



For February HOUSTEX Section

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SHOP FLOOR AUTOMATIONS AT HOUSTEX® 2009 (BOOTH #208)

Shop Floor Automations to Preview New Enterprise Software Suite for Shop Floor Data Collection

La Mesa, CALIF – December 16, 2008 – Shop Floor Automations (SFA), the largest Distributor and Service Center for Predator Software Inc., today announced that it will preview and demonstrate its new enterprise software suite at the HOUSTEX Exposition & Conference, held February 24 through February 26, 2009, at the George R. Brown Convention Center in Houston, Texas.

Presenting in Booth #208, SFA will demonstrate the benefits and features of its new enterprise software suite. The suite includes a real time browser based data collection and OEE viewer capable of monitoring machine status, part counts, downtimes, productivity, scrap codes, OEE and more on any web enabled device, such as a PDA, laptop, smart phone, or thin client. Also browser based is the software's data collection and OEE reports and charts client, which generates reports and charts for trends, comparisons, detailed downtime and more for OEE and other metrics. A Data Connect middleware application provides a software based data connection between systems such as Predator MDC™, data collection PLCs, and Ethernet CNC controls such as the Fanuc I series, allowing logic to be applied from all inputs to make decisions and generate a variety of outputs from updating a database to triggering email. The enterprise software suite is available exclusively from Shop Floor Automations.

Support for FANUC I Series Controls Added to Enterprise Software Suite

SFA will include in its demonstrations at Houstex the new support for FANUC I series controls that is built

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in to its enterprise software suite. By supporting FANUC's own FOCAS1 and FOCAS2 drivers, the new FANUC I Series module allows all Ethernet enabled I series controls to be connected to Predator's MDC™ (Manufacturing Data Collection), Tracker™ (Tool Management) and Travelers™ (Electronic Document Control) applications, as well as a huge number of other manufacturing data systems.

The new FANUC I module allows these systems to track machine data such as cycle time, alarm time, idle time, feed rates and overrides, spindle speeds and overrides, spindle loads, current program, current N block, current X Y and Z position, and part counts. It also controls and tracks tool data including historical and predictive tool life management, dynamic loading and saving of tool offsets, tool load management and tool path optimization.

A light version of the FANUC I module is also available for those who need just the basic data collection capabilities for their Predator MDC system.

Predator MDC™ Version 8.0 Makes Shop Floor Productivity Faster, Easier and More Comprehensive

Shop Floor Automations also will demonstrate the newest version of Predator MDC™ (Manufacturing Data Collection) – version 8.0. Predator MDC™ is a network-based application that collects, reports, graphs, and processes shop floor manufacturing data in real time. It can monitor up to 256 CNCs per PC and improves manufacturing processes and production efficiencies by supplying the most accurate shop floor data available to manufacturers and engineers so they can make better decisions.

At SFA's request, version 8.0 of Predator MDC™ includes a new interface that provides a real time timeline for users, jobs, parts, operations and status. The new version also includes support for Microsoft® Windows Vista, Microsoft® Windows 64 Bit, Microsoft® Office Access 2007, and Oracle Database 11g.

The number of reports and charts available have more than doubled in version 8. There are 326 new reports and charts and improvements have been made to almost all of the 320 already contained in the software. More diversity translates into better functionality and increased productivity on the shop floor.

Predator MDC benefits include: data collection using an input device such as a CNC or bar code reader; ability to monitor from 1 to 256 CNC machines per PC; software-enabled by using macros; hardware-

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enabled by using Predator PLC; monitoring an unlimited number of Events, Points, or Conditions; analyze data using one of more than 80 reports and graphs; store information in Microsoft SQL, Oracle, and Access; no new RS232 cabling required; Predator DNC™ Plug-In Automatic Machine Monitoring; paper-based monitoring option, Remote Request™; open database architecture using Database Objects™.

About Shop Floor Automations, Inc.

Shop Floor Automations, Inc. is the largest Distributor and Service Center for Predator Software in the United States. Serving as the Mid-West and Western United States Service Center for Predator Software, SFA exclusively provides sales, service, and support for all Predator products. Based in La Mesa, California, with offices and personnel in California, Arizona, and Texas, SFA has remained Predator's partner for ten years.

About Predator Software Inc.

Predator Software Inc. develops turnkey DNC and shop floor control applications, and CNC verification software. The company also provides a line of products that together make up the Predator MES (manufacturing execution system) suite, which includes manufacturing data collection, electronic work instructions, and tool and gage management. Predator Software is based in Portland, Oregon, USA.

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