

How Long COVID Is Changing Healthcare

Newsweek

INTERNATIONAL

SPECIAL REPORT

CHINA'S EYES ON THE U.S.

TO QUASH DISSENT, BEIJING IS RAMPING UP SURVEILLANCE AND HARASSMENT—DEEP INSIDE IN AMERICA

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Pressing ahead: AIDA Engineering provides press forming solutions for sustainable industries

AIDA Engineering has been supporting industry with its key metalforming machinery for over 100 years.

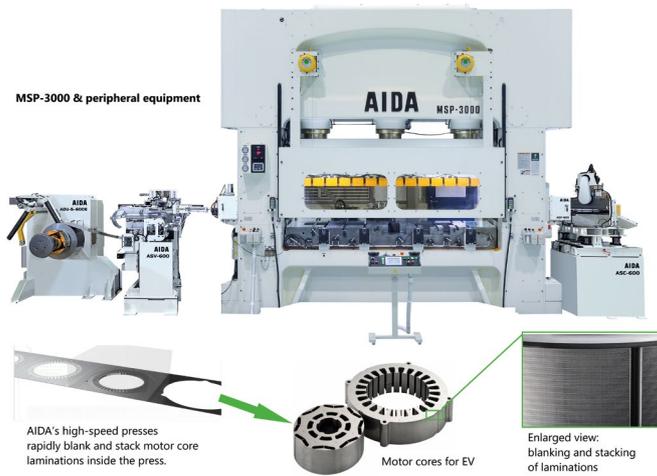


"We design and build our press systems with high accuracy in order to meet the requirements of diverse fields in high precision-forming industries."

Kimikazu Aida, President, AIDA ENGINEERING, LTD.

Over the past century, AIDA has concentrated on the development, manufacture, and sale of presses, and has grown into a global company with production and R&D facilities in Japan, Asia, China, the United States, and Europe. As a global brand in the press industry, AIDA's equipment is used by customers around the world. Press metalforming is a crucial production technology that is essential for manufacturing a wide array of industrial products using environmentally friendly methods.

"The AIDA Group is a forming systems builder," states Kimikazu Aida, President of AIDA ENGINEERING, LTD., "which means that we support the general development of press metalforming technologies and that we contribute to the business of our custom-



MSP-3000 High-Speed Precision Press and Peripheral Equipment

ers and the betterment of society. Our strengths can be divided into three areas. The first is our product development capabilities. The second is our advanced production technologies. And the third is that we have sufficient capital to support these efforts."

While AIDA continues to pursue this strategy, in recent years it has also begun focusing on a variety of other diversified business areas in order to respond to changing market needs, including leveraging its metalforming technologies to provide solutions for electric vehicles (EVs), energy conservation, and carbon reduction. AIDA is contributing to customer productivity improvements by introducing advanced automated systems and AI and DX technologies across its business.

In the automotive market there has been increasing demand recently for high-tensile steel as

a way to reduce vehicle weight – particularly for EVs, where batteries add significantly to the



Bicycle sprocket



EV battery packs



Separators for fuel cell vehicles



UL-4000

'UL-4000', Sprocket, Separators, EV Battery Packs

weight of the car. However, this high-tensile steel is extremely hard and easily springs back after forming. Hot stamping—where the steel is heated in order to make it more pliable—is widely used. However, AIDA's cold stamping methodology uses servo and back-pressure technologies to prevent material spring-back without heating, which helps significantly reduce CO₂ emissions in the manufacturing process.

Together with lighter car components, there is also increasing demand for drive motors and bat-

teries as EV production increases. As President Aida notes, "These changes are also leading to business opportunities, such as sales of our MSP and UL presses."

AIDA's MSP (Multi Suspension Press) Series is suited for forming laminations used to manufacture motor cores, and they can produce a single product using multiple processes.

"In the case of our MSP presses, we changed the press design based on its intended usage, incorporating various improvements in order to achieve the highest possible accuracy. This press has an incredible global reputation. Some of our European customers have even said that the MSP is the best there is."

Another best-selling AIDA press product is the UL Series, which is more compact than a conventional

press. President Aida notes, "Its compact design increases its precision. And because of its high precision, our customers can reduce post-forming machining and/or grinding processes, which translates into energy savings and higher material yields. Our UL Series presses are used to form bicycle sprockets, EV battery packs, separators for FCV, and motorized bicycle components."



Servo Tandem Line



D-MAT: Press-to-Press Transfer System



Aluminum Vehicle Body Panel

