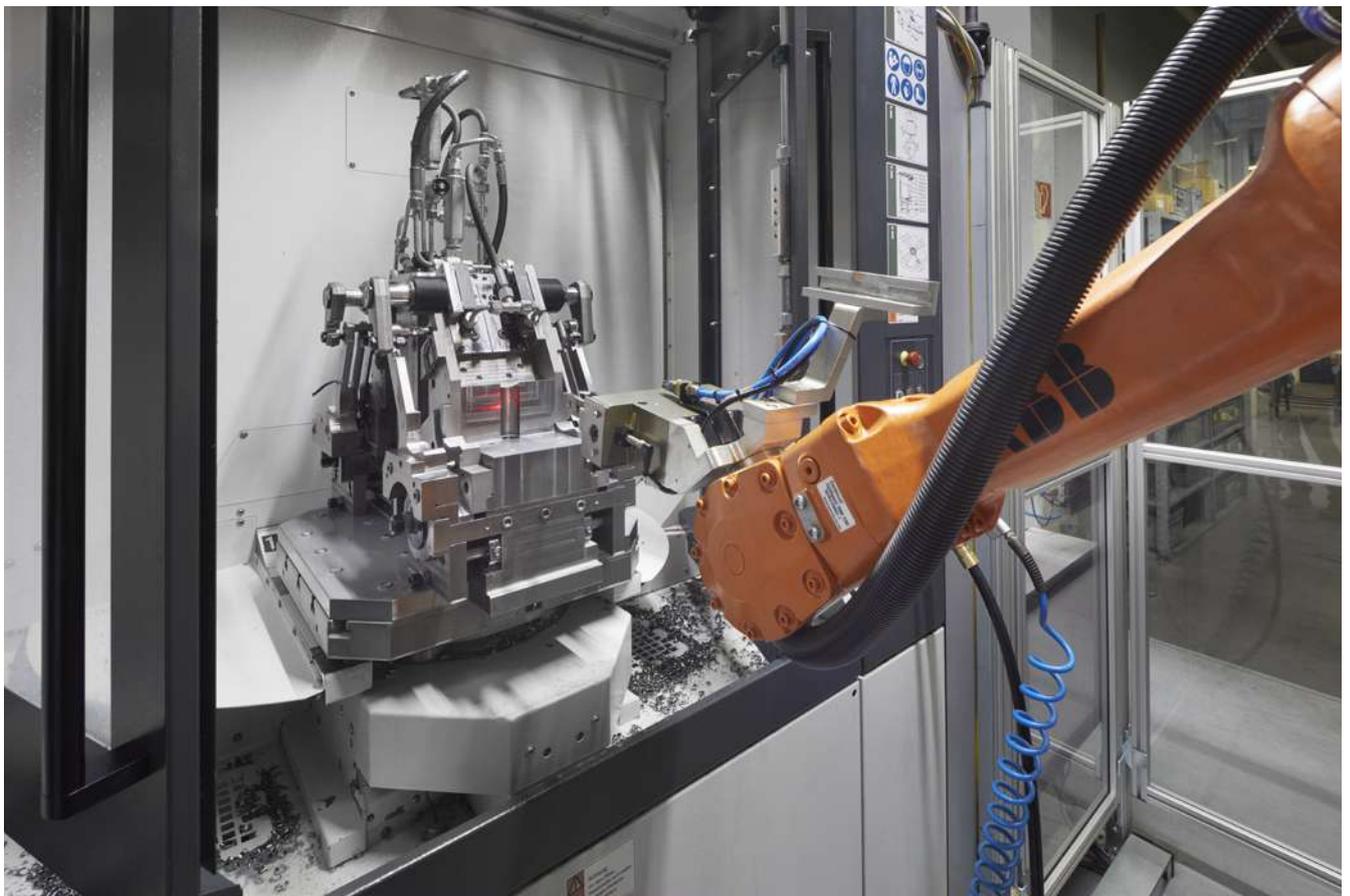


Press release Starrag 06-2022

The STAHLWILLE die forge manufactures tools at the Starrag Heckert H55 machining centre

Tangible success



Flexible design: The Heckert H55 fixtures hold different variants on which four different workpieces can be clamped.

Anyone working in the manufacturing industry will probably be surprised to hear that a die forge in South Thuringia uses a high-precision compact machining centre. So why did the SWM tool factory choose a Starrag Heckert H55 machining centre?

The SWM tool factory, which is based at Steinbach-Hallenberg in the German district of Schmalkalden-Meiningen, plays an important role in the Wuppertal-based STAHLWILLE Group – one of Germany's leading tool manufacturers: For nearly 30 years,



SWM Production Manager Enrico Danz:
"For us it came down to the stability, space requirements and amazing flexibility of the Heckert centre."

the die forge has been supplying the entire group with forged parts for the production of high-quality screwdrivers and gripping tools as well as for the manufacture of intelligent torque technology.

**H55 Heckert compact series:
 Maximum productivity with
 minimal space requirements**

Production Manager Enrico Danz realised that the production of large pliers showed potential for optimisation: *"Our goal was to create a new production line in order to significantly shorten the machining time and keep*

the set-up time as short as possible". According to Danz, the biggest challenge was the production hall, which was *"a GDR building from the 1960s, where the width of the stud frames and the load capacity of the floors set the pace"*. The only solution was to bring in production technology from Chemnitz: The H55 Heckert compact series is characterised by maximum productivity with minimal space requirements.

Danz received support from Jan Hilpert. The Managing Director of automation specialist ROBOTICS immediately understood the challenge: *"How can we achieve an automated*



Enhanced grip: The STAHLWILLE die forge manufactures forged parts using the Starrag Heckert H55 machining centre.

shift with a planned product range of 26 different workpieces and an average processing time of 30 seconds?"

Danz adds: *"While Jan was thinking about automation, I was designing the fixture on which four different workpieces can be clamped"*.

Benefits: Precision and repeating accuracy

What use is a high-precision machining centre like the Heckert H55 to a die forge whose usual tolerances are a few tenths of a millimetre? *"For us it came down to the stability, space requirements and amazing flexibility of the Heckert centre,"* says Danz. SWM has not regretted their decision. Affiliated companies now also send them parts that have to be machined on the reverse side and assembled at the end. Danz explains further: *"We have also been impressed by the precision and repeating accuracy of our new machine"*.

The stability has also been well received in South Thuringia: SWM typically has very rugged and versatile fixtures, which can weigh half a tonne on their own. *"With a maximum loading weight of 800 kg, the Heckert can easily cope with this,"* says Danz happily. The machining centre also has benefits in terms of flexibility. The automated changeover takes just over half an hour, by which time the centre is ready to process the next part or even to process different parts in pallet sequencing mode.

New areas are constantly added

The Production Manager continually discovers new possibilities for the machining centre, which he affectionately calls a workhorse: *"I can now start to rethink completely different areas of our portfolio, which makes the future even more exciting. Incidentally, this is based on investing in a second Heckert H55 which is identical in design"*.

Company profile Starrag High-precision machine tools for greater productivity

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 (Industrial Components, Luxury Goods, Med Tech). In addition to its portfolio of machine tools, Starrag Group provides integrated technology and maintenance services that significantly enhance customer quality and productivity.

The umbrella brand Starrag unites the product ranges Berthiez, Bumotec, Dörries, Droop+Rein, Ecospeed, Heckert, Scharmann, SIP, Starrag, TTL and WMW. 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.

The shares of Starrag Group Holding AG are listed on the SIX Swiss Exchange.

For further information

Starrag
Michael Schedler
Head of Marketing
T +49 2166 454 0
info@starrag.com
www.starrag.com