NEW PLANT OPENED IN CHINA

Changxing Prefecture, China

At the end of May, Ogura officially opened its new manufacturing facility in the Zhejiang province in the Changxing Prefecture in China. This is Ogura’s fourth venture in China and its third fully directly owned facility. The new facility is going to be called Ogura Clutch Changxing, Ltd.

Total square footage of the plant is 255,514 square feet. Initial employment will run around 100 personnel with new hires to follow once full production is reached.

Mr. Ogura presided over the official opening which was well attended by local Chinese government officials. Also invited were customers and guests of Ogura Japan.

The plant is designed to produce elevator brakes, high volume servo motor brakes and other types of spring-applied holding brakes. Besides high volume brake production, this plant is also going to produce automotive air conditioning clutches. This will be the first plant that Ogura has designed to handle diverse products, such as these, in high volume.

AWARD FROM MITSUBISHI

Nagoya Prefecture, Japan

On July 24th, Ogura received the Superior Supplier Award from Mitsubishi Heavy Industries. The award ceremony was held at Mitsubishi’s Biwajima plant. Ogura received the Best Supplier Award certificate and crystal ornament in recognition by Mitsubishi of Ogura’s effort in cost savings for their air conditioning business. Mitsubishi was very appreciative that Ogura’s cost reduction efforts and sub manufacturing of components at Ogura’s other factories throughout the world helped Mitsubishi remain competitive.

NEW PLANT OPENED IN CHINA

Ogura’s new manufacturing facility in Changxing Prefecture, China

Mr. Ogura, guests and local officials at opening ceremony

JIS Q9100 AUDIT

Kiryu, Japan

The JIS Q9100 quality control system is based upon the aerospace and defense sector of the JIS standard. In May, Ogura received their audit from Lloyd’s Register of Quality Assurance. 10 individual locations at plant no. 1 that produces aerospace products were audited. This is the third year in a row that Ogura has received certification. As with any audit, there are always minor improvements that can be made. It was suggested that Ogura improve its selection and application of KPI in making a turtle diagram and also establish protocols that more precisely reflect a customer’s requirements.

Ogura Clutch Changxing, Ltd.

 Superior Supplier Award

Lloyd’s quality audit
his June, I began my career with Ogura as a technical support engineer. Previously, I attended Brookdale CC before moving forward to Rutgers University graduating with two degrees, geological science and mechanical engineering. During my time there, I had the good fortune to come across Rutgers Formula Racing (Rutgers FSAE chapter). Short description, it is a student organization that fully designs and fabricates a racecar every year. The time and dedication required was well beyond any other project I had been involved with previously. The hard earned experience I gained from that project is applied to my work every day.

I wish to extend my sincere gratitude to those who have made my transition into Ogura an exciting and enjoyable process. As a new member to the Ogura family I will put forth the necessary determination and effort to see us achieve success and excel as a leader in the industry.

Hello, my name is Thomas Kohutich and I am 25 years old. I recently joined the team at Ogura Industrial as an Accounting Assistant. I’ve lived in Avenel, New Jersey my whole life. I graduated from Middlesex County College with an Associate’s degree in accounting then I transferred to Kean University and recently finished getting my Bachelor’s in accounting.

When I am not working I enjoy a nice relaxing day at the beach and especially love to go golfing. Most of all, I am a very good bowler. I recently just bowled my second career perfect game at Woodbridge Bowling Center.

I am very excited to have this opportunity at Ogura Industrial and am looking forward to our future endeavors.

During the first week of August, the annual Yagibushi Festival was held in Kiryu, Japan which is Ogura’s hometown. The festival combines various types of traditional Japanese folk music.

This year, Ogura once again, had their own band, “Kamatsu-kai.” This celebrated Ogura’s 50th anniversary for the festival’s participation. The band played on a special stage with new costumes commemorating the 50th year of participation.

Last year, Ogura hired professional Maiko women (young women who are training to be Geishas) from Kyoto. This was extremely popular, so this year, in addition to the Maiko women, Ogura also hired fully trained Geishas, so many people were excited to pose and take pictures with them.
The demand for more energy saving in all products keeps growing and electromagnetic clutches are no exception. In response to this demand, Ogura has developed an alternating clutch which uses no electricity to hold the clutch in the engaged mode. Electricity is only needed when the clutch shifts.

The clutch uses a combination of a permanent magnet and an electromagnet from an engagement to a disengagement position. When the coil is not energized, the permanent magnet holds the clutch in an engaged mode allowing the clutch to transmit rotation. When disengagement is required, the polarity of the clutch is pulsed in the opposite direction allowing the clutch to disengage. The clutch is held in a disengaged mode until it receives another pulse and changes the polarity. Besides operating as a standard mobile clutch, the unit can be modified to also operate as a brake.

In June and July, Ogura exhibited at two different tradeshows at the Tokyo Big Sight. The first one was the M-Tech Show which is the Machine Element Exhibition. Ogura showed the wide variety of industrial products including the new super thin spring-applied brakes.

In July, Ogura showed products at the Techno-Frontier Show. This is the first time that Ogura exhibited at this show, so there was quite an interest in Ogura’s line of holding brakes, and tension control systems.

In Ogura Industrial’s home page, a new item, “Ask Ogura” has been added. Visitors to Ogura-clutch.com can click on the box and ask any question on an Ogura clutch or brake and receive a quick answer. This saves website visitor’s time in searching through Ogura’s site, but for the most part the questions that are being asked are regarding information that is not available on Ogura’s site.

A new Installation and Maintenance PDF has also been added for the 8000 series mobile clutches. This gives a step by step installation procedure for these large hydraulic pump clutches.
Ogura in the News

OGURA AND POWER TRANSMISSION PRODUCTS HELP OPEN NEW DOORS

In August, Design News ran an application story about how Ogura micro clutches are helping a Danish company called Access Technology open and/or close door locks remotely. The micro clutch connects the motor gear drive to the pinion and gear which either closes or locks the door. This system can be used with standard keys, smart cards and can even be accessed from a remote location. This is helpful if keys are lost or if an emergency requires doors to be opened to let people out or to allow easy access for emergency responders. The link to the story can be found at www.ogura-clutch.com in the editorial section.

FLUID POWER JOURNAL

In the July/August edition of Fluid Power, Ogura electric clutches for pumps and the heavy duty marine electric clutches were featured in the product spotlight section.

CHUCK MILLER TIED FOR LEAD GOING INTO FINALS

Going into the Stabil National Lawnmower Racing Championship Finals in September, Chuck Miller is tied for first place in points, so it will all come down to this race. Unfortunately, this newsletter will be published before the results of that race are known.

Chuck has had an exciting year starting off with a first place finish on Memorial Day. His next race in June brought him to Michigan and in a very close race, pulled off another win. A few weeks later, Chuck went to Grace Lake, Illinois and ended up with a 2nd place finish in one race and a 1st in the second race on a very hot weekend. In August, Chuck went to Clements, Maryland and in the feature race, was in 3rd place with about six laps to go when a caution flag came out and pushed Chuck into 2nd. With about three laps to go, the current leader developed engine trouble and Chuck was able to pass him and win.

Everyone at Ogura is excited for the winner-take-all race in September. Chuck will be going for his third win in a row on his Ogura Clutch BP machine.