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**Mazak Welcomes SMW Autoblok to Exclusive VIP Technology Program**

FLORENCE, Ky., July 29, 2013 – Mazak Corporation recently named Wheeling, Ill.-based SMW Autoblok, a leading provider of chucks, live tools and steady rests, to its exclusive Value Inspired Partner (VIP) technology program, which exists to bring total manufacturing solutions to Mazak customers.

As a certified Value Inspired Partner, SMW Autoblok will collaborate with Mazak on R&D and integration efforts to create more innovative products and turnkey processes for the U.S. manufacturing market. The two companies will also work together to create training programs and seminars on a broad range of manufacturing topics for presentation at Mazak technology events across the country. This includes SMW Autoblok participating in DISCOVER 2013, a technology and education event taking place October 8 - 16 at Mazak Corporation headquarters in Florence, Ky.

“SMW Autoblok is a perfect fit for our VIP program. Like Mazak, SMW Autoblok is more than just a mere product supplier, it works closely with customers to understand their unique processes to be able to provide them with the best possible solutions for achieving increased productivity and profitability,” said Brian Papke, president of Mazak Corporation. “Process optimization through complete manufacturing solutions is essential in today’s competitive global marketplace, which makes collaborative efforts such as the VIP program so critical to the success of U.S. manufacturers.”

Launched in 2010, the Mazak VIP program brings together reputable producers of complementary technologies for Mazak machines. In order to become a Mazak VIP, members must exceed customer expectations in terms of products, services and support as well as maintain a culture of ethical business practices.

“We are excited to be named one of Mazak’s newest VIP partners,” said Gary Downs, president of SMW Autoblok. “It is an honor to be part of an exclusive program that places high value on product quality, fair pricing, technical support and customer service. After all, these are the four cornerstones of our business, and they have been key to our company’s global growth and leadership status in the manufacture of workholding, clamping and tooling solutions.”

For more information on the Mazak VIP program and SMW Autoblok, please visit [MazakUSA.com/VIP](http://MazakUSA.com/VIP) and [www.smwautoblok.com](http://www.smwautoblok.com).

#### About Mazak Corporation

Mazak Corporation is a leader in the design and manufacture of productivity-improving machine tool solutions. Committed to being a partner to customers with innovative technology, its world-class facility in Florence, Kentucky, produces over 100 models of Turning Centers, Multi-Tasking Machines and Vertical Machining Centers, including 5-Axis models. Continuously investing in manufacturing technology allows the Kentucky plant to be the most advanced and efficient machine tool builder, providing high-quality and reliable products through its “ Production-on-Demand” manufacturing practice. Mazak maintains eight Technology Centers across North America to provide local hands-on applications, service and sales support to its customers. For more information on Mazak's products and solutions, visit [www.mazakusa.com](http://www.mazakusa.com) or follow us on Twitter at @MazakCorp and on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/MazakCorp>.

#### About SMW Autoblok Corporation

SMW Autoblok is a premier global manufacturer of rotating hydraulic and pneumatic chucks, expanding mandrels, collet chucks, hydraulic self centering steady rests, hydraulic cylinders, pneumatic cylinders and a full line of driven tooling. Headquartered in Wheeling, Illinois, SMW Autoblok Corporation is responsible for sales and service for the North American market. For more information on SMW Autoblok or their products, please contact SMW Autoblok Corporation at 847-215-0591 or visit [www.SMWautoblok.com](http://www.SMWautoblok.com).

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