



## PRODUCTIVITY IMPROVEMENT AT PLANT NO. 1

*Kiryu, Japan*

Ogura's Plant No. 1 in Kiryu produces a wide variety of industrial clutches and brakes. Over the years, the plant layout has been changed many times to match the production requirements to the



*Before layout change*

clutch and brake needs of the period. The current plant layout was done eight years ago to optimize production for the increasing volume of power off brakes. To handle the variety of models and special requirements, more NC lathes and

machining centers were introduced. However, due to the machining center's differences in cycle time, efficiency has become less than ideal. To improve efficiency, NC laves and machining centers were linked to reduce the wait time between processes. However, even with linking the production, flow is not optimized.



*After layout change*

Even from eight years ago, there have been many improvements in machine tool equipment. In particular, the changes with multi-function machining

centers is significant. The newest machining centers that Ogura purchased last year were so efficient that it has challenged Ogura's manufacturing engineers previous thought process for optimal work flow.

The newest plant layout has been accomplished by targeting three main objectives: 1. logistics improvement, 2. optimize movement, 3. visualization of the process (all with the overall objective to increase productivity).

It was challenging, trying to keep production flow while at the same time moving centers and lathes, but the change has been accomplished. Now the different machining centers are no longer at different locations within the plant. They are now relocated to the same centralized location to minimize the movement of both operators and parts. ●

## ISO PROCESS BEGINS AT NEW CHINA FACILITY

*Xhangxing, China*

In May, Ogura started operation at its newest manufacturing facility in China. To conform to customer requirements, it is required that this plant be ISO9001 compliant. This process was started at the beginning of August and final certification is expected to be somewhere around October 2015.

This new facility is the first plant of Ogura that will be making both general industrial products and automotive related products, so although ISO9001 is the initial target, the next goal after achieving the ISO compliance would be to achieve TS16949 certification. ●



*ISO process begins*

## Ogura Sales Rep Profile

### Harry Park

*Representing Eastern Canada for Ogura*

**H**ello my name is Harry Park. I am Ogura's newest sales representative covering all of Eastern Canada.

I come to Ogura with over 25 years in the power transmission industry with 17 years selling clutches and brakes for a competing manufacturer (but please do not hold it against me).

I am an award winning go-getter with a positive, "take no prisoners" approach to business. My in-depth knowledge of clutches and brakes, and experiences with Ogura in the marketplace led me to approach Ogura when I heard they were seeking representation in Canada. Ogura is a perfect fit for my new representative company. My new business handles only two lines at this time. In this way, I can concentrate my sales efforts for maximum market penetration and fastest results. Canada business is still growing; the sky is the limit!

In my off hours, I am an avid fan of all sports, especially the National Football league. I am active in golf when the cooler Canadian weather allows it. I have been married to my wonderful wife, Jennifer, for 22 years. Technology is another hobby of mine and I race to grab the latest gadget available.

I am very excited to be a part of the Ogura team and look forward to getting to know more of you in the years ahead!●



*Harry Park with his wife, Jennifer*

## OGURA PRODUCTS EXHIBITED AT GIE EXPO

*Louisville, KY*

**T**he overall mood at the annual GIE Expo was up this year. Most exhibitors and attendees felt that 2015 would be a fairly good year. No one was projecting that their business would significantly take off, but most felt confident that they should be able to maintain their current level and possibly obtain some new opportunities in 2015. To provide support for Ogura, the sales representatives that had lawn and garden customers attended the show to visit their customers and to also support Ogura Industrial in their show booth.

Outside, Hall of Fame lawn mower racers, Chuck Miller and Bobby Cleveland showed off their supercharged puller and racing mower. Every time the mowers were started, crowds immediately

gathered because they could not believe the sound of the power that was coming out of the Briggs engine with the Ogura supercharger. Many fans had the opportunity to ask both Bobby and Chuck questions on lawnmower racing and how they modified their engines for lawnmower racing and for tractor pulling.●



*2014 GIE Expo*

## NEW INSTALLATION VIDEOS PRODUCED

*Somerset, NJ*

**A** series of installation videos have been produced for Ogura mobile clutches. Specifically, the videos are for small general purpose clutches, large general purpose clutches, PTO clutch brakes, large hydraulic pump clutches, clutches for water pumps and clutches for hydraulic pumps.

Each video shows the proper installation of the Ogura clutch to either a support bracket or the pump face. The videos also help remind customers how to adjust for wear on PTO clutches and how to reduce the chance of rotor strike for mobile hydraulic and water pump clutches.

These videos are available directly from Ogura's YouTube site or under the videos section or installation video tab in each clutch's product page of Ogura's website.●



*New Installation Videos*



# THIS APPLICATION IS *HOT*

**I**sland City, LLC, located in Merrill, Wisconsin, manufactures a range of products oriented to commercial and some specialty military vehicle applications. Unique among their products is a broad range of Dynamic Heat Generators (DHG). What exactly is a DHG and how does it work?

The input of rotational energy results in fluid shear/friction, heating the fluid in the DHG, which is delivered to the point of use via flow of the fluid through the circuit.

The enclosed system uses various fluids depending on the individual application. Applications are numerous, but the main ones are heating for vehicle cabins and post heating diesel engines to help meet emissions.

Island City's Model A1R300 & A2R300 have a heat generation capacity of 25,000 and 63,000 BTU/HR (10 to 20 absorbed hp) respectively. Larger units span a breath up to 3,500,000 BTU/HR (1,400 hp) with a common operating temperature of 220 degrees F. Heat output is to be regulated by speed. So, the electrical clutch offers flexibility to the system as the unit can be modulated.

Island City has been developing electric clutch driven versions of the DHG in collaboration with Ogura Industrial Corporation in Somerset, NJ. "Our DHGs are in service in very remote locations, northern oil fields for example," said Gene Johnson, Island City's Marketing Director, "so we insist on high quality and reliability in any DHG system component. Knowing Ogura's reputation in automotive applications and that their mobile pump clutches are designed to function and survive in harsh environments is critical in their consideration as part of our system. The availability of a wide range of torque capacities allows proper matching of clutch torque to DHG requirements. Ogura offers both belt and driveline inputs—providing design versatility as well."

The on/off operation of the electric clutch provides flexibility in system design according to Johnson. For example, in an engine driven system, the engine control unit (ECU) monitors the point at which heat is required, switching on the clutch and turning it off when the desired temperature is achieved. The ability to modulate the system automatically through the ECU greatly simplifies operation and conserves horsepower.

Clutches are adaptable to different electrical systems as well since the clutch can incorporate coils appropriate to the onboard voltage of 12, 24 or 48 volts.●



*Ogura belt driven clutch*



*Island City Dynamic Heat Generator  
with an Ogura Mobile Clutch installed*



***Happy Holidays from the Staff of Ogura***

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## Ogura in the News

### OGURA EXHIBITS AT EIMA INTERNATIONAL

*Bologna, Italy*

The Eima Show in Bologna, Italy is held every two years and is one of the largest shows in Europe. This was OIC's first time exhibiting at this show. This year, the show drew over 235,000 visitors from over 140 countries. Even though business conditions in Europe are a little slow, the show's exhibitors and attendees felt positive towards 2015. Parts of the agricultural market are growing in Europe and especially in Italy, so there was a lot of activity and interest in new machinery.



*Wide Automation and Ogura personnel talk with customers at the booth*

Ogura's booth, supported by Ogura's sales representative, Wide Automation, drew a fair amount of interest and it was a good opportunity to educate potential customers on the benefits of using electromagnetic clutches on farm and outdoor power equipment.

Ogura booth personnel highlighted the advantages of using the clutch to disconnect either a rotating implement, pump, or compressor, so when it is not needed, it does not need to rotate. This provides an advantage for either safety or for energy savings for the end customer. ●

### LAWNMOWER RACING CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS AND HALL OF FAME INDUCTION

*Delaware, OH*

Going into the final race in Delaware, OH in mid-September, Matthew Strine and Chuck Miller were both tied for 1<sup>st</sup> place in the BP division of the USLMRA. The race was neck and neck between Matt and Chuck, but in the end, Matt edged out Chuck to take 1<sup>st</sup> place in the race and 1<sup>st</sup> place in the overall STA-BIL point's series. Chuck missed his opportunity to become another multi-year winner this year, but vows to return next year to recapture his title.



*Chuck Miller with his 2nd place trophy*

Bobby Cleveland finished the race in 4<sup>th</sup> place and overall, finished 6<sup>th</sup> out of the 29 active drivers in the BP division. After the race, Bobby was inducted into the Lawnmower Racing Hall of Fame. ●



*Hall of Fame lawnmower racer, Bobby Cleveland*