Press Release



RAMPF provides intelligent basis for Factory of the Future

Hannover Messe: Machine bed made of mineral casting with integrated sensors and actuators for optimized production processes – Hall 17, Booth A40

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Wangen (near Göppingen), April 23, 2018. Industry meets IoT: As part of its Factory of the Future project, Bosch Rexroth is demonstrating how machines and plants are effectively linked with each other and the world of information technology. A machine bed made of mineral casting with integrated sensors and actuators from RAMPF Machine Systems forms the vibration-damping basis.

Machines and systems must fulfil ever-increasing demands on dynamics, precision, and costeffectiveness. Whereas in the past, structure, mechanics, electronics, and software were often developed separately, present and future demands can only be met with a holistic approach.

Consequently, in-process monitoring and control of the system status via sensors and actuators is becoming increasingly important: "All components must be integrated into the overall system with regard to information technology," says Thomas Altmann, Managing Director of RAMPF Machine Systems, a leading developer and producer of machine beds and machine bed components made of alternative materials.

Groundbreaking – Factory of the Future by Bosch Rexroth

In the revolutionary Factory of the Future project by Bosch Rexroth, a machine bed made of RAMPF's epoxy resin-bonded mineral casting material EPUMENT is being used as a solid and vibration-damping basis. At the heart of Factory of the Future is the comprehensive networking of sensors, machines, systems, and processes – in other words, everything that generates information in the industrial environment. The objective is to establish comprehensive transparency and monitoring of the entire production system.

In addition to guide rails, dummy slides, and a linear motor, the machine bed developed by Bosch Rexroth, Balluff, Sick, Steinbeis, and RAMPF Machine Systems also integrated cooling lines and sensors, which detect and influence the temperature and pressures of the cooling system during operation. On the basis of these measurement data, changes can be detected and conclusions drawn with regard to both process deviations as well as component wear.

"One of the main factors influencing component accuracy is the deformation of the machine geometry due to thermal factors. By integrating sensors and actuators in machine beds made of mineral casting, the supporting structure reacts to changing thermal operating states and environmental conditions. De-

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formations are therefore not subsequently compensated, but prevented from the outset," emphasizes Thomas Altmann.

Bosch Rexroth is presenting the Factory of the Future and the intelligent machine bed at Hannover Messe 2018 from April 23 - 27 – Hall 17, Booth A40.

In addition to its outstanding damping properties, RAMPF's EPU-MENT epoxy resin-bonded material features low thermal conductivity, high isotropy, homogeneity, and media resistance, flexible modeling, non-cutting replication, innovative adhesive technology, as well as outstanding ecological credentials.





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RAMPF Machine Systems GmbH & Co. KG, based in Wangen (near Göppingen), Germany, is the leading supplier and development partner for system solutions, trunk machines, and basic machines, as well as multi-axis positioning and moving systems based on high-precision machine beds and machine bed components made from alternative materials.

The portfolio of high-performance materials includes mineral casting, ultra-high performance concrete (UHPC), natural hard stone, metal foam, and fiber composites. These materials provide a solid basis for ultra-precise and high-performance machine beds and machine bed assemblies.

The full range of services provided by the company includes everything from engineering to production, as well as assembly, system solutions, customer-specific multi-axis positioning and moving systems, and basic machines – from single-piece to series production in customized supply chain solutions.

Using innovative casting, grinding, and lapping processes, as well as high-performance assembly and testing equipment in temperature-controlled production environments, exceptional accuracy of machine bases and basic machines is guaranteed.

RAMPF Machine Systems is a company of the international RAMPF Group based in Grafenberg, Germany.

Published by: **RAMPF Machine Systems GmbH & Co. KG** Daimlerstrasse 18 - 26 73117 Wangen (Göppingen), Germany T +49.7161.95889-0 F +49.7161.95889-29 E machine.systems@rampf-gruppe.de www.rampf-gruppe.de

Your contact for images and further information: Benjamin Schicker **RAMPF Holding GmbH & Co. KG** Albstrasse 37 72661 Grafenberg, Germany T +49.7123.9342-1045 F +49.7123 9342-2045 E benjamin.schicker@rampf-gruppe.de

