

New China Factory Open for Business

Dong Gaun, China

On March 18 Ogura's newest manufacturing operation opened for business. The plant, in Dong Gaun (approximately 2-1/2 hours by car north of Hong Kong), was opened less than a week and had already received certification as an air-conditioning clutch supplier to a compressor manufacturer for the Chinese market.

The ceremony was attended by approximately 200 people including the presidents of all worldwide Ogura companies, senior management at Ogura Japan, suppliers, Ogura customers, and local Chinese government officials.

The new plant's production goal is 500,000 clutches during its first year of operation. As the plant builds up a firm manufacturing base, it will add products and expand manufacturing capacity to meet demand. This new plant will enhance Ogura's cost competitiveness in the Chinese market without sacrificing the quality of Ogura's products.



New China Plant



Self-bonding coil winding machine



Rotor machining line

OGURA INDUSTRIAL CORP. IS MOVING!!!



New OIC office under construction

Somerset, NJ

Because of OIC's continued expansion over the past few years, the company is moving its operation to a larger facility in Somerset, NJ. Even though the physical location will change, the phone, fax, and e-mail numbers will remain the same. The new location offers expanded warehouse and assembly area as well as increased office space for new employees.

All personnel, machinery, and inventory should be moved to the new facility by the beginning of July. An actual move date has not been finalized (at the time of this newsletter) because of on-going construction. Once an actual date is established a formal letter will be sent advising all Ogura customers and suppliers of the move.

APPLICATION STORY

SPECIALTY IDENTIFICATION CARDS GROW IN PRACTICALITY

On any given day, each of us might pull into a filling station, slip a card from our wallet or purse and pay for our fuel purchase right at the pump. We might even take that

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card inside to the ATM if we need some extra cash. Trade shows now give personalized identification cards with a magnetic strip containing all the pertinent information: name, company, mailing address etc. No forms to fill out, just a swipe of the card at any display area and the brochures arrive at the office later. There are reward cards, gift cards, student identification cards and rapid transit pass cards. Prepaid telephone cards, medical plan cards and library cards are routinely carried. Newer ATM cards for example have the familiar magnetic strip on one side and the holder's photograph and signature printed on the other side, reducing the incidence of fraud. Identification cards like these are so much a part of modern living that we users hardly think about them.

Engineers at Datacard Corpora-

tion in Minnetonka, MN constantly think

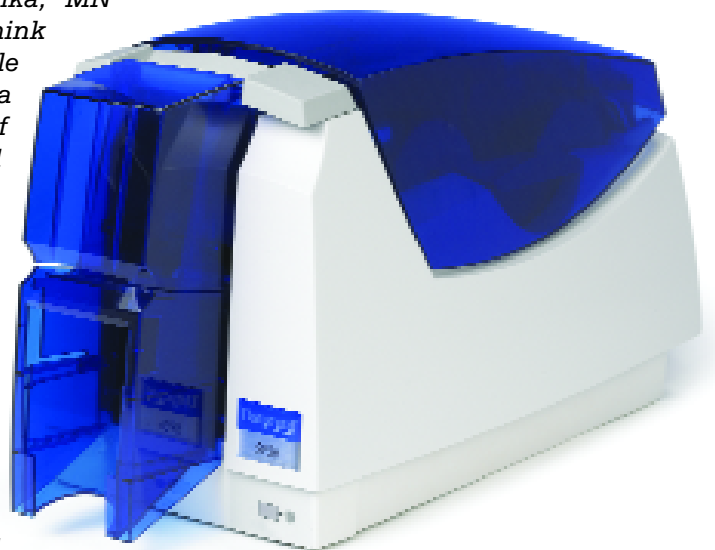
about these little time savers. As a manufacturer of high volume card printers for banks and financial institutions, Datacard saw the need for a lightweight, portable device to print high quality identification cards for organizations, smaller companies and trade fairs. Their answer is the SP55

card printer, a desktop device that interfaces with a standard personal computer for data entry.

To conserve space and keep the machine footprint to a minimum, Datacard engineers determined that they would have to come up with a way to flip the card over during the print process. That would provide two-sided printing and eliminate the cost of a second print station.

They concluded that a magnetic clutch could be employed to cycle a turret mechanism to perform that function. They first considered a wrap spring clutch but they needed bi-directional performance.

Datacard engineers then contacted Ogura Industrial Corporation for assistance. After considering load and duty cycle, it was decided that Ogura's MIC2.5NE



Card Making Machine



Ogura micro MIC clutch

clutch was ideal for the application. Testing showed outstanding performance and the machine is now in full production.

MIC clutches are designed for low cost and reliability and have a solid track record in business machine applications around the world. The one-piece, preassembled construction makes installation a snap. Slide the clutch onto the shaft, supply power and it's ready to go. There are no adjustments required or air gaps to set. Zero backlash operation is assured by a one-piece armature spring and special bushings allow millions of cycles in most applications.

Datacard was successful in developing a printer that meets the needs of small volume applications and Ogura is pleased to be a part of that success. Perhaps we can help solve a motion control problem for you. For information about MIC clutches and the full range of Ogura Industrial Clutches and Brakes, visit our website at www.ogura-clutch.com.

OIC EMPLOYEE PROFILE

Nancy Kelly Administrative Assistant

Hi, my name is Nancy Kelly and I recently joined Ogura Industrial as an Administrative Assistant. I was born and raised in New Jersey and have lived here all my life. I come from a Peruvian and Japanese background. Although I do not, unfortunately, know the Japanese language, I am fluent in Spanish.

I earned my Bachelor's degree in Spanish when I graduated from Rutgers College in 1994. I had hoped to become a teacher but my plans changed shortly after graduation. Instead, I've worked in various business industries where I've developed many skills and have dealt with many challenges. My past experience includes customer service, purchasing, and project management.

When I'm not working, I spend time with my two sons Arias and Seth who are now 3 and 4. For all of you who have children, you know that's a handful. I enjoy reading, listening and dancing to all kinds of music, and acting silly with my kids. I am very excited to be working here and look forward to being a part of the continuous growth and success of Ogura Industrial.



Nancy Kelly

Ogura Manufacturing Plants to Comply with New EU Standards

Kiryu, Japan

Over the next few years, new environmental standards are going to be in effect for manufacturing operations. Ogura is planning on complying with all these standards. The first one is the R.o.S.H. standard (Restriction of use of certain Hazardous Substances in electrical and electronic equipment, EU directive 2002/95/EC). The second standard Ogura will be complying with is W.E.E.E. (Waste from Electrical and Electronic Equipment, EU directive 2002/96/EC) and the last one is E.L.V. (End of Life Vehicles, EU directive 2000/53/EC). Plans are under way to phase in these standards for all customers over the next few years.

On a related note, Ogura has received certification from Sony as a green partner because of the environmental awareness Ogura has already shown.

NEW HIRES FOR 2004

Kiryu, Japan

As Ogura's business has increased over the past year so has the need for new engineering talent. A total of 36 new technical personnel have been hired in Ogura's new class of 2004. Out of the 36 technical

personnel hired, 27 of them are engineers with degrees in mechanical, electrical, materials and plant engineering. Their high intensity basic training will last approximately six months before they are assigned to the apprentices (second stage) of their training this fall.



New Engineering Class of 2004



OGURA INDUSTRIAL CORPORATION

P.O. Box 5790, 400 Cottontail Lane, Somerset, NJ 08875-5790
Tel: 732-271-7361 • Fax: 732-271-7580
E-mail: ogura.nj@ogura-clutch.com
Web Site: www.ogura-clutch.com



HAPPY *from the staff of* **Summertime** **Ogura Industrial**

OGURA IN THE NEWS

Lawn Mower Racing Off to a Great Start

Avon Park, FL

Ogura Industrial is once again sponsoring the BP Lawn Mower Racing Team for 2004. In March, Shane Shellnut on his #11 Ogura Clutch machine, pulled out to an early lead in this year's points competition with his win in Avon Park, FL. Since then, Shane has continued to stay at the top of the points competition with either 1st, 2nd, or

3rd place in all the races he's entered this year. Shane and his Ogura clutch mower are currently in 1st place.

If you would like to follow Shane and the rest of the BC racing team this season, go to www.letsnow.com and click on the series points BP class.



Shane in the lead



Shane Shellnut wins Avon Park FL race

ORC SIGNS DRIVERS FOR NEW SEASON

Kiryu, Japan

At a ceremony at the end of March, Ogura named its racing team for the 2004 -2005 series. A total of 34 drivers were signed up, being sponsored or co-sponsored by Ogura racing. Besides the new drivers, racing support personnel and technical support personnel were also announced.

The Ogura racing team will be competing in a variety of D1 races and Alteza series of races this season.

Ogura racing is also sponsoring two competitions throughout the year. The 1st one is in Hokkaido in June and the 2nd one is in Okinawa in September. These races are open to the public and the winners of these two races will be allowed to compete in the D1 Grand Prix later in the fall. For the small sign up charge of \$120, it's a good chance for a virtual unknown driver to break into the professional racing circuit in Japan.



New 2004/2005 drivers and support personnel