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Australia’s largest machine tool

Starrag supplies a Droop+Rein 5-axis gantry machine with an 11-metre rotary table to the other side of the world

The Australian Government’s ambitious project requires large machines, such as the Droop+Rein gantry 110TT supplied by Starrag.

Osborne, Australia

The Australian Government (Commonwealth of Australia) selected French company Naval Group to deliver a fleet of 12 regionally superior submarines, to be known as the Attack Class, for the Royal Australian Navy. The Attack class fleet will be built in a modern submarine construction yard in Osborne, South Australia.
The Future Submarine Program will deliver Australia a capability that can be built, operated and maintained with sovereignty, which maximises opportunities for Australian industry throughout all phases of the program.

As the design of the Attack class progresses, Naval Group continues to deliver on its commitment to achieve this through their suppliers, a pool that now includes the Starrag Group. Dr Marcus Queins, Manager for the Large Parts Machining Systems business unit, explains: “We are proud to be involved in this prestigious project in Australia.” Starrag has been selected to supply a Droop+Rein G 110TT HR100 C vertical gantry machine, capable of handling both large hull elements and high-precision components for submarine construction. With traversing paths of 14,000 x 13,000 x 3,500 mm in the X/Y/Z axes and an 11 m turntable, the gantry will be the largest machine tool ever put into service in Australia.

Starrag is collaborating with the Australian machine tool manufacturer H&H Machine Tools Australia to deliver this important equipment. The company will manufacture key components, supply qualified personnel to help install the gantry and provide technical support for the entire lifecycle of the machine, securing an enduring role in servicing and maintenance in the future. Starrag will provide H&H with the necessary expertise through on-site training and quality control, transferring critical skills and sovereign ability to Australian industry.

The contract was awarded following a complex selection process. Noting its many years of experience and its extensive, not merely technical, expertise in handling large, complicated projects, the Starrag Group was an obvious selection for this contract. Not every machine supplier can manage an order of this magnitude from over 15,000 kilometres away – but this is no problem for the Starrag Group, as Australian sales partner H&H Machine Tool Solutions will facilitate local work, ensuring that everything runs smoothly on-site. A previous project carried out in South Australia, for which Starrag supplied four machines for aircraft construction, shows a proven track record in this regard.

Looking forward to collaborating in Australia: (from left to right) Marcus Queins, Head of the Large Parts Machining Systems business unit at Starrag; L.-R. John Davis, CEO of Naval Group Australia; Thomas Hegmann, Managing Director of H&H Machine Tools Australia.