A n official ceremony opened the celebrations on September 18. This was followed by an Open House on September 19.

All employees and their families were invited, as well as representatives from politics and business. Almost 1,700 attended the celebrations.

In his speech, the Bavarian trade and industry minister, Martin Zeil, emphasized the importance of globally successful companies like WALDRICH COBURG for Germany and Bavaria as business locations.

The mayor of the city of Coburg, Norbert Kastner, as well as representatives from politics, the Chamber of Commerce and Beijing No. 1 all offered their congratulations and best wishes on the anniversary.

The CEO of WALDRICH COBURG, Hubert Becker, spoke about the impressive development of the company. "If you walk through our plant today and picture the development, know-how and ingenuity involved in the components, the machines and the complex facilities, you just have to be amazed."

The rest of the evening was devoted to a relaxed get-together for employees and their families.

WALDRICH COBURG had every reason to celebrate its 90th anniversary. Ever since Adolf Waldrich founded the company in 1920, it has continued to develop. The product range expanded from stone-working machines and celluloid-cutting machines to planning, grinding and other special machine tools. The late fifties, early sixties, saw the first portal milling machine, and the beginning of the seventies, the first milling machine in gantry construction. In 1995 vertical lathes were added.

WALDRICH COBURG is one of only a few manufacturers of large machine tools in the world today and offers custom solutions with the highest degree of automation.

At the end of 2005 there were about 500 employees and the yearly turnover was approximately 65 million Euros.

Today the work force has grown to 760, turnover has almost tripled and 35 million Euros have been invested in the Coburg facilities.

The number of trainees has been continuously increasing, from 36 to 76. WALDRICH COBURG has never been in better shape; its position in the market has never been stronger.

The vast majority of the approximately 15,000 visitors used the Open Day to get an inside look at WALDRICH COBURG. In addition to viewing the production facilities, visitors could learn about training, administration and the company’s success story. They were not only impressed by the size of the company, but also by the dimensions of the machines "made in Coburg" and the range of industries supplied.

All in all, the anniversary weekend was a complete success. All the guests could see for themselves how productive and innovative WALDRICH COBURG is.

by Sven Grosch

Approximately 15,000 visitors were greatly impressed at the Open House.
Editorial

Anniversary Year 2010 with Big Challenges

That WALDRICH COBURG on its 90th anniversary is economically sound and has good prospects was welcome and reassuring to the employees and their families. The guests of honor were also impressed by the economic development in the last five years. The huge number of visitors at the Open Day clearly demonstrated the public interest in WALDRICH COBURG’s development and the company’s significance for the region.

Our anniversary year saw great innovative progress. For the first time a 31-axis NC-controlled heavy machining centre was equipped with the new Siemens 840D Solutionline. Furthermore, we succeeded in integrating gear ring milling technology up to gear size module 50 in our program. This enables the fully automated machining of individually toothed gear rings using form milling technology and of outer toothed gear rings up to diameters of 16m using gear hobbing technology on our WALDRICH COBURG machines. In the second time of less than 10 months we have managed to fully integrate SAP software, enabling us to significantly improve the scheduling and controlling of our operational processes. An equally important milestone was the introduction of a new service concept. Now we can help our customers better and more quickly.

A considerable sum (almost €7 million) was spent on investments and major repairs. This brought us closer to our goal of securing the future of our Coburg site and, at the same time, giving it a new look.

In the past year our orders received stabilized and our target volume could be achieved. Our orders on hand today already ensure full employment until the end of 2012.

We hope that all our customers and business partners have fully recovered from the financial crisis and we look forward to continuing our successful work together.

Sincerely
Hubert Becker

Employees

Since the last issue, we have increased our headcount by 15 to 765 employees.

At present, we have 76 apprentices, 10% of the workforce.

Source: 03.02.2011

Environmental Protection

Photovoltaic System No. 4 in Operation

In 2010 an additional photovoltaic system was officially handed over to WALDRICH COBURG.

The system covers two hall roofs, has a total of 1810 modules and can generate a peak performance of 330 kWp. The collector area of almost 1300 m² could supply almost eighty 4-person households with electricity for a year. WALDRICH COBURG now has in operation four large photovoltaic systems and a solar power system generating hot industrial water.

The solar hot water system has already paid off. In the summer the 4000 litres required per day can be supplied without resorting to the normal heating system.

Further systems are already planned for 2011, which will reduce emissions even more.

by Udo Engelhardt

Training

Things are getting tight in the Training Workshop

The training workshop has been full since the new training year started on 1st September.

by Sven Grosch

Impressum

News by WALDRICH COBURG

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New Technology

Gear Milling Technology on WALDRICH COBURG Machines

WALDRICH COBURG is entering uncharted technological territory, taking a quantum leap in the complete machining of ring and angular gears.

WALDRICH COBURG has always been a pioneer in the field of complete machining. In the late 1960s, long milling machines had already evolved into universal machines for milling and boring operations. At this time, the first moveable spindle units were integrated into the portal milling machines. This development continued in the following decades, until a further technological milestone was reached in the early 1990s with the introduction of carousel rotary tables. All these machines were designed for milling and are in line with the ‘MultiTec philosophy’. The advantages are apparent. The space required for the machines in the production can be significantly reduced, compared to conventional single machines.

Less clamping and minimal auxiliary processes times result in faster, cheaper and more accurate production. Most important is high quality and productivity.

Gear rings up to 12 meters in diameter can be produced on the machines.

Complete machining of internally toothed ring gears

In the first case, there is a highly automated and flexible production system for the complete machining of internally toothed ring gears, which are mainly used in planet drives for wind power plants. The system is designed for these workpieces and achieves extremely high productivity.

The system consists of two MasterTec machining centers connected with a system which transports the six round pallets, (diameter = 3,000 mm.) from the set-up sites to the machines. Each machine is equipped with a rotary table for turning and milling operations.

Both machining centres offer turning, boring, milling and gear milling and are in line with the ‘MultiTec philosophy’. The advantages are apparent. The space required for the machines in the production can be significantly reduced, compared to conventional single machines.

Less clamping and minimal auxiliary process times result in faster, cheaper and more accurate production. Most important is high quality and productivity.

For the machining of straight and angular internal gears with gear form milling tools, WALDRICH COBURG has developed a special gear milling head. It is suitable for gears up to module 25, has a maximum output of 75kW and torque of 7000 Nm, and a maximum output of 75kW and torque of 7000 Nm, and automatically pivots to the correct position for the helix angle of the gear. Each machine has two such heads, which automatically change as required. Thus, machining can continue without losing time to replace the head.

Machining large gear rings

Large gear rings, as used in ore mills for example, have diameters of 15 meters and more. WALDRICH COBURG has received orders for two machines from separate customers. The machines are PowerTec Gantry with integrated rotary tables.

The first machine, with a clearance width of 7.5 m and a 6.5m diameter rotary table, will be shipped in 2011. It is capable of machining ring gears up to 12m in diameter. In addition, the machine has a clamping plate measuring 6.5 m x 15 m for machining cubic workpieces. Gear rings larger than 6.5m will be clamped using a clamping star.

In addition to the standard heads for milling, boring and turning, the machine is equipped with a special gear milling head, which uses the same interface.

The second gantry with gear milling technology will be supplied in 2012. The machine is considerably bigger, with a column clearance of 13m! The rotary table has a diameter of 8m and can machine gear rings up to 17.5m with a clamping plate measuring 10m x 20m. Gears up to module 60 can be machined using gear tooth cutters and gear hobs.

The advantages of gantry machines for gear ring production are obvious:

- Complete machining (turning, boring, milling and gear milling)
- No lower diameter limits for workpieces
- Machining of all kinds of workpieces possible
- Use of a modern standard CNC machine, even for the biggest gear rings
- Productivity and degree of automation to WALDRICH COBURG standards

In all machines the gear milling head is picked up automatically. The Z-axis remains in the same position during milling, horizontal and vertical movement is only done with the cross rail of the machine. The cross rail is hydraulically guided along both columns, ensuring the whole system very high rigidity.

Conclusion

It wouldn’t be a WALDRICH COBURG solution if it only involved developing a new milling head.

Particularly critical for the production of high-precision gears is the performance of the rotary table. Especially for our large machines, we used our experience of mechanical systems and control engineering to optimize the driving unit, consisting of gear ring and drives. This is the only way to safely control the tremendous mass moments of inertia in the control system. The programming and user interface also compares favourably to those of conventional gear ring machines on the market.

We’ll keep you updated on this, because we’re convinced that this is yet another technological quantum leap for our company and our customers.

by Matthias Fleischer
The SIEMENS AG in Mülheim has put a further PowerTurn into operation and continues to invest.

The new PowerTurn 9000 AS will be used for machining steam turbine housings, like the existing VTF 8000 machine. The technical specifications of the new machine are impressive.

For example, the swing diameter is 9000 mm and the turning height is 6500 mm. In addition to a turning support, the vertical turning machine is equipped with a S2 milling support with a milling performance of 105 kW and an extension length of 4000 mm.

The cross rail beats all records at WALDRICH COBURG. For example, with approx. 120 tons it is the heaviest of its kind.

Siemens Mülheim puts new PowerTurn into Operation and continues to invest

A total of 960 years of experience constitutes a potential that is indispensable to WALDRICH COBURG.

The management expressed its deep gratitude to the long-standing employees in a ceremony on October 5.

For 40 years service:
- Gerold Dressel (IT-Dept.),
- Bernd Franz (Milling Support Shop),
- Harald Geiger (Assembly of spindle units),
- Helmut Krug (Design Dept.),
- Karl-Heinz Vizethum (Assembly)

For 25 years service:
- Daniela Aplienz (Design Dept.),
- Jürgen Bühling (Medium Parts Machining),
- Volker Fitterich (Repair),
- Peter Friedrich (Design Dept.),
- Detlef Fuhrmann (Work Council),
- Udo Grell (Quality),
- Marco Hess (Assembly),
- Klaus Jahrling (Assembly),
- Jürgen Kaspar (Small Parts Machining),
- Michael Kaupert (Quality),
- Herbert Kindler (Welding Shop),
- Matthias Krug (Quality),
- Rainer Krug (Procurement),
- Frank Langhammer (AV/NC),
- Hardy Müller (Work Council),
- Christel Münch (Contracts),
- Roland Prietzal (Medium Parts Machining),
- Peter Schlag (Assembly),
- Michael Schmidt (Large Parts Machining),
- Rüdiger Schmidt (Human Resources),
- Sigrid Stahnke (AV/NC),
- Hans Stöckl (Head of Human Resources),
- Simone Stüpfert (Design Dept.),
- Jörg Volk (Large Parts Machining)

by Peter Schneyer

Company Anniversary

Tribute paid to long-standing Employees

New Manager

Jens Oswald succeeded Hans Stöckl in the Human Resources Department

Mr. Oswald takes over Human Resources from Mr. Stöckl, who has retired after 25 years of service. Jens Oswald is 32, and worked previously as a lawyer in the Human Resources department of a medium-sized automotive supplier.

We wish Mr. Oswald all the best for his new responsibilities and Mr. Stöckl all the best for his retirement.

by Uwe Herold

Save the Date

Trade Fairs

Trade Fairs are an essential marketing tool for WALDRICH COBURG.

This year WALDRICH COBURG will exhibit at the IMTEX, the CIMT, the Metalloobrabotka and the EMO. For further dates and news about our trade fair activities, please visit our website: waldrich-coburg.de/fairs.

by Sven Grosch