

# One Minute in Sycamore History



Has anyone or anything from Sycamore ever gone up in outer space? See how many ideas you can come up with in just ONE minute. Ready, set, GO!



Ideal Industries, in Sycamore, creates tools that are used on commercial and civil aircraft, military aircraft, high speed trains, space shuttles, rockets, satellites, and the SPACE STATION!

Wire strippers are used to make connections between two wires. On an airbus A380, there is over 300 miles of wire, and over 10,000 different wire stripping operations that must occur.

Since the Apollo 13, every NASA aircraft as carried 2 sets of Ideal Industries wire strippers for in flight repairs.



The new Ergo-Elite Stripmaster® Wire Stripper

#### THE FUTURE OF FLYING

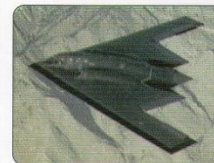
At the 2005 Paris Air Show in June, Airbus and Boeing wooed customers for their new technologically advanced long range, fuel efficient aircraft, including the Airbus A380 and the Boeing 787 Dreamliner™, shown at right. IDEAL Custom Stripmaster® Wire Strippers are critical to the production of these aircraft.



#### Markets We Serve



COMMERCIAL AND CIVIL AIRCRAFT. Around the world, manufacturers use IDEAL wire strippers, the industry standard, to construct their aircraft. Most airplanes receive a total overhaul approximately every 20 years, including a complete rewiring of the entire craft.



MILITARY AIRCRAFT, ARTILLERY AND ARMAMENTS. Clean, precise wire stripping is critical to success in fighting wars and keeping the peace.



HIGH SPEED TRAINS. Building on technology that powers the current Bullet Train ("shinkansen"), Japanese scientists are developing a magnetically levitated train that will travel at 300 miles (500 kilometers) per hour.

AEROSPACE. IDEAL wire strippers help to build, maintain and repair space shuttles, rockets and satellites, as well as the International Space Station (left). ■

#### The Next Generation of Wire Strippers

In response to customers' requests for expanded functions, features and capabilities in wire strippers, IDEAL developed the Ergo-Elite Stripmaster® Wire Stripper, which rolled off the production lines and into technicians' hands in January, 2005.

The new Ergo-Elite Stripmaster® Wire Stripper evolved from the IDEAL Custom Stripmaster® Wire Stripper that has been the premium mil-spec stripper for the past 50 plus years. The tool has been ergonomically engineered for better balance, reduced weight and increased comfort for the operator. (See "The Works" on page 7.)

Throughout 2005, IDEAL designers, engineers and production team members will work with customers to create customized Ergo-Elite Stripmaster® Wire Stripper compatible blades for their unique applications. IDEAL will continue to monitor changes in wire manufacturing, from the development of new insulating and conductor materials to changes in wire construction.

"We expect that our customers will continue to push the envelope of technology over the coming years," says Tom Peterson, Production Tool Business Unit Manager. "They know that we'll be there to support their wire-processing needs, every strip of the way."

Production Tool team members not shown: Wayne Aekens, Carolyn Austin, Eric Bleifield, Curt Christensen, Bruce Konen, Cris Lewis, Allan Nelson, Chuck Olson, Rich Sheldon, Mark Stanley, Janet Stoll, Ian Tomlinson, Tim Wilkin.