



NEWS

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DATRON DYNAMICS OMNIRAPTOR™ NOW AVAILABLE WITH RENISHAW TP20 KINEMATIC PROBE FOR COMPLEX PART MEASUREMENT IN Z-DIRECTION

New Omni-Axis Probe System Eliminates Three Dimensional Programming Requirements For Reduced Cycle Times

MILFORD, NH, Feb. 12, 2004 – Datron Dynamics, Inc. has announced the availability of an optional Renishaw TP20 Probe for the Datron OmniRaptor™, an affordable CNC machine designed specifically for high-speed micro-tooling, with spindle speeds up to 60,000 RPM and feed rates of 800” per minute.

The omni-axis TP20 probe system is ideal for complex part measurement and applications typically requiring measurement in the X, Y and/or Z direction(s), such as engraving a logo onto a rounded surface. Ordinarily, three-dimensional (3-D) programming would be necessary to accommodate surface depth changes and ensure an even depth engraving. With the TP20 probe, the surface is scanned and irregularities or changes in the surface are automatically managed in the machining data and fed into the ISO 9000 information chain for quality control with no 3-D programming required. A fourth axis provides the flexibility to machine round stock or engrave on round work-pieces. A fifth axis is used to independently rotate the fourth axis so machining a round part at an angle is easily accomplished. With the fourth and fifth axis capabilities, any point or dimension on a 3-D part can be probed, sensed and registered in the machining data for precise production.

The TP20 Probe features a 6-way, kinematic, touch-trigger probe system to significantly improve cycle times. Its two-piece design, comprised of a probe body and detachable probe module(s), offers the user the ability to change stylus configurations – manually or automatically – without re-qualifying the stylus tips.

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The probe module houses a kinematic switching touch sensor mechanism, carries the stylus assembly and provides over travel in +/-X, +/-Y and +/-Z axes. Magnetic mounting provides additional crash protection in X and Y. Modules with a range of trigger forces allow the probe's performance to be accurately matched to the measurement task. A set of probe extensions is also available, allowing the inspection of features with restricted access.

"Adding the Renishaw Probe option to our OmniRaptor means that one of the fastest most flexible CNC machines on the market is now even faster and offers more capabilities," states Dr. Walter Schnecker, president of Datron Dynamics. The OmniRaptor features a 60,000 RPM spindle that produces low force, feed rates of up to 800"/minute and superior quality when using 1/4" tools or smaller. An integrated Ethanol-Mist Coolant System™ provides for superb surface finishes and eliminates secondary processes like de-burring or de-greasing to further improve cycle times. With the pneumatically retractable TP20 probe, the OmniRaptor also provides irregular work-piece surface recognition and dynamic compensation. It finds hole centers and bosses, pre-measures blanks and compensates for material variations before the machining starts – thereby reducing set-up time.

About Datron: Datron Dynamics is the North American subsidiary of Datron Electronic, a German technology firm established in 1969 that has become a leader in the design and development of CNC machining and dispensing systems. Founded in 1996 by President, Walter Schnecker, Ph.D. and Vice President, William King, Datron Dynamics is differentiated in the marketplace by its focus on high-speed machining with micro-tooling in aluminum, plastics, and non-ferrous metals. The company's proprietary Quick-Pallets™ and Vacumate™ workholding systems enable "lights-out" production. These distinctions have resulted in over 1,000 installations worldwide within industries requiring superior production of EDM electrodes, hot stamping and embossing dies, 3D mold making, rapid prototyping, 3D precision engraving, front panels and the production of automotive and aerospace parts.

About Renishaw: Founded in 1973 in Gloucestershire, England, Renishaw is a leader in the innovation of solutions for co-ordinate measuring machines (CMMs), CNC machine tools and manufacturing automation systems in the electronics and semiconductor industries. Their products include an extensive range of probing, calibration, encoder, scanning and spectroscopy systems.

For more information on Datron's OmniRaptor with TP20 Probe, contact Robert Murphy at Datron Dynamics, Inc. 454 Route 13, Milford, NH 03066; 888-262-2833; www.DatronDynamics.com; E-Mail: info@datrondynamics.com.

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