

WSW

Dear readers and business partners,

In our current newsletter we would like to give you some information about a hardening process for deburring tools. It proved to be particularly cost-effective in long-term testing at our plant and resulted in increased service time. Furthermore on page two we will introduce our affiliate Zimmermann Formen- und Werkzeugbau GmbH (moulds and tool manufacturers) who have belonged to the Prange Group since 2017 and who are located in the Hessian "hinterland".

Today in focus on page 2:



WIBRA FORMENBAU
GMBH



Schaeffertec

Yours Schulte-Wiese Gesenkschmiede

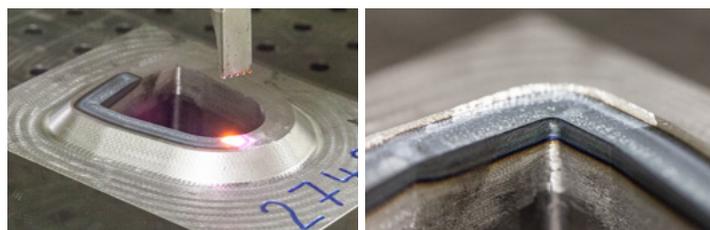
WSW

WSW – Laser hardening of cuts – a new process

Deburring tools produced at our company, which consist of the so-called "deburring cut" und "trimming punch", are produced from unalloyed tool steel (1.1730) with good machining properties and an approximate strength of 400 MPa.

Until 2015 in order to increase the strength to >1.500 MPa the cuts were pre-heated in follow-up processes and the cutting edges were welded and then re-milled according to specifications. In a 3-year testing phase we were able to replace this expensive process by one which is much more cost-effective for us: "Laser hardening" at  Wilhelm Alte GmbH in Plettenberg.

This so-called laser hardening is one of the surface hardening processes along with flame and induction hardening and can be



used for hardening practically all common steels, which would otherwise be annealed conventionally. The 1.1730 which we use also achieves clearly improved properties in the cutting edge area (approx. 10x10 mm). In our case this also resulted in a throughput time shortened by 1 to 2 days while at the same time reducing our costs to guarantee our competitiveness.

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Our employees



Dietmar Brückner, 65 years old and on board since 2001 as an engraver in the tool manufacturing department.

"Officially I should have retired at the beginning of the year but when I asked my boss if I could continue letting the sparks fly in the tool manufacturing department he just asked "How long for?". My answer "For as long as I still can"?! His: "Good then we'll sit down together each year until you tell me differently". That's only one of the reasons why I like working at WSW."

Did you know...

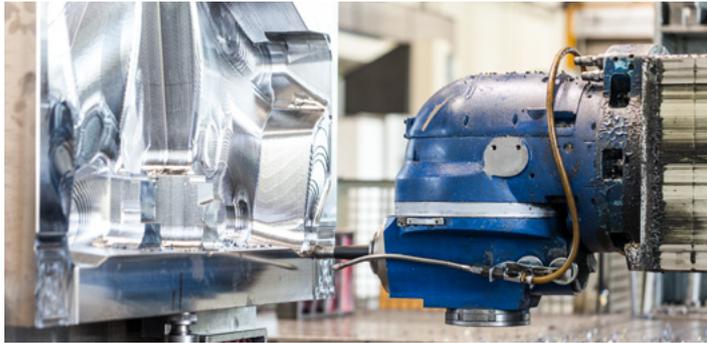
In February we introduced new water dispensers in the factory and in administration. As part of this scheme every employee is given his own personal WSW water bottle in corporate design, but did you actually know how much mineral water per head we drink each year in Germany?

The answer is: some 140 litres a year! Applied to our staff that means 9.8m³.

An Olympic pool holds roughly 3,750m³ - so this would take us 383 years to fill. If the people of Plettenberg helped us we could shorten this period to roughly one year.

Today in focus

In our more than 130 year company history  ZIMMERMANN has achieved a leading position in the production of injection moulding tools for the automobile industry and other industry sectors. In our Gladenbach-Erdhausen location a total of 83 employees are involved in the development, construction, project planning and production of injection moulding tools. Our product range includes tools with a total weight of well above 50 tons.



Our many years of experience and know-how enable us to implement diverse technologies of the highest quality and on schedule such as

- 1-component system injection moulding
- 2-component system injection moulding
- 2-component system injection moulding plus inlay technology
- Stack moulding
- Rotary plate injection moulding
- Dislocation tools
- Back moulding technology
- SMC pressing technology
- Vertical flash injection moulding
- Prototypes and test moulds

The company

Founded:	1886
In Prange Group since:	2017
Turnover:	10 million euros
Employees:	83
Certification:	DIN EN ISO 9001:2015
Website:	 ziform.com

Furthermore we offer comprehensive service on all matters relating to tools from alterations, to repairs and maintenance. We place great emphasis on a fast reaction time, flexibility as well as carrying out our work reliably in order to keep downtimes in production at our customer's plant as low as possible.

In addition to a comprehensive tool service Zimmermann also offers individual services in the fields of contract manufacturing and injection moulding. From the smallest order right up to serial production – with our machine park we can offer wide-ranging solutions – flexibly, quickly and reliably.

In our in-house academy we provide training courses on all aspects of injection moulding. By this initiative we want to not only qualify our employees but also to share our long-standing know-how with our customers and business partners.

Core competences

- Injection moulding tools
- Production of individual components in contract manufacturing
- Alterations, repairs and maintenance service
- Production of small batches
- Development and construction
- Project management
- Zimmermann Academy



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