

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Sapa Profiles, Inc. Fabricated Components Purchases a TESA Micro-Hite® 3D Coordinate-Measuring Machine



Portland, OR – November 10, 2008 – Sapa Profiles, Inc. Fabricated Components, a global leader in the aluminum extrusion and fabrication industry has purchased a TESA Micro-Hite® Coordinate-Measuring Machine (CMM). A CMM is a highly accurate measuring system designed to improve upon the use of standard precision measuring instruments. Sapa Profiles, Inc. purchased a CMM device to meet and exceed rigorous customer’s demands to precisely measure the physical geometrical characteristics of an aluminum part. A CMM guarantees that a part or extrusions dimensions, from the design phase to the finished product, are accurate per the customer’s requirements. Measurements are defined by a probe attached to the third moving axis of the machine. The probe touches the part of interest and allows collecting discrete points on the object’s surface. The offset triangular bridge design provides a low center of gravity and optimum stiffness-to-mass ratio. Air bearings ensure frictionless motion in all three axis.

Sapa’s customers will certainly benefit from this highly accurate measuring device. The main reason Sapa purchased the CMM is to help decrease each parts inspection time and to provide higher accuracy of inspection for the customer. The CMM will give Sapa an edge by providing higher accuracy of process validation, which in turn is also better quality for the customer. The measuring range of 18.11” (X axis) x 20.08” (Y axis) x 16.54” (Z axis) accommodates 80% of today’s manufactured parts. Operators on this CMM are able to perform complex inspections quickly and efficiently with modest training. In addition, to ensure that a part is not subject to thermal expansion, while precise measurements are needed, the CMM will be kept in a highly environmentally controlled room. The room will be kept at a strict 72°. The purchase of the TESA Micro-Hite® Coordinate-Measuring Machine is a remarkable example of how Sapa leads the way in extrusion and fabrication technology.



Corporate summary

Sapa is an international industrial group, which develops, manufactures and markets value-added aluminum profiles, profile-based components and systems, and heat exchanger strip in aluminum. The Sapa Group generates sales of 5 billion USD and has 15,000 employees. Further information about Sapa can be found on our web site: www.sapagroup.com/us/profiles

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