

Media release

Industry news

Marketing Services
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Feintool AG and Heinrich Schmid AG merged:

The new Feintool Technologie AG: now even more expertise from a single source

As of 1 January 2012, Feintool Technologie AG in Lyss and the Jona-based Heinrich Schmid AG merged to form the new Feintool Technologie AG. The Swiss world market leader in fineblanking technology is taking this step so that it will be even better placed to meet its customers' needs. Development activities relating to press construction are being concentrated in Jona, which has been designated a centre of excellence. International customers will derive particular benefit from the new strategic direction: they will have access to all products and services offered by the formerly separate companies at a single location.

The two long-established companies Heinrich Schmid Maschinen- und Werkzeugbau AG in Jona (Switzerland) and Feintool Technologie AG Lyss (Switzerland) are exploiting their shared pool of expertise in press manufacturing and in the further development of fineblanking presses. As a result, customers will from now on be able to obtain all products and services through the newly created Feintool Technologie AG. As it brings together all the relevant know-how at a single site, the Jona location has been designated a centre of excellence for press manufacturing. At this site, mechanical and servo-hydraulic fineblanking presses as well as orbital ones are developed and built. Press retrofitting is also offered. The high-performance presses for fineblanking and orbital technology now also bear the Feintool brand. Service and support for the X-TRA series of fineblanking and orbital presses are being continued and developed further. New and upgraded machines will retain full compatibility with the specific features of Schmid presses (e.g. die space and gripper feed). Moreover, we are creating a shared tool technology base to which all customers will have equal access. Customers will additionally benefit from the synergies arising from the expansion of our Jona site into a spare parts centre for all presses. This will ensure that you receive the required parts even faster and will enable us to provide an efficient and effective service.

Bundling of development know-how

Former Schmid Presses customers will continue to receive the full support and spare parts service. They will enjoy other advantages too: in future, they will have access to the tool technology base of Feintool and will thus benefit from all the Group's development activities. By deliberately focusing press manufacturing activities at the Jona site, Feintool is expanding its development and manufacturing competencies for the benefit of all customers. This merger, and the large distribution network which it gives rise to, underpins Feintool's technical and market leadership in orbital and fineblanking technology.

Feintool group profile

As world market leader in fineblanking technology, Feintool is the only global supplier to offer its customers the entire process of fineblanking – from engineering through to machines featuring state-of-the-art press technology, plus tool design and the mass production of fineblanked components. Besides its core technology of fineblanking/forming, Feintool also offers reliable assembly equipment with its IMA brand. Headquartered in Lyss, Switzerland, the company employs over 1,500 staff worldwide. Feintool offers around 100 trainees a step up into the working world, with apprenticeships mainly for general mechanics, design engineers and commercial staff.

Heinrich Schmid AG: From contract manufacturer to centre of excellence for presses

Founded in 1914, the Swiss company Heinrich Schmid AG has been manufacturing fineblanking presses since 1956. Heinrich Schmid, son of the founder who gave the firm its name, made fineblanking technology the company's main field of business. Since 1976, Schmid has also manufactured orbital presses with press forces of 300–800 tonnes in addition to fineblanking presses. In this niche market, the company is the world's undisputed market and technology leader. Major car and commercial vehicle manufacturers all around the world as well as suppliers to the automotive sector use orbital technology for bevel differentials or steering racks – to mention just two examples. The company has been part of Feintool Group since 1999. Since 1 January 2012, all Schmid presses have been offered under the Feintool brand.

Picture press X-TRA 320

Underline: Schmid becomes Feintool: Fineblanking presses featuring X-TRA technology give Feintool customers extra options.