

ABB Robotics and ESAB Develop the Ultimate Robotic Welding System

New system offers better control of the welding process and excellent welding results

AUBURN HILLS, Mich. (April 22, 2008) – ABB Robotics, a leading robotics manufacturer, and ESAB, a leader in welding and cutting technology, have joined forces to create a world-class robotic welding system that delivers unrivaled performance. Combining ABB's latest robotic technologies with ESAB's new Aristo®Mig 5000i power source, the new system offers better control over the welding process.

ABB's robotic welding system reduces cycle time by as much as 15 percent and cuts unplanned downtime by up to 75 percent for unprecedented productivity enhancement. Designed specifically for ABB's welding robots, ESAB's Aristo®Mig 5000i series features a patented integrated interface for robotic MIG welding of materials used in the metal fabrication industry. Paired together, the result is a unique welding system that offers superior robotic welding performance.

This one-of-a-kind system supports a number of welding applications, including robotic short arc, spray arc, pulsed arc and rapid arc, or high-speed welding, and includes ESAB's SuperPulse technology, which offers better control over the welding process and excellent welding results.

The new welding system offers several benefits to users, including:

- Exceptional digital communication – impeccable communication between the power source and robot controller offers excellent welding properties with minimal spatter, even at high welding speeds.
- Single interface – the robot and power source are controlled with a single interface, which speeds up setup time and reduces human error.

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- Easy programming with 300 pre-programmed synergic lines – selection of the desired wire-feeding speed allows the power source to automatically select the appropriate voltage, allowing the operator to program custom synergic lines.

For more information, visit www.abb.com/robotics.

About ESAB

ESAB produces consumables and equipment for virtually every welding and cutting process and application. More than 100 years of continuous research, development and manufacturing have made ESAB the world leader in welding and cutting and also an international supplier of products, know-how and services that none can match. ESAB's subsidiaries and distributors worldwide are ready to handle your requirements – large and small alike.

About ABB, Inc.

ABB (www.abb.com) is a leader in power and automation technologies that enable utility and industry customers to improve their performance while lowering environmental impact. The ABB Group of companies operates in around 100 countries and employs more than 110,000 people.

About ABB Robotics

ABB is a leading supplier of industrial robots – also providing robot software, peripheral equipment, modular manufacturing cells and service for tasks such as welding, handling, assembly, painting and finishing, picking, packing, palletizing and machine tending. Key markets include automotive, plastics, metal fabrication, foundry, electronics, pharmaceutical and food and beverage industries. A strong solutions focus helps manufacturers improve productivity, product quality and worker safety. ABB has installed more than 150,000 robots worldwide.

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