



Sepro America, LLC
765 Commonwealth Dr., # 104
Warrendale, PA 15086
Phone: 412-459-0450

PRESS INFORMATION

February 7, 2017

CONTACT: Jim Healy, Sepro America, +1-412-459-0450; jhealy@sepro-america.com
Caroline Chamard, Sepro Group - France, +33 (2).51.45.46.37; cchamard@sepro-group.com
Scott Collins, Public Relations, +1.216.382.8840; scollins@collins-marcom.com

Sepro America Posts Another Record Year; Plans to Start Assembling Robots in USA

Once again, North America is Sepro Group's top regional market, accounting for 21% of the global robot manufacturer's €103 million in sales for 2016. This was the fourth consecutive year of record sales for the company. Robots for large plastics injection-molding machines led the way and, with that in mind, Sepro announced plans to expand its facility in Warrendale, PA, and begin assembling big robots there.

In 2016, Sepro America's market share for all robots increased 5.1% compared to 2015. Its share in small robots (for molding machines under 750 tons) was up slightly, but its share of the large robot market was up a whopping 14.3% year over year. Sepro America's Vice President, Sales & Marketing, Jim Healy, thinks that is attributable to the new large robots his company has introduced over the last 18 months.

"Sepro has always been a strong player in robots for large machines," he says, "but since we introduced three new families of large Cartesian beam robots and a line of big 6-axis articulated arm robots, that has really solidified our position. That said, our share in the small robot market continues to grow steadily."

At the NPE 2015 plastics show in Orlando FL, Sepro launched three new lines of Sepro robots for plastics injection-molding machines with 800 to 5000 tons of clamping capacity. These included two 5-axis robots in the premium 7X product line, and two families of large 3-axis robots, the technological S7 Line, and the Strong line of universal robots. A year after that, in April 2016, Sepro concluded an agreement with Yaskawa Motoman that added four new 6-axis articulated-arm robots for molding machines between 800 and 5000 tons. They complement the smaller range of 6-axis robots offered in partnership with Stäubli Robotics. Most recently, at the K 2016 plastics show in Dusseldorf, Germany, in October, the company completed its big-robot portfolio with the introduction of the 7X-100XL. With maximum horizontal reach of up to 32 ft (10m), it is able to handle a payload (part plus tooling) of up to 220 lbs (100 kg).

(More)

U.S. Assembly Planned

Sepro America will begin assembling robots in Warrendale, PA (Pittsburgh) in Q4 of 2017. Sepro will source beams and some other components locally, while the more technical components will continue to be manufactured at the Sepro Group factory in France.

“Our primary goal is to optimize delivery to North American customers but,” Jim Healy stresses, “the critical factor is quality control.”

Sepro already has a substantial engineering and assembly capability in Warrendale, where it currently designs and builds complex, integrated automation cells for delivery in North America. So, assembling the robots themselves is a logical and easy next step in the growth of Sepro America. Initially, the focus will be on Sepro’s new large robots (for IMMs over 800 tons) in the Strong, S7 and 7X ranges, for delivery to customers in the U.S., Canada and possibly Mexico.

Sepro moved into its current 16,500-sq.-ft. facility in December 2013. The building already includes a large “workshop” area, which encompasses assembly, testing and warehouse space, but additional expansion is planned.

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 independent 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.”

XXX

SEE PHOTOS NEXT PAGE...



Sepro Group reports its fourth consecutive year of record sales, logging turnover of €103 million in sales for 2016. North America is the company's top regional market, accounting for 21% of total.



Sepro America plans to expand its facility in Warrendale, PA (Pittsburgh) and begin assembling robots in in Q4 of 2017. Download a high-resolution image at: <http://tinyurl.com/jh6v5tc>