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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Sodick's new AQ300L & AQ537L wire EDM displayed at WESTEC 2005.**

**Sodick's new AQ300L** affordable & submersible wire EDM will be on display for the first time at WESTEC2005. The AQ300L is based upon the industry proven Sodick Linear Motor EDM platform. This affordable cost wire EDM comes with many features that are seen on more expensive models. Standard features include X,Y,U,V linear motor drives with glass scale feedback, automatic dielectric level float switch, electrolysis free circuit and a large 15" LCD monitor. The AQ300L's compact design of 4' x 8' allows it to be installed in most shops. Additional machine specifications include 12" x 8" x 8" X,Y,Z axis travels, maximum workpiece dimensions of 20" x 12" x 8" and U,V travel of 3.2" x 3.2".



Sodick's new AQ300L wire EDM

**Sodick's new AQ537L** is the latest in Sodick's completely new designed wire EDM. The submersible AQ327L is highlighted by its 3-sided rise fall worktank, which allows more room for the operator during set up. Standard features include X,Y,U,V linear motor drives with glass scale feedback, automatic dielectric level float switch, electrolysis free circuit, and an automatic wire threader. Its 3D LQ1W control contains both CAD and CAM software. This allows the operator to input 3D CAD files directly into the

control and convert it into NC code thus eliminating any potential programming errors. Additional machine specifications include 23" x 15" x 14" X,Y,Z axis travels, maximum workpiece dimensions of 31" x 21" x 14" and very large U,V travel of 4.8" x 4.8".



Sodick's new AQ537L wire EDM

### **Sodick's new LQ Control on display at WESTEC 2004**

As a technology leader in the field of linear EDM, Sodick Inc. will display the new 3D Qvic<sup>3</sup> Solution at WESTEC2005. This new control allows the three dimensional production strategy for the overall optimization for both wire and sinker EDMs.

Using Windows XP based controllers; the operator can view the machining process in 3D solid model graphics. Thus for the first time, users can take advantage of a continuous, three-dimensional process chain from design to production. This revolutionary concept eliminates operator errors to the greatest possible extent, since the EDM process can be simulated from the very onset of production. The new LQ control also vastly increases the cutting speed of both wire and sinker EDMs.

The concept behind the 3D Q<sup>3</sup>vic Solution is very simple. 3D solid data is transmitted directly from the CAD system via an interface to Sodick's new 3D LQ controller. The data is analyzed and then it is automatically converted into processing data. The control automatically computes the entire discharge area resulting in maximum cutting efficiency.



Sodick's new LQ control is standard on all wire and sinker EDMs.

### **Sodick also introduces the new Electron Beam Polishing Machine and High Speed Linear Motor Machining Center.**

The Electron Beam Machine (EBM) PF32A will also be on display at the Sodick WESTEC booth. This machine uses an electron beam to apply a mirror finish on a machined workpiece. The operation is fast and simple. The workpiece or mold is placed into the machine's work zone where a 2.5" electron beam passes over the part resulting in a mirror like finish thus eliminating the need for hand polishing.



The worlds 1<sup>st</sup> electron beam polishing machine from Sodick.

Sodick's new linear motor driven high speed machining center has compact design requiring very little floor space. Its' rigid structure results in a high-dynamic response with a 1G axis acceleration rate and a 40,000 RPM spindle speed. The machining center is available in two sizes. The MC430L and MC640 models have a 16" X 14" x 8", and 24.5" x 16" x 12" respective axis travels.



Sodick's new linear motor driven high speed machining center

## **Sodick celebrates the production of their 10,000 linear motor EDM.**

On January 29th, 2005 Sodick celebrated the production of their 10,000 linear motor EDM at their Thailand factory. This was quite an accomplishment since Sodick was the first machine tool manufacturer to make the switch from ball screw drives to this new advanced technology back in 1999. Since then, many of the world's machine tool giants have made the change to linear motor technology.

Among the many hundreds of guests attending the event were Sodick's board of directors, employees, customers, suppliers and managers from Sodick's operations in Asia, Europe & the USA. Guests were chauffeured to the factory and personally greeted at the door by Mr. Shioda (President of Sodick) and Mr. Fujita (President of the Sodick Thailand factory). All 922 factory workers were on staff in order that guests could see the factory while it was in full production. The celebration was also a tribute to the plant's success and Sodick's mission to develop and market high quality wire EDMs, sinker EDMs, high speed mills, linear motor drives and ceramic components.

The day's events included speeches by Sodick's President Shigeo Shioda & Sodick's Thailand President Mr. Fujita. Both speeches thanked the Sodick customers, salesmen and vendors throughout the world who have contributed to make Sodick the global leader in the field of high quality EDM systems. Mr. Shioda & Mr. Fujita further thanked the Sodick technical sales engineers for their efforts. They understand that our engineers must take the time to learn and understand the merits of not only the EDM process but also linear drive technology. It's because of these efforts that Sodick is seen as the world's leader in EDM technology with a 49% EDM market share in Japan and over 10,000 linear EDM's sold worldwide.



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