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EDM wire units introduced to European market; world sees entry-level die sinker for first time

Sodick has launched a range of new technologies for Europe. The introductions include two faster, high-precision compact wire machines - the SL400Q and the larger SL600G (photo) – and a new entry level die sinker - the AD35L, which was exhibited to the public for the first time ever at the EMO show in Hanover, Germany.

The two new wire machines incorporate the linear motor drives used in Sodick EDMs since 1998, the company said. The benefits of these drives, particularly their unparalleled acceleration, positioning accuracy and stability, are said to have enabled Sodick to develop EDMs of the highest precision and reliability. The company said this is why it



offers a 10-year positioning accuracy warranty.

Sodick's Smart Pulse and Smart Linear technologies are the basis for the increase in machining speed in the SL range. These advances include the "Digital PIKA circuit", which increases finishing speed through the use of ultra-high frequency digital pulse processes. In addition, the "SPW power" NC device, with its dual core processor, provides high speed, high-precision machining and the highest quality surface processing,

while the Smart Pulse generator reduces the number of cuts necessary to achieve the desired accuracy and surface finish, achieving both time and cost savings, the company said.

With a world debut at EMO 2013, Sodick's latest entry-level die sinker - the AD35L - is said to provide a complete turnkey machining solution. The machine comes equipped as standard with linear motor drives, an SGF Nano-Wear discharge unit, a C axis, a Shuttle ATC, an external USB and dielectric chiller, an extra-large work tank and touch-screen controls.

Sodick Europe, Coventry, UK. Sodick.org

Add-on equipment, modules are designed to increase performance of EDM wire cutters

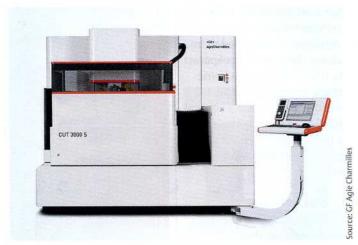
GF Agie Charmilles has announced additions to its Cut 2000 and 3000 wire-cutting EDM machines to boost their productivity.

Designed for micro-machining and super-precision applications, the Cut 2000 S and 3000 S (*photo*) are equipped with the company's Intelligent Power Generator (IPG) with a Direct Power Supply (DPS) module. The machines are said to produce high-quality surface finishes of Ra ≤0.08µm.

The units are also available with the Threading Expert module for dependable threading, the second-generation Integrated Vision Unit (IVU Advance), and the Automatic Wire Changer (AWC). According to the supplier, the Threading Ex-

pert makes easy work of threading under difficult conditions. The retractable device drives the wire from the upper guide to the upper surface start hole or, depending on the hole diameter, to the lower guide through a fine, slotted tube. The standard configuration includes a nozzle to improve threading reliability whatever the diameter (<0.03) under standard conditions, the supplier explained.

The automatic wire changer ensures efficient processes because it allows



the use of wires with different diameter and made of different materials, the supplier said. Moreover, the optical-based measurement system IVU Advance visualises and measure pieces directly on the machine and features fully automatic setup by the integrated charge-coupled device (CCD) camera and duplication of measuring cycles for automation.

The machines accommodate wire diameters down to 0.05mm for micro parts and have Vision 5 numerical controls, a tool for organising and managing several unattended jobs in parallel, the company said.

J) GF Agie Charmilles, Losone, Switzerland. gfac.com