

Contacts:

Cathy Powell
Marketing Communications
FANUC Robotics America, Inc.
Phone: (248) 377-7570
cathy.powell@fanucrobotics.com

**FANUC Robotics' New LR Mate 200iC/5L
'LEAN' Arc Welding Robot Demonstrates
Intelligent Arc Welding at the
2007 FABTECH International
and AWS Welding Show**

For Immediate Release

ROCHESTER HILLS, Mich., Nov. 11, 2007 – FANUC Robotics America, Inc., recently introduced the LR Mate 200iC/5L robot, the company's next generation mini-robot for arc welding, offering maximum performance in a light, efficient, accurate and nimble (LEAN) package. The LR Mate 200iC/5L robot with iRVision (built-in vision), will demonstrate arc welding in a compact cell at the 2007 FABTECH International and AWS Welding Show, at McCormick Place, in Chicago, Ill., Nov. 11-14, in Progressive Systems' Booth #3029.

The six-axis, LR Mate 200iC/5L robot is significantly lighter and more compact than its predecessor, but rates 'best in class' for its wrist load capacity, repeatability, work envelope, and speed.

The intelligent LR Mate 200iC/5L is designed to meet the materials joining application needs of a variety of industries including automotive, agricultural, furniture, recreational, and many more. Its design enhancements and flexibility to quickly adapt to small lot sizes, new styles, and other modifications provides manufacturers an affordable solution for small part, flexible production.

Ideal for high volume applications or small batch production, the new slim and lightweight robot can be mounted in a variety of positions including floor, tabletop, inside machines, angle and invert, which maximizes flexibility for small and narrow workspaces.

"The LR Mate 200iC/5L is much faster than the previous model while providing improved path performance and wrist load capacity, making it ideal for most robotic welding torches," said Mike Sharpe, director of materials joining, FANUC Robotics America, Inc. "These and other enhancements make it the most powerful mini-robot in its class."

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“We’re working with our integration partners Lincoln Electric and Progressive Systems to promote the benefits of the LR Mate 200iC/5L compact welding cell,” added Sharpe.

At the show, the LR Mate 200iC/5L will move around various weldments to showcase its speed and quickness between welds. A vision-ready controller (*iR*Vision) offers improved part sensing capability and overall lower costs. ROBOGUIDE-WeldPRO and Vision Shift simplify teaching, and help reduce tooling costs and error proofing of parts.

“Compared with typical systems, this offers the ability for users to approach tooling at new level because *iR*Vision replaces proximity sensors, improves operator efficiency, and part quality,” said Sharpe.

The LR Mate 200iC/5L robot offers a wide range of benefits, including:

- Greatest reach and stroke in class.
- High wrist load capacity.
- Higher rigidity for smooth motion.
- Slim arm to allow operation in narrow spaces.
- Enhanced motion performance for ‘best in class’ speed.
- ‘Best in class’ work envelope.
- Optional IP67 rating for the entire robot allows it to withstand harsh environments.
- Slim wrist allows for improved motion range and torch accessibility.
- Single-phase power input with an available 115 VAC option.

The LR Mate 200iC/5L also supports a wide range of intelligent functions such as:

- An internal programmable controller (PMC).
- Ethernet
- *iR*Vision, a ready-to-use, built-in robotic vision package.
- ROBOGUIDE-WeldPRO simulation package easily models the system, and downloads programs to the robot, which run without touch-up.
- Vision Shift eliminates the usual touch-ups and verifications associated with off-line programming or fixture and tool changes.
- Collision Guard detects robot collisions with external objects, minimizing damage to the part, robot, and torch.

“ArcLink XT™, the industry’s first Ethernet-based welding network is another feature that provides a high performing welding interface. It is a flexible and powerful welding network that allows the R-30iA Mate Controller to easily integrate to the Lincoln Electric *i*400 welding power supply,” said Sharpe.

ArcLink XT™, developed in partnership with Lincoln Electric, is the next generation in arc welding network communications offering improved performance over existing welding communication methods. The connection to the welder is over the standard R-30iA Mate Ethernet connection.

***i*RVision**

The FANUC *i*RVision system is a ready-to-use robotic vision package, requiring only a camera and cable – no additional processing hardware. It has a 2D robot guidance tool to accomplish part location, error proofing, and other operations that normally require special sensors or custom fixtures.

FANUC Robotics America, Inc. designs, engineers and manufactures industrial robots and robotic systems for a wide range of applications including arc and spot welding, material handling (machine tending, picking, packing, palletizing), material removal, assembly, paint finishing and dispensing. The company also provides application-specific software, controls, vision products, and complete support services. After 25 years of success, FANUC Robotics maintains its position as the leading robotics company in the Americas. A subsidiary of FANUC LTD in Japan, the company has facilities in Chicago; Los Angeles; Charlotte, N.C.; Cincinnati and Toledo, Ohio; Toronto; Montreal; Aguascalientes, Mexico; and Sao Paulo, Brazil. Over 172,000 FANUC robots are installed worldwide. Contact FANUC Robotics at www.fanurobotics.com or by calling 248-377-7000.

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