



Sepro Robótica, S.L.U
Calle Adolfo Perez Esquivel, N. 3 OF. 20
Parque Empresarial Las Rozas
28232 Madrid
Tel.: (34) 91 323 37 65

PRESS INFORMATION

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CONTACT: Roberto Encinas, Sepro España, +34.91.33.45.16, rencinas@sepro-robotique.com
Caroline Chamard, Sepro Robotique - France, +33 (2).51.45.46.37; cchamard@sepro-robotique.com
Scott Collins, Public Relations, +1.216.382.8840; scollins@collins-marcom.com

Sepro Sees Business Rebound in Spain

As Equiplast 2014 opens in Barcelona and the Spanish economy continues to recover, the French robot manufacturer is recording increased sales. Sepro is exhibiting in Hall 3 - Stand C 353 at the plastics trade show, which runs from September 30 – October 3.

After almost a decade of decline and stagnation, with robot sales hitting a low point of just 30 units in 2012, Sepro España is finally seeing renewed strength in the Spanish economy that is reflected into expanding business. The local daughter company of Sepro Robotique (La Roche sur Yon, France) is on track to sell a total of 80 robots in Spain this year, a substantial increase over 2012 and 2013.

“Since the last quarter of 2012, we’ve seen activity improving, with very good results in 2013 and significant growth during 2014, reports Roberto Encinas, Head of Sepro España. “The Spanish economic expectations are continually improving, with growing domestic consumption, and especially in the automotive sector, where we have seen significant increase in sales during 2014 in large robots for molding machines 1000 tons and larger. These represent a very important portion of our sales, but we also see significant growth in household products and packaging, which makes us optimistic that we will continue to see growth and increased investments in our economy.”

The Valencian region, Encinas says, is an especially bright spot. The region was hit hard by the financial crisis, but recent investments at the large Ford Motor Company factory and in the broader industrial sector, are resulting in increased robot sales. "This trend has allowed Sepro to reinforce its presence in that area and we have recruited a new after-sales engineer to work with customers," he notes.

Sales are also up dramatically in Portugal, where Sepro is on track to sell a total of 70 robots this year as a result of a large fleet order and the addition of a new distributor for the country, Carlos

(More)

Pereira and Deltaplas Lda. Until the financial crisis, Spain, together with Portugal, had been an important market for Sepro, which is one of the leading independent suppliers of robots for injection molding in the world. Even today, the two countries account for 18% of European sales.

Encinas says that the company owes its recent success to “constant technical innovation that, in the last 5 years, has led to the introduction new designs for all except the largest machines. Our full portfolio of robots includes not only 3-axis robots but 5-axis and 6-axis robots and specialty units for two-material molding and dual-arm robots for use with 3-plate molds. With competitive prices and first-class service, we have become one of the suppliers that must be included in any robot-purchasing decision.”

At Equiplast 2014, Sepro will display:

- **5X-25**, a robot with 5 servo-actuated axes of motion, and **6X-90L**, a 6-axis articulated-arm robot, operating together in an integrated work cell;
- **5DA11** servo-driven dual-arm robots for use with 3-plate molds
- **S3** servo-driven sprue picker

In addition, a Sepro **5X-25** can be seen operating on a 150-ton molding machine on the stand of Billion (Hall 3, Stand 201).

These and all Sepro robots are operated using the same easy-to-use control platform, which was developed by Sepro especially for injection-molding applications.

ABOUT SEPRO

Sepro is a global company, with in-depth engineering and manufacturing capabilities, strong technical and marketing partnerships, unmatched service and support, and a diverse product offering. Founded in 1973 and now headquartered in La Roche-sur-Yon (France), Sepro Robotique 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, Sepro is one of the largest independent sellers of Cartesian robots. Customers around the world are supported by wholly-owned daughter companies in Germany, Spain, Benelux, the United Kingdom, the United States, Mexico, Brazil and China. Numerous direct sales and service offices as well as independent business partners, distributors and service hubs extend Sepro’s global network to over 40 other countries. To date, Sepro has equipped more than 25,000 injection-molding machines worldwide. The company’s global turnover for 2013 was €66.5 million, with 90% of sales exported from France and 45% sold outside of Europe. Sepro anticipates it will grow 18% in 2014.