

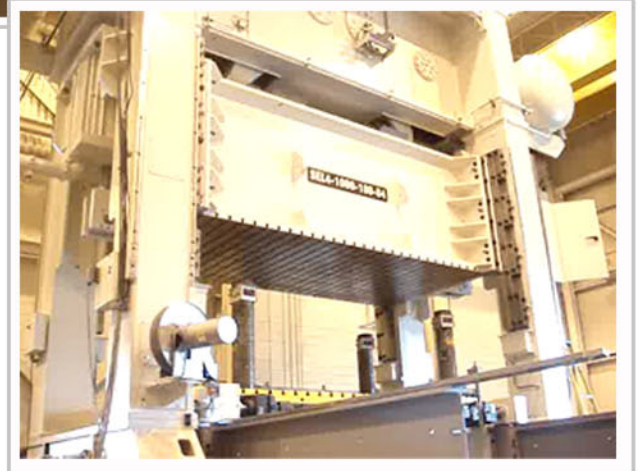


# NEWS RELEASE

July 1, 2009

## Pridgeon & Clay to bring Link Drive Press Technology to their Mexico operations.

Pridgeon & Clay did a recent run-off of their new press which is now being shipped to their PCNava operation in Monterrey, Mexico. The 1000 ton press promises an increase in productivity through the use of link drive press technology. The advantage of using a link drive press has to do with the ram's motion. The press slows down during the working portion of the stroke (the bottom stroke) allowing the metal to form more slowly and with less heat buildup. This slower work stroke is then compensated for by speeding up during the idle portion of the stroke. With ram speeds slowing down 6" from press bottom, the press is suitable for deep-drawn part production. However, the advantages of link motion are not limited to deep-drawn parts. The press is equally suitable for heavy blanking, forming, coining and heavy progressive die and transfer work.



Pridgeon & Clay is very excited to incorporate this technology as a part of their production capabilities and is looking forward to the benefits the link drive press offers: enhanced press speeds, lower noise levels because of lower impact velocity, less heat generated in the die resulting in longer die life, less snap-through shock, and tighter forming tolerance with minimal springback. All of this allows for better quality parts.

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