

Stadtfeld Returning to Gleason

Hermann J. Stadtfeld will return to Gleason, effective Dec. 1, as vice president of bevel gear technology after a three-year absence.

According to the company's press release, Stadtfeld will be responsible for research and development related to advancing Gleason's bevel gear technology.

Stadtfeld was previously vice president of research and development for the company from 1994–2002. Prior to that, he was professor of machine and gear design at Rochester Institute of Technology and the Technical University Ilmenau, Germany. He has authored 15 books and more than 130 papers on bevel gearing.



Hermann J. Stadtfeld



KISSsoft Opens U.S. Office

KISSsoft AG, the maker of gear and engineering software headquartered in Hombrechtikon, Switzerland, has opened a sales office in the Chicago area. The new office will be headed by Dan Kondritz, national sales manager for KISSsoft USA.

KISSsoft's products have been sold in Europe for more than 20 years, Kondritz says, and the company has more than 700 customers there. KISSsoft only recently began promoting its products in North America. The company already has dozens of U.S. customers, but there is plenty of room to grow, Kondritz adds: "It's an untapped market for us."

Potential users of KISSsoft's software include companies involved with the design of power transmission drives, especially those including gears, shafts, bearings, couplings and even mechanical details such as bolts.

Potential users of the software are in many industries, Kondritz says, including automotive, oil field, medical devices and plastic gearing. "Our customers range from the biggest companies of the world to independent, one-man consultant shops."

Opening the new office is already giving U.S. customers much better support and service, Kondritz says. "The customers feel that they can call up and get the kind of service they deserve." Kondritz has more than 20 years of experience selling and supporting technical software applications, including 14 years at gear software provider Universal Technical Systems of Rockford, IL.

Also, the U.S. presence will help customers stay up-to-date on the latest releases of the software, according to Dr. Ulrich Kissling, who originally wrote the software and who co-founded KISSsoft AG. "Our past history of twice-per-year software updates, along with our history of customer satisfaction, will impact the U.S. marketplace in a positive way," Kissling says.

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Bourn & Koch Hires New VP

Hans Grass was hired as vice president of engineering at Bourn & Koch.

According to the company's press release, Grass has more than 35 years' experience in gear machine tool technology. From 1972–1998, he worked for American Pfauter and served as vice president of engineering and manufacturing for 17 years.

Most recently, he was president

of Index Corp. and director of distributed products and special projects for Gleason's European affiliates.

Bourn & Koch also announced the breaking of ground on an expansion of its main facility in Rockford, IL. As an initial phase of the expansion, the company plans to add 40,000 square feet of warehouse space and 20,000 square feet of office space. Once the project is completed, Bourn & Koch's second Rockford location will be moved to its main facility on Kishwaukee Street.

New Location for Supreme Gear

Supreme Gear has moved from its Roseville, MI, location to a new facility. Please note the new billing/shipping address:

Supreme Gear Co.
17430 Malyn Blvd.
Fraser, MI 48026
Phone: (586) 294-7625
Fax: (586) 294-7648
Internet: www.supremegear.com

Sunnen, RMC Form Strategic Alliance

Sunnen Products Co. and RMC Engine Rebuilding Equipment announced a strategic alliance in which Sunnen will market the full RMC line of engine building equipment, including RMC's CNC machining centers.



According to Sunnen's press release, the agreement has already gone into effect and RMC products are currently sold under the Sunnen/RMC brand. Sunnen's team of field engineers and service specialists now represent and support the RMC line. Products include CNC engine component machining centers, rod boring machines, line boring machines, cylindrical boring mills, surface mills, crankshaft grinding machines, belt resurfacers, piston pin presses and entry-level cylinder honing machines.

Mike Haughey, Sunnen's COO, says, "This alliance will help us achieve our goal of being the leading source of precision equipment for the automotive aftermarket and performance engine builders."

MMS Thermal Processing Orders Surface Combustion Technology

MMS Thermal Processing LLC has ordered Surface Combustion's VringCARB® technology and companion equipment for its vacuum processes in Davenport, IA.

According to the company's press release, MMS Thermal plans to build a new facility for the line, consisting of a multi-chamber system with a combination charge/vestibule/oil quench chamber with a quench oil heating system as well as two gas-fired vacuum carburizing chambers utilizing VringCARB vacuum carburizing technology, an electrically heated high temperature processing chamber and a 20-bar gas quench cell.

The installation will also include a variety of companion equipment, including multiple Uni-DRAW temper furnaces, a VacuDraw gas-fired vacuum temper furnace, a spray/dunk companion washer and an array of support equipment.

A complete metallurgical lab to document quality assurance and provide research assistance is available as well.

Broaching Machine Specialties Registered to ISO

Broaching Machine Specialties of Novi, MI, was awarded a certificate of registration for ISO 9001: 2000 conformance for the design, manufacture and servicing of new and remanufactured turnkey broaching systems.

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