

Sepro Group

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## PRESS INFORMATION

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# Sepro Benelux Celebrates Steady Sales Growth At Kunststoffen 2015 Trade Show

Noting steadily increasing robot sales in the region and a recent partnership agreement with the Dutch injection-molding-machine manufacturer Stork IMM, Sepro Group (La Roche sur Yon, France), together with its Benelux daughter company, will be exhibiting in Stand #177 at Kunststoffen 2015. The trade show is scheduled from 23 – 24 September at the NGH Conference Centre Koningshof, Vendhoven, The Netherlands.

In July, Sepro and Stork announced they had agreed that Sepro will make top-entry Cartesian robots that Stork will sell under its own name worldwide. The two companies have had a friendly relationship in recent years and the agreement formalized the relationship. For Sepro, collaboration with injection-molding-machine manufacturers is a key component in its growth strategy and an important element in the 'free choice' offered to customers. For Stork, the deal allows them to meet customer demand for complete packaging systems instead of only the molding machine. Stork is also exhibiting at Kunststoffen on Stand 18.

On the Sepro stand, visitors can see an operating S5-15 high-tech Cartesian beam robot. The S5-15 robot is the smallest model in a line of high-performance 3-axis servo-driven robots for small and mid-sized injection-molding machines and applications requiring multi-axis, multi-function parts manipulation inside or outside the mold space. Two other models in the S5 Line are the S5-25, for molding machines from 120 to 500 tons and the S5-35, designed for machines from 350 to 800 tons.

The robot being shown at Kunststoffen is representative of one of the industry's most complete ranges of automation equipment for plastics injection molding. It includes 3-axis servo robots – for both pick-and-place general-purpose and technologically advanced applications – 5- and 6-axis servo robot solutions, servo-driven sprue pickers

and specialty robots. All are operated using the same easy-to-use control platform developed by Sepro especially for injection molders.

#### **BIG ROBOTS TO DEBUT AT FAKUMA**

A few weeks after Kunststoffen, visitors to Fakuma 2015 in Friedrichshafen, Germany, will be able to see the European debut of three brand-new lines of Sepro robots for injection-molding machines with 800 to 5000 tons of clamp. Sepro Group is exhibiting in Hall A1, Stand 1203 and is demonstrating a model 7X55 five-axis robot from the new premium 7X Line and a Strong 50, which is representing a general-purpose line of large robots.

At the same time, Sepro is announcing another 3-axis family of robots for large-tonnage molding machines: the technological S7 Line, which is the large-tonnage version of the S5 Line being exhibited at Kunststoffen.

Also on display will be a 6X90 six-axis articulated arm robot, 5X25, which is a smaller 5-axis robot, and a Success 33 from the company's universal range of 3-axis robots. Sepro robots will also be on display on the stands of injection-molding machine suppliers, including Demag (B1-1105), Billion (B3-3104), Haitian (A1-1103), JSW (A7-7207), and others.

In all, Sepro is exhibiting 11 robots at Fakuma.

"The new large robots complete the transformation of the full Sepro product line, which we began in 2008," explains Jean-Michel Renaudeau, CEO of the Sepro Group. "Over the last six years – since the depths of the financial crisis – we have completely redesigned our portfolio to deliver all-servo robots that are faster and more powerful, with longer strokes and larger payloads than previous generations. We've added 5- and 6-axis products in all size ranges, in-mold labeling solutions, a dual-arm unit, a servo sprue picker and new, user-friendly controls. We firmly believe Sepro is the only company that really offers what we refer to as 'Your Free Choice in Robots.'"

The new large robots improve upon the Sepro G4 Line, which previously covered high-tonnage molding applications. In general, the new S7 and 7X robots have longer kick (Y-axis) stokes, longer vertical (Z-axis) strokes and can handle larger payloads than their G4 predecessors.

The advanced SLS (Sepro linear system with cam follower rails) guidance system on the horizontal beam and vertical arm provide rigidity and reliability even at maximum acceleration and speed. The vertical arm is an aluminum profile for compact, lightweight strength. Control of the servo motors and braking reduces noise and energy consumption, while minimizing maintenance (no need to balance cylinders).

### **VISUAL & TOUCH CONTROLS**

All these new robots are operated using the same easy-to-use control platform, which was developed by Sepro especially for injection-molding applications. The 5-axis 7X robots benefit from the application of the Visual 3 robot control, Sepro's newest, fastest and most powerful control. Visual 2 controls are standard on advanced S7 Line 3-axis

robots, and Strong can use the basic Touch 2 control or the Visual 2 can be specified when applications require a more powerful control. All controls have the same user interface with large, easy-to-read and -navigate 10-inch touch-sensitive screen that makes operation simple and intuitive. A joystick allows operators to actually steer the robot to fine-tune its movements.

#### **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 30,000 injection-molding machines worldwide. The company's global turnover for 2014 was €79.2 million.



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