



## **Hydromat Announces Formation Of Advanced Product Group To Offer Engineering And Manufacturing Of Automation Solutions.**

**ST. LOUIS, MO** — Hydromat Inc. announces the formation of a new service oriented business division. After nearly 30 years of success in the areas of design, engineering and building of rotary transfer machines for the precision parts industry, Bruno Schmitter, the leader of Hydromat's success, has expanded his offerings with the formation of The Hydromat Advanced Product Group. This is a team of dedicated individuals whose backgrounds run deep in the tradition of high-precision metalworking. This expertise is available to manufacturers who require solutions in the areas of design, engineering and the build process for automation systems.

The Advanced Product Group offers turnkey solutions with design and manufacturing capabilities available within one organization. Services include: engineering, software development, control integration and advanced quality systems. Full machine shop capabilities, grinding services, assembly, as well as welding and fabrication complemented by state-of-the-art paint booths and finishing systems are also available on Hydromat's St. Louis campus.

Hydromat partners with world-renowned manufacturers and designers in Europe and Taiwan to ensure access to today's technological innovations. This brings comprehensiveness to their search for global expertise in the design/build process. "As an integrator, we can develop the ultimate process for our customer's product and deliver an entire solution from one source. We are a focused team of professionals concentrating on the needs of our client to deliver results," stated Bruno Schmitter, President and CEO of Hydromat Inc.

Project engineers work hand-in-hand with customers to develop unique, tailored manufacturing process solutions. An engineering committee, including a wide array of manufacturing disciplines, monitors every phase of each project. SPC values are carefully weighed during project evaluations.

A vast library of resources, including state-of-the-art CAD, 3D solid modeling in programs such as Autodesk Inventor and Finite Element software, is available to Hydromat engineers. This provides the agility to anticipate future engineering challenges while driving technology identification and new product launches. "Our advantage is that we can offer all these

### **Hydromat Announces Formation Of Advanced Product Group – page 2**

services as a 'one stop shop'. By keeping the project within our organization we can develop a number of elements of the final product at the same time, speeding the overall process," notes Martin Weber, Vice President of Manufacturing and Engineering,

(More)



Weber serves as the point man for the Advanced Product Group, with the staff for each discipline reporting to, and being coordinated by, his leadership. He has a 28-year history with Hydromat, and has overseen the development of some of the most complex machining solutions for their rotary transfer business, including the breakthrough EPIC R/T program in recent years.

Automation services with an emphasis on robotics, in-process gauging, software development and controls integration will be created by Weber's Electrical Engineering Team. The Design/Build Engineering Team will concentrate on the hardware to make it all happen. Their designs and assembly techniques will put in place a solution for high-efficiency manufacturing cells for parts ranging from 1/8" to the size of a truck. "We concentrate on the concept of the 'logical design' ideal. This group is as passionate about productive solutions as our customers are. We feel the synergy between our team and our customers' engineers will yield some very intelligent solutions," Weber states.

Machine shop services are also available for 'one-off' prototyping and job shop production runs of specialized parts. The EDM and Grinding personnel, working under the direction of Steve Thomas, Hydromat's Machine Shop Superintendent, will produce high precision fixturing and in-process part requirements. "Having an intimate knowledge of the project right from the start gives my group the ability to prepare for upcoming requirements so we can support the build process faster than if we had to look outside to get the work done. We can produce parts in conjunction with other aspects of the build process, speeding the delivery, and keeping us flexible to changes," stated Thomas.

Productivity has always been at the core of Hydromat's philosophy. Now the Advanced Product Group, whose hundreds of years of combined experience bears fruit as a true team of '21st Century Craftsmen', brings this knowledge to each project they develop.

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(More)



## Hydromat Announces Formation Of Advanced Product Group – page 3



(Caption ) – Steve Thomas, Machine Shop Supervisor (left), and Martin Weber, V.P. of Manufacturing and Engineering (right), lead Hydromat's new Advanced Product Group, a entity created to offer productivity solutions in the areas of engineering, software development, manufacturing and fabrication for industrial automation.

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