

Sepro Robotique

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PRESS INFORMATION

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Milacron Europe and Sepro Group Sign Agreement

Milacron Holdings Corp. (NYSE: MCRN) and Sepro Group (La Roche-sur-Yon, France) have reached an agreement that calls for Sepro to manufacture 3 and 5-axis robots to be sold with Milacron injection molding machines throughout Europe.

The robots are immediately available and, in fact, more than fifteen robots have already been sold under the agreement to customers in Germany, Portugal and elsewhere. All robots are marketed under the Milacron brand name to equip its full range of injection molding machines. Milacron is handling aftermarket service with support from Sepro, particularly during the early stages to the relationship.

The robot control will be fully integrated into the Milacron machine controls. The Sepro Visual control platform is the standard control for the Milacron robots. It was developed by Sepro specifically for the injection molding industry. With a common control for all robots – including 3- and 5-axis – Cartesian beam robots operation is simplified and even inexperienced users can learn to create a pick-and-place program in matter of minutes.

The agreement is similar to the one reached in 2010 with Milacron in North America, which has seen Sepro robots successfully sold under the Milacron brand in the U.S., Canada and Mexico.

"This agreement creates new options for molders who may prefer to deal with a single supplier for their injection molding machine and automation requirements," notes Jean-Michel Renaudeau, CEO of Sepro Group. "It opens new market opportunities for both, Milacron and Sepro."

Renaudeau sees these alliances as critical to the implementation of Industry 4.0, also known as the factory of the future. "Integration and collaboration are essential in making the industry more efficient and productive," he suggests, "and our partnership with Milacron in Europe is key and another step into that direction. Of course, several molding-machine manufacturers have sold IMM/robot packages for years and they are quite popular, especially in countries like Germany and for global companies buying equipment for plants in other parts of the world. Others prefer to buy their injection molding machine from one company and their robot from another and we offer them our support too. So, today, we offer molders new choices."

Denis Poelman, Managing Director of Milacron's Injection Molding Machinery business in Europe commented: "The Sepro robotic systems are ideally suited for all of Milacron's machine series and perfectly adapt to our customer's needs. All platforms are offered under the name of Milacron Standard Linear Robot for Pick and Place Applications and Milacron Performance Linear Robot for High End Applications. The new robot portfolio can handle weights from 3 to 60 kg."

With this agreement for strategic cooperation,
Milacron is expanding its supplier portfolio in the area
of linear robots. The new offer includes complete
automation systems for all of Europe and beyond.
Milacron will act as single source while combining all
platform suppliers to provide
turnkey solutions in combination with their injection
molding machines, hot runner technology and
process control systems.



Milacron will continue to innovate in the field of robotics and automation as an integrated part of their **Milacron 4.0** initiative (https://www.milacron.com/milacron-4-0/). Added value is key in Milacron's approach to system technologies. As a consequence, further industrial robot technology platforms from on KUKA, ABB, Fanuc, Yaskawa and Stäubli will be available from Milacron in the near future.

About Sepro

Sepro was one of the first companies in the world to develop Cartesian beam robots for injection-molding machines, introducing its first CNC controlled "manipulator" in 1981. Today, having equipped more than 30,000 injection-molding machines, Sepro Group is one of the largest sellers of robots in the world. Its 3-, 5- and 6-axis servo robots, special-purpose units and complete automation systems, are all supported by the Visual control platform developed by Sepro especially for injection molders. This unique controller is a key component in what the company refers to as 'agile integration' – a collaborative approach to equipment connectivity and interoperability that can be tailored to exactly suit the specific needs processors and injection-molding OEMs. For Sepro and its customers and partners, "The Future is Wide Open."

About Milacron

Milacron is a global leader in the manufacture, distribution and service of highly engineered and customized systems within the plastic technology and processing industry. Milacron is the only global company with a full-line product portfolio that includes hot runner systems, injection molding, blow molding and extrusion equipment plus a wide market range of advanced fluid technologies. Visit Milacron at www.milacron.com

Hi-res images related to this press release are available via the following link: https://www.dropbox.com/s/kqujb70a678mhss/2017-03-07_PR_Milacron_Robots.zip?dl=0