

## TOKYO AUTO SALON 2020

### Tokyo, Japan

In January, Ogura took part in the 2020 Tokyo Auto Salon Exhibition. At the show, Ogura introduced a variety of new, single face, light clutches made for the Suzuki Swift Sport, the Nissan models GT-R and Z432, Lancia Delta and also a new metal single plate design for the Toyota Vitz.

Two new motorcycle slipper clutches were also shown for the Kawasaki Ninja ZX and Yamaha YZF series bikes.

As in the previous year, there was an interview with the drivers who took part in the Inter Proto Series, Kyojo Cup, and Toyota Gazoo Racing Rally Challenge. An interview with the team "Rooki Racing" led by Morizo (Akio Toyoda, the President of Toyota Motor Corporation) which participated in last year's "Pirelli Super Endurance Race" also took place. Hosted by Kyojo's racing driver, Ogine, the interview was a great success and ended with Morizo himself appearing on the last day.

Ogura displayed three vehicles, "Rooki Racing"'s Toyota 86, that won the overall victory at the 10-hour endurance race held in Buriram, Thailand, and two motorcycles from the All Japan Road Race. ●



Images from the 2020 Tokyo Auto Salon Exhibition

## CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) HELP

### Kiryu Japan

At the January senior management teleconference between all Ogura divisions worldwide, Ogura's clutch manufacturing plant in China (OCD) requested if Ogura Japan could look into the purchase of masks for the employees. They said that there are masks available in China, but the masks made in Japan have a much better reputation for quality and ability to keep out the virus.

Upon hearing this, Mr. Ogura immediately called a friend (during the meeting) who manufactures those types of masks and ordered 50,000 to distribute to all Ogura workers in China and their families. The additional quantities will be given to Ogura China (OCC and OCW divisions) as well as the Ogura workers in Thailand and Philippines who have a lot of frequent travel between their countries and China and because they also still have some ash remaining from the Taal volcano.

The left-over masks (over 10,000) will be given to the Ogura plants in China to distribute to both the suppliers supporting Ogura's plants and the surrounding community around Ogura's manufacturing facilities as requested by the local government. ●

# Ogura Sales Rep Profile

## RYAN PILLAR

KELLER INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS, INC.

**R**yan Pillar recently joined Keller Industrial Products in the Western Pennsylvania/West Virginia territory as his predecessor enjoys a well deserved retirement after 14 years with Keller. Ryan, his wife Sheri, and their 16 year old son, Tyler, live just south of Pittsburgh. While Ryan was born and raised in Pittsburgh, he spent nearly 10 years in Columbus, Ohio working technical sales for OEM in the industrial printing and mailing markets. After returning to Pittsburgh in 2010, Ryan has since continued his passion for technical solutions in the automation arena, working for a laser manufacturer and most recently as an automation manufacturer's rep in the Western PA and West Virginia region.



*Ryan Pillar*

When not working, Ryan and Tyler enjoy hitting the golf course for fun and practice as Tyler is a varsity golfer for his high school. Ryan and Sheri thoroughly enjoy exploring all the wonderful parks and museums Pittsburgh has to offer. Being a member of Phipps Conservatory, they enjoy escaping to the fresh air and warmth Phipps can offer in the winter. When summer arrives you can find them on most weekends exploring anywhere from downtown Pittsburgh, to the country trails and streams in the area.

Bringing over 15 years' experience to the Ogura / Keller team, Ryan's goals are to strengthen the current relationships with Ogura customers and introduce Ogura to new clients. ●

## ZEN SESSIONS FOR NEW EMPLOYEES

*Kiryu, Japan*

**L**ast quarter, 43 new employees to Ogura took two days at the Shorinzan Daruma Temple in Takasaki for a Zen session.

Strict etiquette was followed regarding walking, eating, and bathing with the key goal of keeping silent in the three rooms of the temple. Employees were also instructed on maintaining special hands position during walking and when leaving the rooms.

During meal time, everyone sat together in the traditional formal sitting position. In today's society, with everything on demand, instantly on your cell phone, two days of inner reflection is more difficult than it sounds, but Ogura management believes that it is an important one for new employees because it helps to build teamwork and cultivate self esteem. ●



*Zen sessions for new employees at the Shorinzan Daruma Temple*

## ISO14001 RENEWAL AUDIT

*Kiryu, Japan*

**L**ast quarter personnel of Lloyd's Register of Quality Assurance conducted a renewal audit for ISO14001. According to testing, there were no non-conformities, 39 positive comments, 11 suggestions for improvement and 5 general observations. From the review, there were two main comments from the inspectors.

1. Operations (formulation of the plan/reviewing and setting goals.) "When setting goals, it is important to identify the outcome by clarifying what is trying to be accomplished, to what level, who is responsible and completion date. Also, to reach the goal, it is imperative to create a targeted completion level and not just follow the progress. In doing so, it will improve the practical means, including the action plan and the result of the targeting achievement."

2. Support (factory management).

No large issues were found during the overall physical environmental site tour. However, a few recommendations were made to prevent future issues. For future planning, it was advised that Ogura should not just evaluate environmental risks, but also rank them in order of their importance. ●

# Application Story

## VACUUM EXCAVATION SYSTEMS FOR UTILITY LOCATING AND KEYHOLE TECHNOLOGY

**I**n the world of industrial equipment manufacturing there is a saying about the effects created by new technology upon its market's participants: "Once technology rolls over your market, if you are not part of the steamroller you will become part of the road". The working relationship that has developed between Tellus Underground and Ogura has helped solidify this manufacturer of vacuum excavation systems, a position on the steamroller.

Vacuum excavation is a "soft excavation" process that eliminates the inherent dangers that are created by the use of conventional hard excavating equipment when digging around buried gas, water, electric and fiber-optic facilities. These excavation machines utilize a powerful jet of high-pressure air or water to break up the soil which is then removed from the excavation using a high-flow vacuum hose to convey the dirt into a holding tank that is mounted on the truck.

Tellus begins its truck fabrication process by purchasing any truck manufacturers cab/chassis, in a Ford F-550 or F-650 size, and then mounts the flatbed that will support the desired vacuum excavation system. All Tellus systems have been designed in a modular fashion that consists of a power unit, filtration unit, spoils tank assembly, and a number of accessories selected to support their customers' specific needs. The power unit contains a turbo-charged John Deere diesel engine which drives a large air compressor, a powerful vacuum producer and a high-pressure water pump or electrical generator. Since it is not necessary for the belt driven vacuum, high-pressure water pump or generator to run all of the time, an Ogura GT5C-HA04 electromagnetic clutch is used to drive the vacuum producer and an Ogura MA-GT-ST1W clutch is used to drive the high-pressure water pump or generator. The clutches engage when 12-volt power is applied and when the power is shut down the clutch disengages allowing the pump to come to a stop.



*Tellus Underground truck*

In an effort to extend the life of the power transmission components, Tellus has chosen to include the Ogura "soft start" controller in their power transmission system. When a clutch is engaged the controller disperses the total engagement energy over a slightly longer period of time, thus creating a "soft start". As with many construction applications, they have found that their customers can use the equipment rather aggressively. The soft start controller has reduced stress on all of the power transmission components, resulting in fewer breakdowns, longer component life and reduced downtime.

The Tellus organization believes that it is critical that they develop an understanding of how their customers would like to use their equipment. After collecting this information, they draw on their suppliers to develop a solution to satisfy these needs. Ogura's high reliability clutches and soft start controllers have become an essential part of these latest designs of revolutionary vacuum excavation systems being built for a market that did not exist 25 years ago.●

[www.tellusunderground.com](http://www.tellusunderground.com) ●



*Vacuum excavation*



*Ogura model MA-GT-ST1W*



## Ogura in the News

### QC CIRCLE TOURNAMENT

*Kiryu, Japan*

Last quarter, six of the manufacturing facilities outside of Japan and two manufacturing facilities within Japan participated in the International Quality Circle. From those quality control teams, two to three representatives were chosen to visit Japan and make their presentation to senior management.

The objective of the tournament is quite simple. Propose your best idea for quality and/or productivity improvements to senior management. The best overall suggestion is chosen as the winner.

Even though the presentations were made on a Saturday, around 540 Ogura personnel and suppliers from the surrounding area came to hear the presentations from each team.

Many of the innovations presented can also be incorporated within the other manufacturing groups and although the tournament was very competitive this year, the winner was the Ogura Clutch Changxing division in China. ●



*QC Circle Tournament participants*

### KODANSHA AWARD CEREMONY

*Tokyo, Japan*

Last quarter, Kodansha held their annual media conference and handed out media awards to

various advertising programs in Japan. Kodansha is the largest publishing company in Japan and has been in business for 110 years. They publish a variety of weekly and monthly magazines and anime comics.

In their weekly Young Magazine (similar to Teen Magazine in the US), a

variety of releases appeared describing a concept race car called the MF Ghost. In this street legal, high performance car, the Ogura ORC NT transmission clutch was used. Ogura was a project partner of the MF Ghost Magna series. ●



*MF Ghost article in Young Magazine*

### ROBOT EXHIBITION

*Tokyo, Japan*

Last quarter, Ogura participated in the International Robot Exhibition 2019. The slogan in the Ogura booth this year was “Brake innovator for robots.” Ogura exhibited general industrial clutches and brakes and had demonstration machines showing key robotic functions. One of the machines was the torque sensing (feel) demonstration machine which Ogura debuted last year. This machine can adjust its grip strength depending upon the feel of an object.

The second machine is brand new as an add-on to the Denso Wave Cobatta robot. This robot arm uses the latest series of Ogura micro power off electromagnetic brakes. But, the newest innovation is the self-contained vacuum pump which is able to suction and lift flat objects. The vacuum pump is a micro version of an Ogura high efficiency supercharger. It has a self-contained motor so when suction is required, the motor simply turns on and activates the suction cup to lift flat panels. This eliminates the need to run separate vacuum lines to the robotic arms so these robots are transportable and can easily be moved to a new location to perform new functions. ●



*Cobatta robot with new Ogura vacuum pump*