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PRESS RELEASE

American Kuhne Shows 3 New Extruder Designs at NPE *Gearless, High Speed, and Modular Extruders plus more...*

NPE 2009 - Booth 65033, North Hall — American Kuhne unveils a new gearless, direct drive extruder. Designed to run at conventional single screw extruder speeds (100 to 150 max. rpm is typical), the special high torque, low speed motor completely eliminates the need for a gearbox. This in turn eliminates long term maintenance of gears and radial bearings as well as drive belt adjustments. The absence of drive belt dust and/or gear oil may also provide additional benefits for medical and other clean room installations. Furthermore, this approach yields a 10-15% improvement in energy efficiency by eliminating gear losses and through inherent efficiencies of the permanent-magnet synchronous motor design.

American Kuhne is introducing the proven Kuhne GmbH high speed extruder German technology to the North American market. A 72 mm, 33 L/D high speed extruder will be on display, capable of running up to 1500 rpm with polystyrene and polypropylene at output rates that exceed a conventional 6" extruder.

Also on display will be our patent pending modular production extruders that enable barrel and screw "modules" to be changed quickly and easily, at an affordable price. For applications that are very sensitive to contamination and/or resin changes, the ability to easily separate the screw and barrel from a machine and replace it with a clean "on-deck" module can be critical to both product purity and profitability. Second, for processors that run a wide range of product sizes and throughput, the ability to change the extruder size by quickly switching to a different diameter and/or length screw and barrel, brings a previously unimaginable level of processing and production scheduling versatility.

Our 2.5 inch "cut-away" extruder will provide a unique look in to the inner workings and design benefits of our extruders. We will also have an AKcent co-extruder on display. Additionally, American Kuhne will conduct active demos of its newly revised AKcess I, II, and III touch screen control systems.

Personnel from Kuhne Anlagenbau (Germany) will also be on hand to discuss their unique and proprietary multi-layer double and triple bubble technology as well as water quenched blown film technology for food and medical packaging.

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Having sold well over 1,000 plastics, rubber, and silicone extruders, American Kuhne, Inc. is a leading North American supplier of single screw extruders, feed screws, extrusion systems and extrusion process controllers. Customers range from small custom extrusion shops to Fortune 500 and 1000 companies. They rely on American Kuhne products for superior design and value, as well as American Kuhne's engineering and service specialists for exceptional long-term support.

Extruders range from 1/2" through 12-inch. They are designed and built in Ashaway, RI. Turnkey pipe, tubing and profile systems are also developed, tested and manufactured in Ashaway, RI. In addition, the company also maintains a fully instrumented extrusion lab with a high-speed computerized data acquisition system available for free customer trials.

Founded in January 1997, American Kuhne has assembled a core team of extrusion equipment design and manufacturing experts with more than 500 years of combined experience in the North American single screw extruder marketplace. AK supplies screws, extruders, and complete turnkey systems worldwide to countries ranging from Italy, France and Germany to Mexico, China, Brazil and the Czech Republic. In addition, American Kuhne maintains an ongoing technology exchange with Kuhne GmbH, St. Augustine, Germany, a premier European manufacturer of high-quality sheet and blown film systems.

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