

Kollmorgen Essentials™ Servo Drives Bring Cost-Effective Servo Performance to Washdown and Hygienic Environments

16 April 2026

Pair the Kollmorgen Essentials™ Servo Drive with AKMA aluminum washdown motors and AKMH stainless-steel hygienic motors to deliver cost-effective, high-performance motion in washdown and hygienic machines.

RADFORD, VA., April 16, 2026 — Kollmorgen Corporation, a global leader in motion control and automation solutions, has expanded the application range of its Kollmorgen Essentials™ Servo Drive (KED) to include hygienic and washdown environments. [Kollmorgen Essentials Drive](#) was designed with simplicity and flexibility in mind for fast commissioning and reliable performance at a value-driven price. By pairing KED with [AKMA aluminum washdown motors](#) and [AKMH stainless-steel hygienic servo motors](#), machine builders can now achieve high-performance motion in demanding washdown applications—without the cost typically associated with washdown and hygienic servo systems.

Kollmorgen Essentials servo drives support multiple industrial Ethernet protocols out of the box, including EtherCAT®, EtherNet/IP™ and PROFINET®, providing broad connectivity while reducing system and inventory complexity.

Cost-effective Absolute Feedback for Washdown Applications

To further extend this value, AKMA and AKMH motors are now available with SFD-M (Smart Feedback Device, Multi-Turn), enabling Kollmorgen Essentials servo drives to support absolute multi-turn positioning in hygienic and washdown.

[SFD-M delivers high-resolution absolute feedback](#) without the cost and maintenance associated with battery-backed encoders. Its energy harvesting technology stores position information through power cycles, while embedded motor data enables automatic drive configuration and faster commissioning with all Kollmorgen servo drives, including KED, [AKD®](#) and [AKD2G](#).

“High resolution, absolute multiturn feedback has traditionally required stepping up to a higher-cost servo system,” said Chris Cooper, Global Director, Product Management. “By integrating SFD-M into our AKMA and AKMH motors for use with the Kollmorgen Essentials Servo Drive, we’re delivering that same precision and control in a cost-effective solution designed for food and beverage, pharmaceutical packaging and other washdown applications.”

Designed for Washdown and Hygienic Environments

AKMA motors feature anodized aluminum housings with IP69K protection for medium to heavy-washdown applications. AKMH motors provide stainless steel construction with IP69K sealing for daily washdown environments involving high pressure, elevated temperatures and caustic cleaning agents.

With SFD-M available across these extended motor families, Kollmorgen delivers a unified 24-bit absolute feedback solution that provides consistent precision across a wide range of environments. Combined with Kollmorgen Essentials servo drives, machine builders gain high-performance, affordable motion solutions they can rely on for washdown and hygienic applications.

Images:

The image(s) distributed with this press release are for Editorial use only and are subject to copyright. The image(s) may only be used to accompany the press release mentioned here, no other use is permitted.

About Kollmorgen

Kollmorgen Corporation, a Regal Rexnord™ brand, has more than 100 years of motion experience, proven in the industry's highest-performing, most reliable motors, drives, AGV control solutions and automation control platforms. We deliver breakthrough solutions that combine exceptional performance, reliability and ease of use, giving machine builders an irrefutable marketplace advantage.

The following are believed to be the trademark and/or trade names of their respective owners and are not owned or controlled by Regal Rexnord Corporation: EtherCAT® (Beckhoff Automation GmbH); EtherNet/IP™ (ODVA, Inc.); PROFINET® (PROFIBUS Nutzerorganisation e.V.).

Regal Rexnord is a trademark of Regal Rexnord Corporation.

©2026 Kollmorgen Corporation. All rights reserved.

Company contact: North America

Linda Mecimore

Kollmorgen

Linda.mecimore@regalrexnord.com

Company contact: EMEA

Rabea Roos

Kollmorgen

rabea.roos@regalrexnord.com

PR agency:

Anne-Marie Howe

Marketing + Technologies Group

Progress House, Great Western Avenue, Worcester,

WR5 1AQ, UK

Tel.: +44 (0) 1905 917477

a-m.howe@markettechgroup.com