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PRESS INFORMATION

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Ten Sepro Robots Demonstrate Advanced Automation Capabilities at K 2010 Plastics Show

With a total of ten robots on display in the Company's own exhibit and in the booths of four different injection-molding-machine manufacturers, Sepro showed off the latest in automation innovation at K 2010. The world's largest plastics show was held in Dusseldorf, Germany, October 27 – November 3, 2010. Providing automation sales, engineering and service throughout the United States and Canada, Sepro America LLC is a wholly owned daughter company of Sepro Robotique, La Roche sur Yon, France.

At K 2010, the new S5 series of Cartesian beam robots were represented by the S5-35 and S5-25, which was shown for the first time. These units, which offer longer strokes and bigger payloads than comparable units, and feature a rigid structure designed for speed, were shown in a coordinated picking application that included a machine-vision system. One robot placed parts on a conveyer in random positions. The camera recognised their shape and orientation and the standard Visual 2 controller instructed the other S5 robot to organize them on a second conveyer.



Sepro S5 35

(More)

The largest robot in the Sepro booth was the Model 4060 from the Generation IV line, which was set up with three CNC wrist rotations ($A = 0 - 270^\circ$, $B = 0 - 270^\circ$ and $C = 0 - 180^\circ$) in addition to the standard X-Y-Z Cartesian motions. The robot demonstrated the versatility to flame-treating a bumper provided courtesy of Faurecia Automotive Exteriors. The payload in this application (part and gripper) weighed 55 kg or 121 lb. The Model 4060 suits machines to 2500 tons.



Representative units from the affordable Axess Series, including the newest Axess 44 for molding machines as large as 1000 tons and the Axess 7 for machines as small as 20 tons, were also shown on the Sepro stand. Advanced controls, including the Visual 2 and



Sepro Axess 44

Touch 2, featured 10-inch color touch-screens with ultra-simple icon-driven instructions, and a joystick that makes it easy for operators actually steer the robot to fine-tune its movements.

Sepro and Sumitomo-Demag teamed up to promote their recent partnership,

which has Sepro producing robots specially designed to be sold with Sumitomo-Demag machines. In the Sepro booth, an SDR 11 robot was demonstrated on a 160-ton Systemc injection-molding machine. The robot's Visual 2 control was fully integrated with the Demag NC5 controller so the operator could monitor all the automation functions from the injection-molding machine control interface. The injection mold and gripper were provided by HBW-Gubesch Kunststoff-Engineering GmbH.

On the Sumitomo Demag stand, a fully integrated SDR 33 robot was featured on a 450T IntElect machine with a weighing and quality control system downstream. Mold and gripper were supplied by Fischer Germany.



SDR 33

Elsewhere at K 2010, three other Sepro robots showed off complex Sepro automation capabilities on injection molding machines exhibited by several other injection-molding machine manufacturers:

Billion S.A.S. presented in-mold decorating on a lunch tray with an S5-35 robot and Visual 2 control installed on a 400-ton Billion machine. Thumbs Up (UK) Ltd provided the demonstration part and mold.



Dr. Boy GmbH & Co. KG featured an Axess 11 robot with Touch 2 control on a 90-ton Boy machine. The robot was shown in an axial configuration unloading housing lids and stacking them in a cardboard container.



Stork Plastic Machinery BV showed a 1600-ton molding machine with retractable tie bars and a Sepro SR 4050 S3 robot with Visual 2 control in a pallet unloading and stacking application. Because of the size of the part, the robot actually entered the mold area from the side. Didak Injection provided the demonstration tooling.



Sepro Robotique was one of the first companies in the world to develop Cartesian beam robots for injection-molding machines, introducing its first CNC controlled “manipulator” in 1981. It has had a substantial presence in North America since 1989. Today, the company exports 80% of its sales and enjoys a 25% market share in Europe. Sepro truly is a global player with operations not only in Europe and North America, but also in South America and Asia.

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