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**FANUC Robotics' ARC Mate 50iC/5L
'LEAN' Arc Welding Robot Demonstrates
Intelligent Arc Welding at the
2009 FABTECH International
and AWS Welding Show**

For Immediate Release

ROCHESTER HILLS, Mich., Nov. 15, 2009 – FANUC Robotics America, Inc. will showcase its ARC Mate 50iC/5L robot with *iRVision*[®] (built-in vision), in a compact welding education cell at the 2009 Fabtech International and AWS Welding Show at McCormick Place, Chicago, Nov. 15-18 in booth #33003.

At the show, the ARC Mate 50iC/5L uses *iRVision* to locate the weld joint on a demo coupon, and the robot then traces a weld path. An operator shifts the position of the demo coupon to show how *iRVision* corrects for changes made to a program, and the cycle repeats itself.

"The ARC Mate 50iC/5L offers the education market high-speed operation with optimum path performance and wrist load capacity, making it ideal for most robotic welding torches," said Mike Sharpe, Materials Joining segment, FANUC Robotics America, Inc. "These and other features make it the most powerful and affordable mini-robot in its class."

The six-axis, ARC Mate 50iC/5L robot is extremely light and compact, and rates 'best in class' for its wrist load capacity, repeatability, work envelope, and speed.

The intelligent ARC Mate 50iC/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.

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“We’re working with our integration partner Lincoln Electric to promote the benefits of the ARC Mate 50iC/5L compact Education Cell,” added Sharpe. “Compared with typical systems, this offers the ability for users to approach tooling at a new level because *iRvision* replaces proximity sensors, improves operator efficiency, and part quality.”

The ARC Mate 50iC/5L robot offers a wide range of benefits, including:

- Greatest reach and stroke in class
- High wrist load capacity – utilizes standard robotic welding torches
- Higher rigidity for smooth motion and improved weld quality
- Slim arm to allow operation in narrow spaces
- Enhanced motion performance for ‘best in class’ speed
- ‘Best in class’ work envelope
- Slim wrist allows for improved motion range and torch accessibility
- Single-phase power input with an available 115 VAC option

The ARC Mate 50iC/5L also supports a wide range of intelligent functions such as:

- *iRvision*, a ready-to-use, built-in robotic vision package.
- An internal programmable controller (PMC) simplifies cell control
- Ethernet I/O including EGD and EIP
- 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 *i400* 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.

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Integrated (built-in) Vision

The FANUC *iR*Vision system is a ready-to-use robotic vision package, available on all FANUC robots, 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. For robotic vision processes that exceed the capability of 2D vision systems, FANUC Robotics offers an integrated 3D vision system.

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 27 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, N.C.; Cincinnati and Toledo, Ohio; Toronto; Montreal; Aguascalientes, Mexico; and Sao Paulo, Brazil. Over 210,000 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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