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PRESS INFORMATION

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Sepro Unveils New Apps for Robot Cycle-Optimization and Troubleshooting

Sepro Group (La Roche sur Yon, France) is previewing two new, intelligent robot connectivity and control apps at Fakuma 2017. The first, OptiCycle, helps users to fine-tune robot and machine cycles for maximum productivity, while the second, Live Support, streamlines troubleshooting and maintenance to maximize uptime. The new apps are part of "Open 4.0," Sepro's long-term, company-wide commitment to delivering openness, transparency, simplicity and choice through intelligent next-generation robots and controls.

"These apps provide two examples of how next-generation robot controls can support better-informed, faster, and more productive human decisions," says Jean-Michel Renaudeau, CEO of Sepro Group. "OptiCycle offers expert logic that makes it easier for programmers of all experience levels to evaluate and continuously improve robot and machine cycle times. Live Support speeds the technical support conversation and simplifies the data exchange that is essential to rapid diagnosis and problem resolution."

OptiCycle

The OptiCycle app helps personnel to optimize robot cycles and reduce overall production times. When applied to existing robot programs, OptiCycle can reduce robot cycle (in and out) times up to 40 percent and typical injection-molding cycles by about 5 percent, delivering a corresponding increase in productivity.

The OptiCycle plug-in automatically optimizes the in-mold cycle time on Sepro's Touch 2, Visual 2, and Visual 3 control platforms. The operator only has to answer a few questions and teach the main points in the Visual software and OptiCycle can automatically optimize the cycle time inside the mold. OptiCycle also extends to suggestions for optimizing end-of-arm-tooling (EOAT) and injection-molding machine strokes.

(More)

Because it can be used by programmers of any skill level, OptiCycle contributes to greater productivity. At the same time, it can be used as a programming support tool that helps to improve consistency and quality on an organization-wide basis. Optimized programs developed using OptiCycle can be stored and shared across manufacturing networks for use with other robots.

Live Support

Sevro is also previewing a smartphone-based technical support app – Live Support – that simplifies and accelerates customer access to Sevro technical service, troubleshooting, and hotline support.

Using their smartphones, customers will be able to initiate service requests quickly, list concerns or questions, and add detailed robot status simply by scanning a QR code. The app delivers the service request and data directly to Sevro's Service Hotline technicians, who can attend to it immediately. At the same time, the system returns a message confirming receipt, followed by a call button that connects directly the Hotline.

Live Support streamlines the technical-support process and reduces the chance of error. Not only does it link Sevro technical personnel with the customer, but also with precise, real-time robot information that speeds problem-solving and reduces or eliminates downtime. In addition, the app supports voice or two-way video communication between Sevro support representatives and customers.

A dedicated team can be found on the Sevro stand, demonstrating the new apps and gathering information from visitors to be used in finalizing the commercial versions, which will be introduced in 2018.

About Sevro

Sevro 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, Sevro 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 Sevro especially for injection molders. This unique controller is a key component in what the company refers to as 'open integration' – a collaborative approach to equipment connectivity and interoperability between the robot and the IMM that can be tailored to exactly suit the specific needs of processors and injection-molding OEMs. For Sevro and its customers and partners, "The Future is Wide Open 4 .0."



OptiCycle, a plug-in for the Sepro Visual control, can envision the entire robot cycle, then break the program down into its component elements. Within each element, it offers programming instructions and best practices to guide the operator. Download a high-resolution image at: <http://tinyurl.com/Opticycle>



Live Support is a smartphone-based app that simplifies delivery of technical support by Sepro technicians. Audio and video conversations are possible. Download a high-resolution image at: <http://tinyurl.com/SEPLiveSupport>