-steel tube. The patented process produces a very strong magnetic field twice that of other linear motors. Since the forcer coil completely wraps around the magnets, all the magnetic flux is used efficiently. This allows for a large (0.5 to 5.0mm) non-critical air gap, with no variation in force as the gap varies over the stroke of the device.

#### Advantages of the Linear Shaft Motor

- Compact, lightweight design requires less power while producing a comparable force to that of a similar-sized traditional linear motor.
- High precision (0.07nm)<sup>1</sup> and precise micropositioning.
- Capable of high thrust (up to 100,000N), stroke of up to 4.6 meters and virtually no speed fluctuation (±0.006% at 100mm/s).
- No heat sinks required. All sides of the forcer coil are positioned to allow for maximum heat dissipation and efficiency.
- Easy installation, alignment and system integration.
- Quiet operation, due to the absence of friction; the only mechanical contact is the linear guide (though fully non-contact operation is possible using an air slider).
- Durable construction, capable of operation even in a vacuum, in a harsh environment, or underwater.
- Available in shaft diameters as small as 4mm and as large as 60mm.



<sup>1</sup>Repetitive positioning precision is dependent on the resolution of the linear encoder. It is also necessary to have sufficient machine rigidity. Absolute positioning precision is fundamentally dependent on the linear encoder. It is not dependent on the expansion or contraction caused by the heat of the Linear Shaft Motor.

#### Applications

| Lab Automation   | Equipment Manufacturing   | Medical/Biomedical  | Other Automation   |
|--|---|---|--|
| Microscope Automation<br>Liquid Handling Robots<br>Sample Handling<br>Pick and Place<br>Robotic Grippers | Laser Processing<br>Welding/Heat Treating<br>Engraving/Etching/Stamping<br>Shaping/Grinding<br>Electrical Discharge Machining<br>Cutting/Punching<br>Inspection Equipment | Pharmaceutical Packaging<br>Automated Injecting<br>Scanner<br>Constant-Speed Drug Dispensing<br>Medical Imaging | Industrial Sewing Machine<br>Transfer Lines<br>Semiconductor Equipment<br>High-Precision Conveying<br>Line-Head Drives in High-Speed<br>Printers |

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# **Motor Configurations**

# Hall Effect Sensors

The Linear Shaft Motor does not come with Hall effect sensors in its standard configuration; they will need to be selected as an option if required by your selected servo driver.

Hall effect sensors are devices able to sense position magnetically and provide this information to the servo driver. Some servo drivers require Hall sensor feedback for commutation. The Hall effect sensors are used by some servo drivers to obtain forcer position information relative to the shaft for commutation. Other servo drivers are able to obtain



information for commutation from the linear encoder.

For most horizontal applications using servo drivers, there is no need for digital Hall effects. The commutation is based on a commutation table built during the tuning process, and is derived from the linear encoder. For most vertical applications, it is best to use digital Hall effects.

Because of the size of Hall effect sensors, they are not available on our 4mm Linear Shaft Motor. On the 8-20mm motors, the dimensions of your project must be expanded to include the sensors, which must be connected externally to the motor. On the 25mm series and larger, the sensors fit inside the motor and no additional space is needed in your design.

## Cooling Methods

Although the Linear Shaft Motor inherently runs cooler than other linear motors, using heat dissipation can improve the ratings of the LSM by 30 to 40 percent. Cooling methods include, but are not limited to: heat routing, heat fins, heat fans, forced air, and water cooling.

Attached to a S080D, a 200mm x 100mm x 12mm heat sink improved the rated current by 75 percent. The same heat sink improved the rated current of a S160D by 30 percent.

# Orientation Options

In a horizontal application, Linear Shaft Motors typically will have the load attached to the forcer so as to achieve simple and precise linear movements. The shaft is supported at both shaft supports, and the load moves along slide rails, linear bearings, or air bearings. A linear encoder scale is attached to the guide rails to provide position feedback for servo control.

In a vertical application, Linear Shaft Motors typically require a counterbalance mechanism, or brake, to prevent the load from dropping in the event of a power interruption. This can also reduce the net load on the motor by supporting it against gravity. Typical counterbalance techniques include a pneumatic cylinder, springs, or a counterweight.

## Linear Shaft Motor in Parallel Systems

Parallel drive systems are any application that has two or more linear motors in parallel. In parallel applications, the wires extend from the shaft on opposite sides, whereas in nonparallel applications, other motor locations are not accounted for in the wiring.



In high-precision, single-axis robot applications, truly accurate positioning is only possible when the feedback is directly in the center of mass of the work point. You also want your force generation from the motor directly in the center of mass of the work point, but you can't put both in the exact same location.

By putting an encoder in the center of mass, and using parallel Linear Shaft Motors equally spaced off the center of mass, you, in effect, are getting the desired feedback and force generation in the center of mass. You also are able to remove the heat source from the center of mass in high precision applications. This is impossible for other types of parallel drive systems, which require two sets of encoders and servo drives to provide this parallel drive functionality.

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# **Drive Setup and Configuration Examples**

Drive Systems for Linear Shaft Motor Single Drive System Tandem Drive System This is a basic drive system. The X and Y shafts can be used to create an X-Y stage. same shaft to multiply the thrust. Multi-Drive System Parallel Drive System Multiple forcers can be used with a single Two or more forcers and two or more shaft to support complex movements shafts connected to the same load required by of some applications. can achieve large thrusts for moving heavy objects. Allows for parallel drive using only one encoder and one driver The mechanism must allow for 1-degree freedom of motion between the two

Examples of Linear Shaft Motor Configurations and Axes of Movement











motors.

Fast and Slow Controllable Speeds — as fast as 15 meters/second and as slow as 8µm/second have been documented. Maximum shaft lengths of 6 meters.

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Two or more forcers can be used on the





# **Other Linear Shaft Motor Options**

Large Air Gap Linear Shaft Motors (L series)

Available on 16, 25 and 32mm-size Linear Shaft Motors, the L series indicates a larger non-critical, non-contact air gap. Compared to standard models in the same sizes, the L series has an air gap upwards of 60 percent larger with minimal force lost.

## Short-Forcer Shaft Motors (SS series)

The SS series Linear Shaft Motors have smaller sized forcers than other standard Linear Shaft Motors. In this series, the size of the motor coil in the forcer has been dramatically reduced, which makes this series perfect for compact applications. The SS series forcer measures 50mm in length, and multiple forcers can be added to a single shaft.

## Multiple Form Factors

The Linear Shaft Motor's forcer can be manufactured in different lengths depending on your application's space and power requirements. Nippon Pulse offers 12 different frame sizes, and each is available in multiple lengths, for multiple frame size options with the same amount of force.



L2 = 10

A = 40

Stroke = 310 - 20 - 40

Stroke = 250

Please visit nipponpulse.com/support for complete product specifications.

ELECTRONICS