

Komax Systems, a leading provider of assembly technology for medical device manufacturing, announces the launch of their newest platform: The KSPilot™.



Medical device manufacturers face many challenges in the commercialization of a new product, not least of which is the need to produce appropriate quantities of the device during the various phases of its' production implementation. Manufacturing often starts with pilot runs of tens or hundreds of thousands (used for clinical trials or other tests) before ramping up to high-volume production. The **KSPilot™** has been designed together with our customers to manufacture these pilot runs *efficiently* while assuring the required level of quality and full compliance with the requirements of a FDA-validated production environment.

The **KSPilot™** is part of an overall concept for assembly automation that integrates itself into Komax Systems' toolbox of solutions. The chassis uses a free-pallet transport loop that allows output of the **KSPilot™** to achieve a 3-second cycle rate. The system facilitates easy integration of manual positions as well as fully automatic stations. Tooling can be either cam driven, pneumatically actuated, or numerically controlled, and can operate at cycle rates below 1 second, thus duplicating the operating environment of a future high-speed line. Tooling integrated onto the **KSPilot™** has common mechanical, electrical, and software interfaces with Komax Systems' high-speed cam-driven platforms: The KSD™ (rotary) and KSL™ (inline). Thus, complex processing stations integrated onto a **KSPilot™** platform are *portable*, capable of being unplugged from a pilot line and inserted into a high-speed line. This approach allows process stations and tooling to be used for both pilot and production lines, saving time and money while simplifying FDA validation.

The **KSPilot™** is an integral part of Komax Systems' approach to assembly automation. It allows the critical stations in a complex production system to be automated in their final high-speed configuration during the early stages of a product's development. The Komax approach reduces risk and saves both time and money for manufacturers bringing a new medical device to market. Although the official launch of the **KSPilot™** is scheduled for January 2009, its success seems assured. Komax Systems already has projects "up and running" on this new and innovative platform.

Komax Systems specializes in the engineering and manufacture of custom-built automatic assembly systems for the medical device industry. With over 40 years of automation expertise, in-house FDA validation, production facilities in Europe, USA, and the Far East, and hundreds of systems operating worldwide, leading manufacturers rely on **Komax Systems** for reliable automated production solutions.

For more information about **Komax Systems** or the **KSPilot™** platform, please contact Erik Poulsen, Director of Sales and Marketing at erik.poulsen@komaxgroup.com, or call direct at +41 32 925 7222.