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HECKERT RE-FOCUSES ON 'VERY FLEXIBLE AND COST-EFFICIENT HORIZONTAL MACHINING CENTRES'

The Starrag Group is breaking new ground in its horizontal machining centre strategy by announcing the launch of a new range of "very flexible and cost-efficient" Heckert machines specifically designed for general sub-contract applications and for use by supply chain partners to OEMs in industries such as automotive.



The new Heckert Focus line machines – which align perfectly with the Starrag Group's philosophy of 'Engineering precisely what you value' – offer users throughput increases of up to 10 per cent through reduced machining times and energy cost savings of up to 20 per cent via Blue

Competence policies. In addition, they also promise up to 10 per cent savings in service and tool costs, and are available on shorter-than-usual delivery schedules times.

The new machines will be announced in the UK at MACH by Starrag UK and will be displayed and demonstrated for the first time under power at an open house in June at Heckert's headquarters in Germany.

The three-machine Heckert Focus line – the HEC 400 F, 500 F and 630 F – utilise the same tried and tested construction principles and main components that have proved so successful on the Heckert HEC 400D, HEC 500D and HEC 630D machines.

But, importantly, Heckert has now streamlined certain machine features, and worked closely with its suppliers, to produce a range of machines that will appeal to the budgets of companies of every size while also satisfying demands for consistent, high-quality and cost-effective machining.

Based on the world-proven HEC construction platform of mineral-cast or

cast iron build and thermo-tolerant design principles, the new Focus machines feature a smaller control cabinet (housing Fanuc 0i MF as standard; Siemens Sinumerik 840D as an option) and shorter chip conveyor, for example, to create a very compact machine.

Also, 32.4 kW spindles from WEISS (a Siemens company) are employed – producing 18,000 revs/min and 67 Nm torque, ideal for aluminium cutting, on models HEC 400 F and 500 F; and 10,000 revs/min with 350 Nm of torque for heavier-duty, cast iron cutting, on the HEC 630 F model. Spindle options for increased torque to 130 Nm will be available on the HEC 400 F and HEC 500 F machines.

A 40-tool chain-type automatic toolchanger (HSK A63 as standard on the HEC 400, 500 and 630 F models) is standard across all three machines, with options for 60- and 80-tool types. In combination with HSK A100 on the HEC 630 F is a 30-tool chain-type magazine as standard (45- or 60-tool optional).

The machine designations reflect pallet sizes: 400 mm by 500 mm (capable of accommodating work weighing 500 kgs) on the HEC 400 F; 500 mm by 630 mm (600 kgs) on the HEC 500 F; and 500 mm by 630 mm (800 kgs) on the HEC 630 F. X, Y and Z axis travels across the trio are, respectively, 650 mm by 650 mm by 680 mm, 750 mm by 750 mm by 725 mm and 850 mm by 750 mm by 850 mm.

Commenting on the new all-Germany built machines Jens Körner,

Heckert's Brand Sales Manager, says: "The new Focus line is the ideal

addition to our range, bringing a premium brand into the arena of

standard machines but, crucially, without compromise on Heckert's

renowned high-quality standards and available on short delivery

timeframes.

"Also, with the potential for automated use by, for instance, the use of

robot loaders, gantry systems, plus 12- and 24-pallet systems allowing

the straightforward creation of integrated flexible manufacturing

systems, there are endless possibilities for users to achieve consistently

high-quality machining at cost-competitive rates."

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