NEW CHINA MANUFACTURING PLANT ANNOUNCED

Xhejiang, China

On May 13th, Ogura announced that it will build a new electromagnetic clutch and brake manufacturing facility. The new operation will be called Ogura Clutch Changxing and will be located in the Zhejiang Province Changxing County (about 75 miles west of Shanghai). Ogura will hold 100% of the company’s ownership. Approximately six acres have been purchased for the new operation. Capital investment for the new facility is projected to be around $6 million.

This new operation will produce electromagnetic clutches and brakes for both automotive and industrial customers. Although it is primarily being built to handle the expanding Chinese market, some products will be available for export to other locations throughout the world.

Additional details and updates on construction will be posted in future newsletters.

OGURA RECEIVES GLOBAL EXCELLENCE AWARD FROM FORD MOTOR COMPANY

Dearborn, Michigan

This past month, Ford Motor Company hosted its 15th annual World Excellence ceremony celebrating 47 of its top performing global suppliers for 2012. The World Excellence Awards honors production and non-production suppliers. The award winners represent the top performers from thousands of suppliers across the globe who bring diverse cultures, values, and ideas to Ford Motor Company. The award recognizes suppliers for achieving the highest level of excellence in key areas including quality, cost performance and delivery.

This year, there were 14 Gold, 21 Silver and 12 Recognition of Achievement honors given to Ford’s top suppliers. Gold is awarded to the top 5% of the qualifying suppliers. Ogura was chosen as one of those Gold award winning suppliers for 2012.

Troy Brown, Group Vice President of Global Purchasing, thanked the suppliers and said, “Our partnership with our suppliers played a pivotal role in the progress we made on the One Ford Plan in 2012. Our WEA winners have shown a dedication to excellence. Thank you for helping Ford serve customers with the best vehicles in the world.”

Mark Fields, Ford Chief Operating Officer, thanked the suppliers for continuing to embrace the Go Further mindset in the face of adversity. “We want to recognize those suppliers who have demonstrated excellence despite the unforeseen challenges that have happened over the past year. Thanks to your unwaivering commitment, we are closer than ever to reaching our goal of delivering profitable growth for all.”

Ogura receives 2012 Gold Ford World Excellence Award

OGURA RECEIVES GLOBAL EXCELLENCE AWARD FROM FORD MOTOR COMPANY

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Ogura recognized as one of the top 12 suppliers to Ford Motor Company
In the US, when you drive down many roads, you will see roadside signs where the road has been cleaned of litter by local companies or volunteer organizations. In Japan, there is a similar tradition and history of volunteer beautification activities.

For 2013, Ogura employees are going to be patrolling all of the streets around its headquarters and No. 1 manufacturing plant. This activity will help to show the surrounding community that Ogura is not just concerned with the ISO14000 guidelines within the manufacturing plant, but is also concerned with the surrounding community. These cleanings will take place periodically through September.

New two page flyers for industrial products and spring applied brakes have just been released this month. These two new brochures join the three mobile brochures that were created last year. Customers can request either the mobile or industrial flyers directly from Ogura or through the local sales representative.

The brochures contain quick reference information on clutch specifications. These will be used by Ogura sales personnel as quick reference mailers or tradeshows handouts. The flyers reduce the need for the full catalog giving customers the general information they need and for more specific information, directs them to the website.
The new Artemis system uses Ogura high-torque permanent-magnet brakes with high-resolution 3D medical imaging to help pinpoint cancer.

Prostate cancer is a killer of men. Approximately 242,000 new cases of prostate cancer are diagnosed each year. Medical Science and Ogura are working hard to fight this terrible disease.

A new Medical device incorporating Ogura’s high torque PMB series brakes mark a major advance in Cancer treatment. The Artemis is a robotic biopsy imaging device. Until its arrival there have been few changes in the last twenty-five years in the way prostate biopsies are administered, the device offers a significant leap forward in the detection and treatment of prostate cancer. Soon it is to be available on a global scale to help save lives.

A few features of Artemis:
- Patient imaging in 3D
- Integrated patient motion compensation
- Automatic 3D image reconstruction and core recording

For the Artemis system to function, it’s imperative that the exact geometric coordinates of the prostate are registered with its software. The stabilizer/tracking arm sensors equipped with Ogura’s PM brakes provide this capability. Once the stabilizer arm is locked, the geometrical coordinates remain constant. They then use unique software to “fuse” the live patient location with MRI images to provide doctors with real time 3D images.

A few of the advantages of Ogura permanent magnet brakes:
- No power/current required to achieve holding torque.
- They are backlash free.
- Smaller in size and lighter in weight than a comparable spring-applied brake having the same diameter.

Using Ogura’s PMB brakes means that the machine is lighter and easier to move around hallways and operating suites.

Cooperation between Eigen and Ogura is strong. Working with a customer like Eigen is a real pleasure for the Ogura team.

Advancements continue to be made based on feedback from physicians at many of its installed locations. The next generation Artemis units with Ogura’s PM brakes will incorporate these enhancements to successfully aid physicians in diagnosing prostate cancer.
SOFT START CONTROLLER FOR ELECTRIC CLUTCHES

Somerset, NJ

Ogura has introduced a patented soft start controller primarily used for clutches on gas and diesel engines (outdoor power equipment, construction, agricultural). The soft start controller senses the exact point at which the friction surfaces contact, then rapidly reduce the current to a level that allows the clutch to safely slip, but not release. Using engine rpm feedback, the patented controller adjusts the clutch current in a manner that drives the engine rpm to fit a desired profile.

Ogura is now offering a soft start control option for mobile applications for gas and diesel engines. In high inertia applications, engagement of an electric clutch can cause a jarring of machinery. The use of a soft start controller allows for a smoother engagement reducing shock in the system. This means less stress on mechanical parts and eliminating belt jump and increasing belt life.

Engine droop is eliminated because of the closed loop design. Ratiometric rpm control automatically scales to rpm at the time of engagement.

Although primarily designed for gas and diesel engines, the controller can also be used with clutches on electric motors.

Ogura in the News

OGURA SPONSORS TWO LAWNMOWER RACING DRIVERS FOR 2013

Somerset, NJ

For the past 10 years, Ogura has been sponsoring world champion and world land speed record holder, Bobby Cleveland. For 2013, Ogura will also sponsor multi-national racing champion, Chuck Miller. Chuck will be racing in the BP and FX class in lawnmower racing and will also be participating in mini tractor pulling competitions.

This spring has been very busy for both drivers. Bobby has participated in Bennett International charity event (in Georgia) raising funds for both police and fire departments. He also participated in the Charlotte Motor Speedway tractor race. There were separate races on both Saturday and Sunday and Bobby picked up a 3rd and 4th place finish in the BP class and a 3rd and 5th in the IMOW class. There were about 150,000 visitors to the Charlotte Motor Speedway that weekend and was by far the largest audience that had ever witnessed lawnmower racing at one time.

On May 18th Chuck Miller got a 2nd place in the BP class race at the Columbus Motor Speedway in Ohio.

Happy Summer from the Staff of Ogura Industrial

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