



## CNC PROVIDERS TEMPT BUYERS WITH EFFICIENCY AND OPTICAL INCENTIVES

NEW MACHINES AT WILLEMIN-MACODEL AND TORNOS, BUMOTEC TAKES OVER DIAMILOR PRODUCT RANGE

by Marcus Strehlitz

The requirements for CNC machines are considerable: they need to be precise and high performing – whilst also keeping production costs as low as possible. This goal is therefore the focus of Willemin-Macodel (4.U, F22) with its 408PA processing centre, celebrating its world premiere at BASELWORLD. With five simultaneous axes, the machine is specially tailored to the production of watch movement components. Its stand-out aspect: front and reverse sides of a plate can be worked in just one step. The machine can be used to manufacture material strips of up to 200 mm. This enables the user to

save costs on material – compared to purchasing discs for the traditional manufacture of plates.

“The 408PA works quickly and very precisely at the same time,” says Michel Horisberger, marketing boss at Willemin-Macodel. He believes the manufacturing process, whereby the part only needs to be clamped once, enables a level of precision that cannot be achieved by machines which process parts in several locations.

Another new product presented at the show by Willemin-Macodel is the 408SLinear processing centre. This machine employs so-called Full Direct Drive Technology: three linear motors and two torque

motors are combined on the rotation axes, which primarily has an effect on the machine’s performance and dynamism.

### FINE PROCESSING CENTRE

Bumotec (4.U, E11) also has news. The CNC specialist has taken over the Diamilor product family from Posalux. Users in the watch industry can use the fine processing centre to carry out the four fundamental operations of faceting, engraving, drilling and milling both individually and in combination.

Guy Ballif, Bumotec Sales Director Bumotec, highlights the Diamilor FCT-1000 in particular, a CNC processing centre for brass, plati-

num, stainless steel and precious metals. “The machine provides small operations with the opportunity to gain a foothold in CNC technology,” says Ballif. The FCT-1000 works with six axes and offers a horizontal spindle and a tool changer. The PC-based numeric controls support individual programmes as well as the use of CAD-CAM programmes. Bumotec is now responsible for worldwide distribution of the Diamilor machines. By the end of 2015 at the latest all activities related to the Diamilor product line will be transferred to Bumotec.

The younger generation in the watch sector is the particular focus of CNC provider Tornos with its

SwissNano range (4.U, B12). In just one year Tornos has developed a machine that had previously not existed in the industry. At least this is the claim of Carlos Almeida, Sales Manager Switzerland at Tornos. Because the processing centre, which works with six linear axes and a C axis, is optically attractive. SwissNano is available in eight different colours including green, blue, pink and purple. The machine also supports WiFi technology so can be linked to a tablet. “Users can then use their portable computer to view productivity figures for the machine, for example,” says Almeida. The SwissNano costs 112,000 Swiss francs.

## NEW EU LEGISLATION TIGHTENS LIMITS ON NICKEL RELEASES

LEGOR GROUP OFFERS WHITE GOLD ALLOYS WITH STRONG SAFETY LEVELS AND CONTAINED COSTS

Interview by Annalisa Fontana

Massimo Poliero is CEO of Legor Group, a leading Italian group in the transformation, processing and finishing of precious and non-precious metals. He is also chairman of JTF (Jewellery Technology Forum).

**BWDN: European legislation has recently introduced tighter limits on nickel-release levels for white gold alloys. What products does the Legor Group have to offer in this category?**

Massimo Poliero: We offer NI1811, with contained costs and 90 percent safety levels, recommended in processes that can be standardised and monitored within the company, offering excellent value for money and compliance; nickel-rhodium-based NI1811-RH for very low-release white gold, which offers

99.9 percent safety for complex processes that are difficult to standardise and maximum safety at contained costs; and the proDerma range of nickel-free palladium-based alloys.

**Why choose a Legor Group alloy?**

All our branches worldwide are known for their high standard of consultancy, timely deliveries and professional pre- and after-sales service. This is thanks to our shared company philosophy that the service should live up to the quality of the product being offered.

**Do you have any particular guarantees in place?**

We have gone to great lengths to confirm the validity of the new lines and guarantee six months of free analyses at Legor Group laborato-



Massimo Poliero, CEO of Legor Group.

ries for all alloys in the NI1811 and NI1811-RH lines, process consultancy in order to optimise nickel-release levels in keeping with current standards, and even a guarantee agreement for NI1811-RH alloys.

**What does the guarantee agreement involve?**

It is an agreement that gives us civil liability alongside the manufacturer in the event of complaints raised by the end customer, as long as certain essential conditions are met: the object must be made from NI1811-RH alloy (produced by Legor Group) in full compliance with the technical specifications that the client is required to accept and follow. The client must receive the complaint directly from the end customer and notify us via appropriate means.

**Your network of branches and official retailers covers the whole world, meaning that you are in a privileged position to observe EU countries’ reactions. Which have proved the most aware?**

The new legislation has raised awareness amongst all white gold jewellery producers, especially as a result of the numerous inspections that the competent authorities in each country are conducting randomly. But this is not a new problem in the jewellery sector. The advice I can give producers is to manage the process by focusing carefully on the various phases, conducting numerous release tests on the products and choosing an alloy supplier able to provide the necessary standard of technical assistance and consultancy during this initial phase. **4.U, C20**