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## PRESS INFORMATION

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### **Sevro Expands S5 Range of Beam Robots; Newest Unit Suits Mid-Sized Molding Machines**

At K2010, Sevro Robotique, parent company of Sevro America LLC, unveils the Model S5-25, a mid-sized unit in the Company's newest and most advanced line of Cartesian beam robots. Sevro America LLC provides automation sales, engineering and service throughout the United States and Canada. The world's largest plastics show is being held in Dusseldorf, Germany, October 27 – November 3, 2010.

Designed for plastics injection-molding machines with 120 to 450 tons of clamp, the S5-25 offers a standard payload of 10 kg (22 lb), an increase of more than 50% compared to robots of comparable size in the existing Generation 4 (G4) range. The 700-mm (27.5-inch) demolding or strip stroke is 16% longer than the maximum available on the current G4 unit. This means the S5-25 can handle parts with deeper draw. At the same time, however, the wrist and arm are actually 10% smaller so the mold does not need to open as far and cycle times can be reduced.

This increased level of performance is achieved without limiting speed, which is pegged at 4 m/sec (13.1 ft/sec) on the horizontal stroke. Other important specifications include a 1500 to 6000 mm (60 to 240 inches) horizontal stroke and a 1200-mm (47-inch) vertical stroke that can be extended with an optional telescopic arm to 1400 mm (55 inches).

(More)

The Model S5-35, a slightly larger robot designed for molding machines from 350 to 700 tons of clamp, made its European debut in late 2009. Other sizes, for smaller and larger molding machines, are scheduled to be introduced in 2011.

“The S5 is Sepro’s fifth generation of robots,” explains Jim Healy, Vice President, Sales & Marketing for Sepro America. “It takes advantage of everything we’ve learned about meeting the needs of the world’s most demanding injection molders. It is designed using a platform concept, with common subassemblies that help us achieve economies of scale while reducing manufacturing lead times. Yet it is a true ‘industrial robot’ built for rigidity, speed and reliability.”

At K 2010, the S5-25 will be paired with the S5-35 in an application involving machine vision. Advanced automation capabilities like these are made possible by the Visual 2 control, which is standard equipment on the new robots. At its core is a high-speed PLC, featuring scan rates as fast as 100 milliseconds. A large, easy-to-read and -navigate 10-inch touch-sensitive LCD screen makes operation simple and intuitive, while giving users access to full system documentation. A joystick allows operators to actually steer the robot to fine-tune its movements.

Like all Sepro controllers, the Visual 2 offers users several different options for setting up a robot program. The Simple Pick & Place module allows users to create a robot program just by answering a few basic questions posed by the system. The results are presented immediately in three-dimensional video. EPS (Embedded Program Source) programming uses freely programmable templates and on-screen prompts that lead the operator through the process of ‘teaching’ all relevant robot positions. Direct Programming of even the most complex routines can be completed on the Visual 2 pendant or off-line. Programming can be uploaded to the control via Ethernet, Wi-Fi or USB connection.

With the optional Automation Pack, standard 100ms PLC function is increased to 20ms to facilitate the most advanced automation including stacking, insert positioning and loading, post-mold fixturing and finishing, and more. It can even manage intelligent peripheral equipment including vision, bar coding and RFID devices. A PC editor/monitor function, which works in a familiar Windows® environment, makes it easy to fine-tune complex programs.

The large display screen and onboard memory makes it possible to consult all documentation and the user's manual from the pendant at any time. If a fault occurs, troubleshooting data is displayed automatically and the notepad function allows information to be passed easily from one team or shift to another.

Optional digital vacuum setting, which allows users to fine-tune and store vacuum flow settings on the control pendant is available. Automatic initialization makes start-up faster by moving all robot axes to their proper starting positions with the push of a single button. Eco Mode – also a one-button function – automatically slows robot movements outside the mold areas to save energy and reduce wear and tear on the system.

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. 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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