



JUKI CORPORATION

October 6, 2010

The "AC-172N-1790 High-speed computer-controlled buttonholing indexer" for men's shirts, which dramatically increases buttonholing productivity, will be launched on the market



JUKI is proud to announce the release of the "AC-172N-1790 High-speed computer-controlled buttonholing indexer" for men's shirts, etc., which dramatically increases buttonholing productivity and achieves consistent seam quality.

This new product is an automatic sewing machine for sewing continuous buttonholes on front plackets of men's shirts while feeding the material with accuracy by intervals specified on the operation panel. In addition, the machine is provided as standard with a stacking device which automatically stacks finished materials.

The machine is provided with a "preset mechanism" which allows the operator to place the next material while the machine is still engaged in the sewing of the current material. The indexer is able to finish buttonholing (five buttonholes/piece) of a men's shirt in approximately 20 seconds*. However, there is "an unproductive time" for the sewing machine operator while the sewing machine is engaged in the sewing of the current material. By the use of the preset mechanism, the sewing machine operator can place the next material to be sewn, thus utilizing this waiting time. In addition, the sewing machine operator can even operate two or more indexers at a time by further utilizing the waiting time, thereby substantially increasing productivity.

JUKI launched its first indexer in 1968. This indexer captured a big market in developed countries such as Japan and the U.S. as a productivity-boosting high-performance machine since the operator was able to attend three or four indexers at a time. The indexer has now been renewed for the first time in the past seven years. China, which is the world's center of the apparel industry, places importance on a sewing machine which increases productivity due to domestic wage increases and a shortage of labor. JUKI is going to expand sales with the AC-172N-1790, which ensures increased productivity and consistent quality.

* It is achieved provided that the sewing conditions are as follows: Number of buttonholes: 5; Number of stitches per buttonhole: 113; Sewing speed of the sewing machine: 3,600 sti/min

Features

- The preset mechanism allows the operator to place the next material to be sewn while the machine is still engaged in the sewing of the current material. Since the automatic indexer is able to sew two or more buttonholes continuously, it generates "waiting time" for the sewing machine operator. JUKI's preset mechanism allows the operator to place the next front placket to be buttonholed (so-called "overlap work"), effectively utilizing this waiting time, and thereby achieving increased productivity.
- > To prevent buttonholes in a striped material from being out of alignment, the sub-clamp device is newly installed. The sewing machine is newly provided, at the time of delivery, with a mechanism that prevents slippage of the preset material in order to allow the sewing machine to handle striped materials with increased accuracy. By the installation of the sub-clamp mechanism, which is independent from the clamp table, on the carrier section of the sewing machine head, the material is delivered to the sewing position by being clamped by the sub-clamp mechanism without fail. This prevents material slippage, thereby ensuring accurate and consistent buttonholing of front plackets.
- The stepping motor controls the material feed amount in increments of 0.1 mm to achieve material feeding with accuracy and consistency (number of buttonholes: 1 to 20; number of patterns stored in memory: 20). The sewing machine is provided as standard with the capability of moving the carrier in synch with the operation of the sewing machine while engaged in sewing, thereby achieving accurate and consistent material feeding without any material slack.
- The indexer comes with the machine head "LBH-1790 high-speed buttonholing machine" which offers excellent functions and performance, and is highly evaluated by customers. With its maximum sewing speed of 4,200 sti/min and its unique active tension (computer-controlled thread tension control mechanism), the machine head changes over the needle thread tension at the parallel sections and bartacking sections of buttonholes without fail to achieve beautifully finished buttonhole shapes. In addition, the machine head prevents finished stitches from fraying (unraveling) by sewing a fastening stitch at the end of sewing. Furthermore, other stitching styles such as double buttonholing can be programmed.