

OGURA



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NEW MANUFACTURING FACILITY ANNOUNCED FOR THAILAND

Rayong, Thailand



Ground breaking ceremony for new Thailand plant



Mr. Ogura dedicating new plant in Thailand

A ground breaking ceremony for a new Ogura Manufacturing Facility was held at the end of 2008.

The ceremony was attended by Mr. Ogura, Senior Ogura Managers and local town officials. The new plant will be located in an easily accessible industrial park in Rayong, Thailand.

Rayong is approximately 90 miles from Bangkok.

Initial investment for the new plant is 6.8 million dollars.

The new company will be called Ogura Clutch Thailand Co. LTD. The manufacturing facility will be completed before the end of July 2009.

The manufacturing facility will make automotive air conditioning clutches. These clutches will be supplied to the growing automotive industry in and around Thailand. ●

OGURA MANAGERS RECEIVE GE MANAGEMENT TRAINING

Kiryu, Japan

Senior Managers from the Japan manufacturing plants were brought together for a consolidated training from GE Management Trainers. The class consisted of long-term human relations management and the value that this type of planning has on the success of an organization. Attendees were divided into four individual teams and were taught the benefits on making a more horizontal reporting structure and the importance of motivating individual employees. The ultimate goal being improved is response time for customers by making more efficient and faster meetings, which ultimately leads to quicker and more effective decisions. ●



Managers at GE Training

New Sales Rep. Profile

Stockholm, Sweden

My name is Knut Stangenberg and I have just recently started working as a representative for Ogura in Scandinavia. I work for Cumatix, which is a trading company with a long tradition of working with Japanese companies and products.

A couple of years ago I graduated from the Royal Institute of Technology in Stockholm with a Master of Science degree in Machine Elements. After my studies I moved to Scotland where I started working in the IT



Knut Stangenberg

field which has always been a hobby of mine. However, after working for a year in that field I found it more attractive to go into the field of technical sales and I decided to move back to Sweden.

In my spare time I enjoy taking a trip with the boat out in the archipelago or to renovate my summer house.

I'm looking forward to be working with everyone at Ogura and promoting Ogura products in Scandinavia. ●

RECYCLING PROVIDES WHEELCHAIRS

Akabori, Japan

To help emphasize the importance of recycling, Ogura has instituted a new program that uses the money gained from recycled beverage containers to purchase wheelchairs. The wheelchairs are given to different non-profit community organizations that need them. The employees only contribution is to make sure that their used can goes in the correct bin. By showing employees that their contribution directly helps local community groups it has increased participation in what was already a very compliant program. ●

OGURA RECEIVES QUALITY AWARD FROM PANASONIC



Quality award from Panasonic

For the 10th year in a row Panasonic has awarded its award for outstanding quality to Ogura. The award acknowledges a supplier that has targeted zero defects and has an established quality control system that agrees with Panasonic's guide line to achieve a zero defect goal. ●

PLANT #1 RECEIVES COMMUNITY SAFETY AWARD

Gunma, Japan



Community Safety Award

Anyone that has been around a manufacturing facility knows that you do not want to get caught up in the congestion that can happen

during a shift change. Sometimes the zeal of the workers coming and going can result in collisions or other injuries. In Japan local police track these problems (or in Ogura's case the lack there of) and present awards to factories that do not have problems. Plant #1 was presented with a Safety Award in December which recognizes lack of any incidences reflecting the patience and courtesy that Ogura workers have both inside and outside of the manufacturing facility.

Ogura's Plant #1 is located in an "in town" environment so there can be significant congestion with both traffic and pedestrians. To help avoid any problems Ogura personnel voluntarily direct traffic and act as crossing guards preventing injuries to both adults and children.

The award recognizes the Plant as being one of the safest production facilities in Gunma Prefecture. ●

Application Story

OGURA CLUTCHES HELP KEEP YOU ON THE RIGHT TRACK



PHT permanent magnet slip clutch magnetic

Like all industries, railroad systems have become more automated. Trains are constantly monitored so their position is always known. To make sure that trains run in the right direction, and “not into each other”, a series of automated switches are used to switch trains onto different tracks. These “point” or “turn out” switches move between two sets of tracks controlling the track on which a train is running.

The setup is relatively simple. A motor runs a speed reducer which in turn controls a throw rod that moves the tracks back and forth. Once the complete transition has taken place a sensor notifies the central control that it's ok for the train to proceed. But if there are rocks or a significant build up of ice the switching may not take place. In the past the motor continued to run until it went into a current overload and tripped the relay. This caused significant heat in the windings of the motor and required frequent replacement of motors.

To prevent this from happening, an Ogura PHT (permanent magnetic clutch) was installed in the system. The PHT is a magnetic slip clutch which allows the motor and the gear box to continue to drive but can hold the output in a stall condition. Since it is magnetic it has no wearing faces therefore it can slip for an extended amount of time. For this application two sizes are used. One is a 70 in lb unit and the other one is a special 125 in lb unit. The 70 in lb units were designed to take slip time up to 30 min. at a continuous 1500RPM. The 125 in lb units can have slip times up to 10 minutes at 680RPM.



Railroad track switch with PHT 70



Railroad track switch with PHT 125

The PHT works by using two multi-pole permanent magnets facing each other with a hysteresis disc in between. By changing the orientation of the magnetic poles into a relationship to each other the strength of magnetic field flowing through the hysteresis disc either increases or decreases. This results in a greater or lesser drive torque. This allows the PHT to be set to the exact torque requirement of a specific application.

By adding the PHT initial cost was added to the switching system. But the result for the railroad is actually less cost because the replacement maintenance on the motors was reduced significantly.

With this application, everybody was a winner. The railroad was happy because even though they were paying more for the switch they were actually reducing a significant portion of their switch maintenance cost. The switch manufacturer was happy because he was adding another component to his system and could charge more dollars. Ogura was happy not only because a sale was made but an application need was recognized and fulfilled resulting in a satisfied customer and end user. Like the people in the train industry say “when you're using an Ogura clutch you know you're on the right track”. ●



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In The News

OGURA RESCUE TOOLS FEATURED ON NEW TELEVISION PROGRAM



Safety Harness

TBS in Japan is running a new series called Rescue. It's a reality based show about a series of fire and rescue personnel and it follows the characters on a number of adventures each week. Two Ogura rescue products will be featured. The first will be the series of Ogura rescue tools, which is mainly used for vehicle extraction; the second is the full body harness which will be used when either raising or



Electro-hydraulic Hand Tool

lowering a person by rope. For more information on the show please visit www.tbs.co.jp/rescue2009. ●

OGURA RACING PRODUCTS FEATURED AT TOKYO AUTO SALON

Tokyo, Japan

In December the ORC division of Ogura participated in the Tokyo Auto Salon. Even with a slow economy the show had a good turnout. A number of drivers that Ogura sponsors were in the Ogura booth, which drew a fairly good crowd; but the biggest interest was in the new series of clutches and brakes called Arugos.

This new series is made for non Japanese high performance cars. Until this product series Ogura's clutches and brakes were made only for cars manufactured in Japan. The new Arugo series will now fit car makers like BMW, Ferrari, Porsche and others.

The name Arugo is a takeoff of the Greek god Argos. Argos was thought to have many eyes so he was always aware of his surroundings. But the reason that the spelling is different is that Arugos is just Ogura spelled backwards with an S at the end.

Besides the new Arugos series, Ogura had the standard single through quad plate ORC clutches on display as well as different models of superchargers, clutch fly wheels and headers.

Some added recognition at the show came via a car that uses the ORC clutches and made by Subaru Meister K 2 Gear. It won the award for best tuned up car. ●



Customers viewing new products at Tokyo Auto Salon 2009



Ogura's award winning car



The New Arugos products