



NEW Robots Debut at Canada's Outdoor Farm Show

After its world premier in Germany last November, the new Lely Astronaut A4 milking robot joins the new DeLaval Smart Farming Solutions at Canada's Outdoor Farm Show on September 13, 14 & 15, 2011.

These new and exciting dairy technologies will be installed prior to the Show so that the 70 dairy cows will have time to adjust to their new surroundings before gates open to the human public. Showcasing these types of new technologies in action with live animals falls directly in line with the mandate of Canada's Outdoor Farm Show and the goals of the dairy exhibitors and sponsors.

"The BriteSpan Dairy Innovation Centre revolves around showcasing new and innovative products in a live environment," says Stefanie Nagelschmitz, Livestock Co-ordinator at Canada's Outdoor Farm Show. "We are incredibly excited to see what our sponsors are bringing to the barn this year."

The Lely Astronaut A4 milking system's key difference over past models is its new gate system. The gates let cows walk straight into the milking stall rather than bend through a curve at the entrance and exit. DeLaval will be showcasing their Smart Farming range of products and various advanced herd management systems that are currently present in the Canadian market or planned to be released in the near future.

"There was a definite buzz around these new technologies at EuroTier," says Nagelschmitz. "We expect the same buzz from Canadian farmers as they see these and many more new products in the BriteSpan Dairy Innovation Centre this September."

Revamped in 2009, the eight year old barn facility underwent a major overhaul to create enough room for both a Lely and DeLaval robot to operate side-by-side – a one-of-a-kind facility currently not found any place else in the world. In addition to the new products from Lely and DeLaval, Promat will install new Pasture GEL MATs that are filled with a polymer gel designed to contour as the cow lies down. As the official cow mat supplier, Promat is proud to show-off their new technology and how it can improve animal welfare.

Although attendees may know the Lely and DeLaval brands best, there are more than twenty other companies who supply innovative services and new products to the overall offering. Like any farm, there is more to a dairy barn than just its milking equipment and so dairy services and products at Canada's Outdoor Farm Show are provided by BriteSpan Building Systems, Agrilight, AG Sourcing, Arntjen, B-W Feed & Seed Ltd., David Carson Farms and Auction Services, Danamay Supplement Company, Enerworks, Farm Credit Canada, Faromor, Klijn Agri Coatings, Kubota, Mycogen Seeds, OMAFRA, Ontario Dairy Farmer magazine, Ontario Harvestore, Penner Farm Services, Promat, Stubbe's Precast Inc. and Supreme Mixer/Brodie Ag.

Attendees will be able to see these new dairy products everyday during Canada's Outdoor Farm Show. On Thursday, September 15, which is Dairy Day, a special VIP Dairy Producers' Brunch will be held in addition to the one-day Forage Harvesting Demo taking place at 2:30 p.m. in the East Demo Field.