



## COVID-19 UPDATE FROM OGURA

*Frank Flemming, President*

I thought it would be timely to pass along an update on how we have been handling the coronavirus pandemic. Back in January, our China plant had to close for two weeks, but as you know we bring in excess inventory as a buffer to prevent any disruptions in supply for our customers. This buffer inventory is usually in place to handle any unforeseen production surges from our OEM's. However, in this case, this inventory prevented our customers from experiencing supply disruptions.

Currently, all plants that supply OIC with products are open and shipping and as of right now, we do not expect any supply disruptions.

Many of Ogura Industrial's customers are considered critical. They are in the food processing, medical, cleaning equipment, agricultural and other industries and have provided letters to us saying that we are a critical supplier to them. We have remained open and have continued to ship product daily.

To be proactive, and not to just monitor virus symptoms, on March 17<sup>th</sup>, we decided to split our workforce into two separate teams. So, if a member on one team was infected with the virus, the second team of engineering, accounting, sales and service could take over. Over the critical weeks of the Stay at Home Order in NJ, we had only necessary personnel in the office with all other employees working remotely.

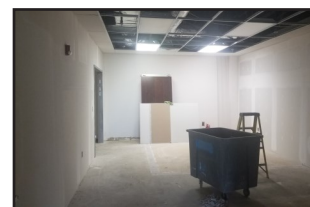
To help protect our workers and their families, our parent company sent 3000 masks to us. We gave 1000 to our sister company, Ogura Corporation in Detroit, 1000 to our trading company, Kanematsu, and we kept 1000 for OIC employees and their families as well as some of our sales reps.

During the week of May 11<sup>th</sup>, personnel that were working from home returned to the office, but we remained two separate teams until June. Although only in the office every other day, all employees were responding to emails. In early June, we returned to our office as one team, but each employee will be working from home on staggered days through the end of July. If a resurgence occurs in New Jersey and a Stay at Home Order is reinstated, we will split again into two teams. If you need to get in touch with an employee, it is best to email them since they may not be in the office if you call. ●

## OIC'S NEW OFFICE EXPANSION

*Somerset, NJ*

Ogura is currently expanding the office footprint by taking over an adjacent vacant part in the existing building. Construction started in February and has only seen slight delays due to COVID-19. The new office space will allow all inside sales personnel to move from workstations into their own offices. (This is quite timely given the social distancing requirements.) The conference room is also larger and will have new microphones for teleconferencing with a new 86-inch high definition screen. The engineering manager will get a new office and our sales managers will also get new offices. New computers have been purchased and Ogura is moving to Microsoft 365. New high efficient lighting and high speed computer cabling have also been installed. A huddle room for quick meetings has been added, as well as a more accessible coffee station. In phase two of the construction, the lunchroom will be upgraded with reasonable spacing and more counter space for additional microwave ovens. All new carpeting and ceiling tiles will also be installed. OIC is expecting to take over the area in June with the final work finishing up in Mid-July. ●



*New conference room*



*Main office area*

# Ogura Sales Rep Profile

**CHARLIE WEBB**  
JT CHAPMAN CO.

Charlie Webb joined as a sales rep for Ogura in June 2018 covering the Dallas/Fort Worth, TX markets as well as West Texas and Oklahoma.

His focus is expanding business with OEM's and distributors in the food, product distribution and oil and gas industries.



Charlie Webb

Charlie comes with 20+ years of power transmission sales experience, starting his career in Fort Worth working for a bearing and PT house where his appreciation grew for this industry. Charlie worked with OEM customers and end user accounts. His account base ranged from food processing and automotive parts suppliers to plastics processing industries.

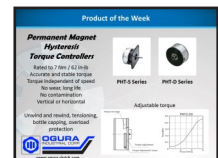
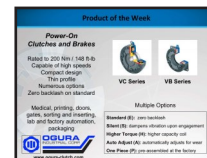
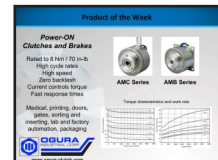
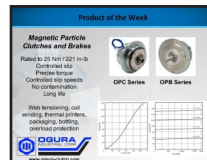
Charlie believes building a good business foundation is forming a strong relationship with the customers and business partners. He enjoys helping his customers find solutions to help improve their products and production. Each day brings new and different challenges.

Charlie and his wife, Kathy, live in Burleson, TX and have two grown daughters and four super grandkids. When time permits, he enjoys golfing, hunting and fishing as well as working in his yard. ●

## OGURA'S NEW 'PRODUCT OF THE WEEK' CAMPAIGN

Somerset, NJ

Ogura Industrial has added a "Product of the Week" campaign to its social media sites. Each week, we feature a one-page overview of a clutch or brake model or other Ogura product, showing its features and benefits for customers. Where appropriate, pictures or data tables help to highlight the products unique features. Please be sure to check these out on Ogura's social media channels. ●



Ogura's Product of the Week  
Announcements

# .....Working on Something BIG for the GIE Expo.....





# Application Story

***“....And I wonder if it will stay.... My little runaway....”***

**What is this lawn mower clutch/brake doing in a carpet cleaning van?**

**W**hen it comes to carpet cleaning, The Butler Corporation sets one of the highest bars in the industry for performance and service. Butler has been using an Ogura clutch on their vans' high pressure water pumps for many years. So it was logical that when they needed a new solution for handling and storage of their large vacuum hose reels, they came to Ogura. Butler's engineers were looking for a compact design that offered functionality and reliability at a good price.



*The Butler System in a carpet cleaning van*

This lawn mower clutch/brake is typically mounted on a small gas or diesel engine used to start and stop rotating lawn mower blades. Ogura and Butler had an “out of the box” idea to use it a little differently... The clutch/brake is mounted on the output shaft of the mo-

tor/gearbox and the output flange is connected to the side wall of the hose reel.

**Tensioning Torque:** During use, this large vacuum hose reel is unwound manually from the carpet cleaning van parked in the driveway and brought (pulled by hand) to the location needing the cleaning, perhaps hundreds of feet away. With no power applied, the mechanical brake in this clutch/brake delivers 3lb-ft of holding torque which is just the right amount to keep the hose from unspooling and running away too quickly. Also, without power applied, the clutch is disengaged, meaning that the drive motor is uncoupled.

**Rewinding:** When the job is completed and rewinding is required, the electromagnetic clutch is energized/engaged, and the 12 VDC drive motor gearbox assembly does the rewinding effort. The clutch delivers 90lb-ft of torque without slipping.



*The Butler Hose Reel*

**Holding Brake:** When the hose is wrapped around the spool during transport it is subject to road vibration. The brake has enough holding torque to keep the spool safely in its place.

The Ogura GT2.5-DC01 Clutch/Brake actually accomplishes all of these functions in a one-piece design allowing for constant drag during unspooling, inline coupling to the drive motor for rewinding, and power-off braking to hold the spool while in transport. This cost-effective device with a thin profile fits in the available space, works off 12 VDC, and is easy to install.

No heat or fumes are emitted during use, so it is safe for use inside of the vehicle. Readily available from stock in our New Jersey warehouse, this Clutch/Brake *cleans up* in this unusual application.



*Ogura GT2.5-DC01 Clutch/Brake*

[www.butlersystem.com](http://www.butlersystem.com) •



***Happy Summer from the Staff of Ogura***

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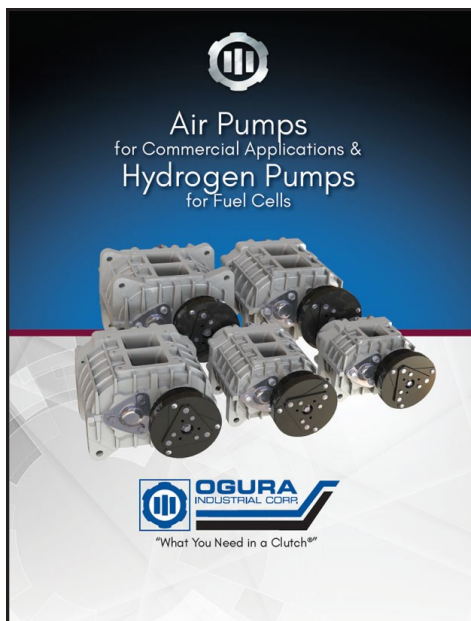
## Ogura in the News

### OGURA CREATES NEW SUPERCHARGER BROCHURE

*Somerset, NJ*

Ogura Industrial has created a new marketing brochure for air pumps. These pumps have traditionally been used for supercharging gas and diesel engines. Because the Ogura pumps/blowers operate at incredibly high efficiency, they are finding new opportunities in fuel cells to move air. When modified with special seals, these units can also deliver wet hydrogen through fuel cell membranes increasing fuel cell electrical output.

Ogura air pumps use hollow bore, aluminum rotors in an aluminum housing, so they are light weight with excellent heat dissipation. The low inertia rotors can be fitted with an optional electric clutch to provide control for instantaneous boost. Since they deliver air only when needed, they do not need a holding tank like compressed air, so they are being used in portable blow off equipment and are also being used to provide focused air in agricultural applications. This new brochure can be found on our website or from your local Ogura sales rep. •



*New Ogura Supercharger Brochure*

### OGURA FEATURED IN DESIGN WORLD

*Design World Magazine*

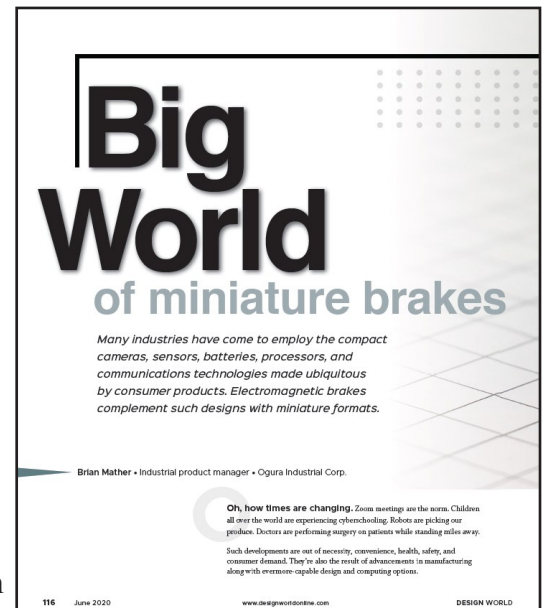
An editorial on miniature holding brakes, written by OIC's Industrial Product Manager, Brian Mather, was published in the online issue of Motion Control Tips in May and in the print version of Design World in June.

The article shows the various industries where holding brakes have seen an increase in their need for miniaturization. Many of these industries are requiring smaller and smaller diameters for holding brakes to accommodate smaller motor and gear drives. The article focuses on the major markets concerned with miniaturization which are medical, robotics, automotive and aerospace.

It also explains how the brakes function and reviews the concerns that should be given to customization, power density and cost.

*You can find the full article here:*

<https://www.motioncontroltips.com/miniature-brakes-examples-of-where-electromagnetic-spring-applied-versions-excel> •



*Article in Design World*