

# Worms and wheels: some formulae



- **Worms and wheels offer very high reductions in speed**
- Under certain conditions systems can prevent back-drive.
- The efficiency of the system is low and rises as the gearing angle increases
- The helix direction is the same for both the worm and wheel
- There is little standardisation for wheels and worms. If a part breaks, it must be replaced by an identical part. Most of the time, replacement parts must be produced from samples.

Wheels	Symbols	Formulae	Units
Module	m	$p \div \pi$	mm
Pitch	p	$m \times \pi$	mm
PCD	d	$Z \times m$	mm
Number of teeth	Z	$d \div m$	
Outside diameter	dc	$(Z + 2) \times m$	mm

Worms	Symbols	Formulae	Units
Outside diameter	D	$(2 \times m) + d$	mm
Helix angle tangent	$\beta$	$(m \times Z) \div d$	
PCD	d	$\frac{p \times Z}{\pi \tan \beta}$	mm

## Distance between centres

- HPC worms and wheels are machined to have a backlash of between 0.07mm and 0.3mm depending on the module. **The distance between centres when assembling them should be the nominal distance between centres -0/+0.05mm.**

$$\text{Nominal distance between centres} = \frac{d(\text{wheel}) + d(\text{worm})}{2}$$