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**FANUC Robotics Demonstrates
New ARC Mate 100iC Intelligent
Welding Robot at the 2007
International Robots & Vision Show**

For Immediate Release

ROCHESTER HILLS, Mich., June 12, 2007 – FANUC Robotics America, Inc., will demonstrate the high performance capabilities of its new ARC Mate 100iC intelligent welding robot equipped with *iR*Vision during the 2007 International Robots & Vision Show, at the Donald E. Stephens Convention center in Rosemont (Chicago) IL., June 12-14, in booth #1411.

The six-axis ARC Mate 100iC features a compact design, and offers an integrated welding solution with class-leading operation efficiency, speed, load capacity, and enhanced performance for welding parts of all shapes and sizes.

Compared to traditional dress packages, which are mounted externally on the robot's arm, the ARC Mate 100iC's internal routing allows the dress package to follow the motion range of the robot, simplifying programming and eliminating the worries of bending, snagging or breaking cables.

"The ARC Mate 100iC is the highest performance arc welding robot in its class," said Mike Sharpe, FANUC Robotics' director of engineering for materials joining. "The internal dress package also makes it extremely easy to operate and maintain, and ensures a longer cable life."

The ARC Mate 100iC and R-30iA Controller can be integrated in a welding system that includes the weld torch cable, wire feeder, and welding power supply. A variety of design enhancements include:

- Cantilevered forearm is inherently rigid, simplifying cable management and maintenance.
- Integrated wire feed control cable, with shielding gas hose and welding power cables.
- A 15% increase in acceleration for higher motion performance.

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- A 10 kg payload, which represents a 67% increase over the previous model, supports traditional welding dress-out packages.
- Slimmer forearm and a 15% size reduction of the robot base maximizes reach in confined areas, allowing manufacturers to install multiple robots in close proximity, and save valuable floor space.
- Multiple mounting positions include floor, invert and angle.
- Higher motion range including ‘best in class’ reach versus stroke.

The ARC Mate 100iC also supports a wide range of intelligent functions such as:

- *iR*Vision, a ready-to-use built-in robotic vision package.
- ROBOGUIDE-WeldPRO simulation package easily models the ARC Mate 100iC dress-out, 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 Controller to handle up to four welding power supplies,” 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 Ethernet connection.

At the show, the demonstration will feature three welding robots working in coordinated motion with one FANUC R-30iA Controller: the new powerful ARC Mate 100iC robot equipped with *iR*Vision, the Lincoln Electric Power Wave *i*400, and ROBOGUIDE-WeldPRO simulation software, along with two M-6iB/6S robots. FANUC’s *iR*Vision will locate randomly-placed parts from a bin. Each M-6iB/6S robot will pick a part and then hold the parts in sync as the ARC Mate 100iC simulates welding the parts together. A WeldPRO demonstration will highlight the simulation of the system.



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The R-30iA Controller uses high-performance hardware and the latest advances in network, integrated *iR*vision, and motion control functions, providing a level of intelligence never offered before, including the ability to control 40 axes with one controller (4 robots plus other equipment).

“In a welding cell, multi-arm control allows customers to achieve maximum utilization of their robots. Using one or two robots for material handling while other robots perform welding maximizes flexibility,” said Sharpe. “By simply changing the end-of-arm-tooling (EOAT) on the material handling robots, a wide variety of parts can be welded within a single work cell.”

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.fanucrobotics.com or by calling 248-377-7000.

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