The SS140XP level sensor is certified for use in hazardous areas in North America and Russia (FM, CSA and GOST-R approvals). ABB has identified an issue with the design of the SS140XP that can cause the front lens on the device to crack in certain instances when it is subjected to high temperature (above 50°C) thermal cycling. Once the lens cracks, there is potential of compromising the flame proofed enclosure which may invalidate the hazardous area protection.

Because of this flaw shipments of the SS140XP product have been stopped for the better part of a year. ABB has now validated a technical fix to the problem which involves a change in the way the adhesive used to mount the lens is applied; all existing SS140XP installations in the field will be recalled and refurbished free of charge to correct this defect after which the units will have a valid FM Class 1 Division 1 explosion proof certification. In order to get your SS140XP refurbished please contact ABB service to arrange for return to the factory in Prairieville, LA.

Effective immediately, ABB has decided to discontinue the SS140XP product and will no longer accept new orders for the product. However those orders placed on ABB prior to November 2012 will be honored and ABB will continue to support the product.

Moving forwards ABB will continue to offer the LM80 and LM200 laser level sensors which have Class 1 Division 2 hazardous area approval. In addition ABB is also developing a replacement product to the SS140XP for applications that require an explosion proof laser level sensor with FM Class 1 Division 1 approval. This new product is expected in 18 to 24 months.

If you have any questions or comments regarding the foregoing, please do not hesitate to communicate with your PLS, RSM, service department or the undersigned.

Thomas Buijs
Product Manager
Laser Level and Volume Products