

Application Story

This Machine Earns Its Stripes

Interstate highways and surface streets, taxiways at airports, parking lots, bike paths and pedestrian walkways all have one thing in common. What is it? The colored lines and stripes

meticulously laid out that define the lanes we drive in, where it's safe to pass, where we can park and set the boundaries for sports of all kinds.



The FieldLazer for Turf striping

They tell pedestrians where it's safe to cross, give aircraft pilots a target area for touchdown and without them, travel would be utter chaos.

What's this got to do with Ogura clutches and brakes you ask?

Graco Incorporated in Minneapolis, MN is a worldwide leader in paint spraying equipment. While most would recognize them for handheld sprayers that paint our homes, they produce a wide variety of high quality, airless line striping systems for municipalities and commercial contractors on all surfaces, from asphalt to AstroTurf.

Graco recently introduced their LineLazer IV 250sps striping system, the industry's first stand-on, self-propelled striping unit.

These new designs provide greater visibility for the operator, and improvements in ergonomics to reduce operator fatigue and increase productivity.



The LineLazer IV for parking lots

One important improvement is the electric clutch system. Cold weather starting is always a problem where hydraulic systems become sluggish due to low temperature. Graco engineers wanted to provide a means of engine start up with no loads in cold conditions. They concluded that a way was needed to uncouple the engine from the sprayer and the hydraulic ground drive.

Because of expertise in outdoor power equipment applications such as PTO clutches used in commercial turf care machinery and broad range of mobile clutch products, Graco contacted Ogura Industrial to ask for suggestions on an electric clutch to meet their design objectives.

Ogura engineer's considered the combined loads of the spray system and the hydraulic pump and recommended an Ogura General Purpose clutch (model 7FS) that would mount directly on the Honda engine's output shaft. A model with an output flange was chosen to allow the convenience of mounting a pulley

with two pitch diameters to run the hydraulic pump and the spray system at their most efficient speeds. For engine start, the clutch is disengaged. When operating temperature is reached, the clutch is engaged, delivering power to both sprayer and hydraulic pump.

Ogura Industrial is pleased to be a part of Graco's new LineLazer IV and the FieldLazer and also pleased that Graco, a company who is respected for, quality and reliability, recognizes the same in Ogura.

Now, the next time you are coming in for a landing or watching sports on television, you might just think about the products that make your trip safer and help keep your team "in line." ●



Ogura model MA-7FSP