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FANUC Robotics Demonstrates M-1*i*A Robot in a Variety of High-Speed Applications at IMTS 2010

For Immediate Release

ROCHESTER HILLS, Mich., Sept. 13, 2010 – FANUC Robotics America will demonstrate small part handling, high-speed picking, packing, and assembly applications with the M-1*i*A parallel-link robot during IMTS 2010, held Sept. 13-18, at McCormick Place, Chicago, booth S-8919.

At the show, the FANUC M-1*i*A robot will demonstrate:

- Blister packing automotive fuses with *i*RVision.
- Picking and sorting pharmaceuticals with the new *i*RVision color camera to sort different colors.
- Picking oral dispensers with *i*RVision guidance and sorting with *i*RVision Bar Code reading to ensure traceability.
- Packing batteries at high speeds.
- Assembly and disassembly of an LED lens on a metal core PCB with *i*RVision.
- Assembling gears with a FANUC FS-10*i*A force sensor.
- Picking and placing micro vials for a sterilization process.
- Assembly of fuses and inspection of a circuit board using *i*RVision Error Proofing.
- Handling and deflashing plastic parts with *i*RVision.
- Assembly and disassembly of solar panels with *i*RVision.

M-1*i*A Intelligent Robot

The M-1*i*A is a lightweight and compact six-axis, parallel-link robot designed for small part handling, high-speed picking, packing, and assembly applications. The unique parallel-link structure provides higher speeds and accuracy compared to traditional handling robots. The robot can be installed in a variety of orientations, and has a three-axis wrist, making it extremely flexible.

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FANUC M-1*i*A Robot

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The M-1*i*A also offers a four-axis model for simple operations such as part picking or kitting. A single-axis wrist offers speeds up to 3000 degrees per second.

“Our customers require higher speeds and accuracy to meet their production goals,” said Raad Asmaro, product manager, FANUC Robotics America. “The M-1*i*A’s flexibility and speed far exceed the capabilities of other vertically-articulated or SCARA-type robots.”

The M-1*i*A, like all FANUC robots, operates with the company’s latest R-30*i*A controller with integrated intelligent functions such as *i*RVision[®], Force Sensing and Robot Link.

The M-1*i*A offers a wide range of benefits, including:

- Lightweight (14kg for 4-axis model; 17kg for 6-axis model), compact size allows operation in small spaces.
- Six-axis design enables part feeding from the sides of a work zone, increasing the useable workspace.
- Multiple installation orientations accommodate a wide range of work areas.
- Unique parallel-link design maximizes speed.
- Supports a multiple arm configuration of up to four robots.
- A camera for *i*RVision (built-in) can be integrated into the robot.
- New R-30*i*A Mate rack-style controller provides intelligent robot functions.
- Robot Link controls and coordinates up to ten robots through a network exchange of robot positional data.
- FANUC Force Sensor is available for intricate assembly applications.

FANUC Force Sensing

FANUC’s Force Sensors are fully integrated into the CPU of every FANUC R-30*i*A controller. Available in four models ranging from 10kg to 250kg, FANUC Force Sensors provide the most robust and reliable solutions in the market. A single source solution developed and supported by FANUC, the FANUC Force Sensors offer easy setup and operation for factory operations requiring part matching, meshing, inserting, force loading and deburring.

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FANUC *i*RVision

FANUC's *i*RVision is a truly integrated, plug-and-go vision system that runs on the standard CPU of every FANUC R-30*i*A controller without any additional hardware. A single source solution developed and supported by FANUC, *i*RVision offers easy setup and operation for factory environments requiring 2D and 3D guidance, error proofing, visual tracking, and quality control – all with FANUC's world-renowned reliability.

FANUC Robotics America 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 28 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 is headquartered in Detroit, and has facilities in Chicago; Los Angeles; Charlotte; Cincinnati; Toronto; Aguascalientes, Mexico; and Sao Paulo, Brazil. Over 220,000 FANUC robots are installed worldwide. Contact FANUC Robotics at www.fanucrobotics.com or by calling 1-800-*i*Q-ROBOT, option 5.

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