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Stäubli Robotics Announces the New Stericlean Robot for VHP Environments

Duncan, S.C., The new STERICLEAN robot is going where no other robotics application has effectively gone before into barrier isolator systems used in aseptic processes in the pharmaceutical, life sciences and medical device industries. According to the STERICLEAN developers, the innovation represents a major breakthrough in efforts to automate processes within isolators to eliminate the highest source of contamination human operators. The new technology also addresses repetitive motion concerns, inconsistency, and throughput issues that impact quality and productivity when human operators pierce an aseptic space.

Designed to protect both personnel and products, the STERICLEAN robot will withstand the hardships of gaseous H_2O_2 (hydrogen peroxide) used during regular sterilization processes by employing complex surface coatings and full encapsulation . The technology eliminates restrictive enclosures and problems related to glove ports , half suits and inflexible mechanical arms, plus other factors that undermined previous attempts at using robotics with isolator systems. "Shadow areas," or surfaces on and under the device that might otherwise elude the vaporized hydrogen peroxide, can now be effectively sterilized because the robot is deliberately and methodically moved during sterilization. In addition to addressing *product contamination issues, STERICLEAN robots also eliminate the chance that human operators will be contaminated by toxic drugs during filling operations or will suffer from repetitive motion injuries.*

"A strong partnership between Stäubli, the system integrator and end-users continues to drive the success of the new technology, "says Ronan Le Floc'h of Sanofi Aventis. "We've proved that when committed partners share the same strategies and bring to the table experience in both robotics and "clean room" environments, obstacles to automating processes within isolators can be fully overcome." During extensive testing, the new technology has already demonstrated its ability to simulate human motion and meet productivity goals, raising the rate at which syringes can be filled on a high-speed line significantly. STERICLEAN robots can be adapted for a wide range of production needs, from dangerous pharmaceutical compounding to vaccines and cell culturing.

About Stäubli Robotics

Stäubli Corporation is an international privately held group, founded over 100 years ago in Switzerland, employing over 3,500 worldwide. Robot production is centered south of Geneva in the French Alps, with facilities across Europe, North and South America and the Far and Middle East.

In 1980, Stäubli Group made the strategic decision to diversify into robotics, beginning with the affiliation of US Company Unimation (a pioneer in industrial robotics). It launched the large SCARA RS robot range in 1987, acquired Unimation in 1988 and launched its RX range of robots in 1992. Today with the addition of the new RS series due to a recent acquisition of the Bosch Rexroth SCARA robot line, the newly developed TX series, and RX heavy payload robots, Stäubli has the broadest robot line on the market. Thousands of Stäubli robots have now been installed worldwide and the company currently boasts 32 sales and service subsidiaries in 24 countries and agents in over 50 countries

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Visit http://www.staubli.com for more information on the company and products.

Al Madar's participation in QREX 2008 culminates in major sales deals for projects in Dubai and Qatar

Remaining units of company's Paradise Lusail development sold out, while sales of other residential and commercial projects impress

23% annual growth in GCC's hotel and ser t projects boosts demand for carpets an

DOMOTEX Middle East opens gateway for i players to expand into lucrative Gulf

DOMOTEX Middle East, the only trade fair for carpets and floor coverings in the MENA region, has revealed that the 23 per cent annual growth in serviced apartment projects in the UAE over the next three years will create regional demand for diversity in carpets and floor coverings by 86 per cent. In view of the region's remarkable prospects, this year's edition of DOMOTEX Middle East - being held at the Dubai International Convention and Exhibition Centre from May 25-27, 2008 - will be the platform for global players as a launch pad to promote and distribute their products, as well as announce, establish and ultimately establish a strong presence in the lucrative Gulf market. "The ongoing construction boom in countries in the Gulf has given rise to a spike in demand for carpets and other floor coverings. Global firms are now setting their sights on the region's sector and DOMOTEX Middle East as the perfect venue for their expansion activities," said Angela Schaschen, Managing Director Deutsche Messe Dubai. Total additional rooms of the global exhibition by the end of 2010.

According to a study by Hospitality Consulting, the UAE is expected to add 77,872 new rooms to the GCC accommodation market by the end of 2010, increasing supply by 86 per cent. Moreover, hotel projects in the UAE alone account for 23 per cent of the total projects until 2010. The study forecasts that the GCC hotel industry will witness a compound annual growth rate of 23 per cent in the next three years. Exhibitors from all over the world will present carpets and floor coverings in all price categories, from luxury to mid-range and budget products. Global players have already confirmed their participation in DOMOTEX Middle East, and more companies are expected to join the list of exhibitors as the date draws nearer. Visitors will find a comprehensive overview of the international carpet market, as well as new trends in the areas of flooring and interior design. The international exhibitors will present their latest products and innovations in the areas of carpets, rugs, modular carpet tiles, resilient floor coverings, laminates, parquet, wall coverings, textiles, carpet yarns and technical textiles. This year's edition will also feature a new supply chain pavilion, bringing the entire supply chain of the carpet and floor covering industry under one roof. Moreover, hosted buyer programmes will be organised to attract more visitors from the region's hotel and contract sectors. Apart from the exhibition, a conference programme will address current issues and trends in the industry.

INTERPHEX 2008, Philadelphia, March 26--28

Mixer solutions and diaphragm valves for the pharmaceutical industry

SteridoseÂ® specializes in the design and manufacturing of magnetically driven mixers and radial diaphragm valves. The SteridoseÂ® product range includes the SterimixerÂ®, SterivalveÂ®, SteriflangeÂ®, SanimixerÂ®, and SterisampleÂ®. Our magnetically driven mixer, the SterimixerÂ®, eliminates the risk of contamination.