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Starrag presented a world first at AMB
The ultimate in flexible automation



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Stuttgart

The number of automated manufacturing plants has been rising continuously for a number of years. More than half of the machines which Starrag has been involved with in the past year were incorporated into an automation solution, or planned as part of a complex plant. The machining centres in production lines are primarily linked in a linear arrangement or compiled into production cells which are automated using a robot.



Both of these cases require a large contiguous area where automation elements and the machines can be combined in a single place. This requirement consumes investment resources and reduces the logistical flexibility of the customer in the long term.

Starrag wanted to provide a solution that would allow its customers to retain this future flexibility while also offering the opportunity to reduce investment costs. It was therefore necessary to push beyond the established limits of automation solutions to find a flexible way. This is an advantage that Starrag can now provide to its customers in the form of the new Heckert AV.

With the Heckert AV, Starrag has developed a comprehensive automation system for the autonomous execution of transport orders. Controlled by a cell controller, the *Heckert Autonomous Vehicle* can take on a wide range of transport tasks within autonomous production. The Heckert AV@tool version, for example, exchanges tools between machines or replaces worn tools automatically. Meanwhile, Heckert AV@service ensures that chip buckets are replaced in good time. The Heckert AV@logistic is highly versatile and integrates with

its environment. This version transports euro pallets or similar packaging directly from the warehouse or from production for finalisation at the specialist's workstation.

At AMB, Starrag demonstrated the fourth solution from the Heckert AV ensemble, the workpiece juggler Heckert AV@pallet. This apparatus transports whole machine pallets, together with workpieces, from the central set-up point to free-standing pallet storage, or directly to the machine in the tool changer and back to the central set-up point. With this freely scalable system, which is compatible with almost every hall layout and fluctuations in utilisation, Starrag has not only freed its customers from the requirement of having to install its machining centre automation solutions in a linear and consistent arrangement, but has also provided a holistic solution for the intralogistics which will facilitate production processes in the future.

Company profile Starrag Engineering precisely what you value

Starrag Group is a global technology leader in manufacturing high-precision machine tools for milling, turning, boring and grinding workpieces of metallic, composite and ceramic materials. Principle customers are internationally active companies in the Aerospace, Energy, Transportation and Industrial sectors. In addition to its portfolio of machine tools, Starrag Group provides integrated technology and maintenance services that significantly enhance customer productivity.

The products are marketed under the brand Starrag and include the product ranges Berthiez, Bumotec, Dörries, Droop+Rein, Ecospeed, Heckert, Scharmann, SIP, Starrag and TTL. Headquartered in Rorschach/Switzerland, the Starrag Group operates manufacturing plants in Switzerland, Germany, France, the UK and India and has established a network of sales and services subsidiaries in the most important customer countries.

Starrag Group Holding AG is listed on the SIX Swiss Exchange.

For further information

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