

# ARKU

## InfoMAX

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Precision levelers for parts · Cut-to-length and punching lines · Press feeding lines · Coil preparation lines for roll formers

## New FlatMaster<sup>®</sup> 88 at EuroBlech

Customer-driven design is energy efficient and fast



FlatMaster<sup>®</sup> 88 – update of the FlatMaster<sup>®</sup> 80 – in final assembly

**Baden-Baden Germany** – ARKU has been busy since the last EuroBlech, adapting its business and machine engineering to help customers in a challenging economy by providing new services and improved technologies. New services include contract leveling and machinery trials with a well-equipped leveling center in Baden-Baden. Eight different EcoMaster<sup>®</sup>, FlatMaster<sup>®</sup> and HiCap<sup>®</sup> levelers are now available at the center, and their use has helped customers and ARKU engineers alike.

ARKU engineers have been able to observe these levelers handling a heavy workload, and hear from operators their suggestions for improved features. The result is two new levelers that will be introduced at EuroBlech 2010.

First is the FlatMaster<sup>®</sup> 88. It delivers increased speed, new user-friendly features, and 10% greater energy efficiency than comparable machines. This machine processes oval parts 50% faster, while using less



Sales Director Oliver Friz in conversation with a visitor to a fair

energy overall. And reduced energy use means a more efficient design where components wear less. New features will put smiles on operators' faces, too.

The second new leveler at EuroBlech will be the HiCap<sup>®</sup> 25, developed specifically for perforated sheet. The HiCap<sup>®</sup> 25 reflects the experience and

Please, visit us!



Hannover

26. – 30.10.2010

Hall 27 · Booth G42



### Generating success with Generations

At this year's summer fest I was fortunate to honor again many employees for their dedicated years with ARKU (see summer fest article page 4). Now, the number of ten-year employees at ARKU has grown to almost half of the company. One quarter has even been with us for more than 25 years. Those experienced colleagues are a stable foundation to our company. Their wisdom and prudence carries us through these tough economic cycles.

But young employees are a path to the future. Youths can profit from their seniors, while they also bring new ideas and new ways of communicating to our company. That is why we are proud of our 11 apprentices and student trainees, a record number. When young and old work together we achieve the best of both worlds. Come see for yourself. Visit us at the EuroBLECH.

*Albert Reiss*

ARKU President Albert Reiss

Customer-portrait:

**Liebherr-Werk  
Ehingen GmbH**

Ehingen

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ARKU trade show team 2008:  
looking forward to the EuroBLECH 2010

operator ideas gained in the leveling center. It can level perforated sheet from 0.3 to 1.2 mm (0.012 to 0.05 inches) thickness in widths up to 1250 mm (49.2 inches). "The HiCap® 25 is a customer-driven design that was developed with the special requirements of perforated sheet processors in mind," stressed Ewald Hund, ARKU Technical Director. Its patented EcoPlan® drive requires 30% less energy than conventional high-capaci-

ty levelers, while providing excellent results in reducing stress and flatness defects.

ARKU invites visitors to bring test parts to EuroBlech to see the FlatMaster® 88 in action. The company's team of developers is anxious to hear customer evaluations.

See ARKU  
in hall 27 / booth G42

## HiCap® 45 extinguishes defects in fire door blanks

**HiCap® leveler improves quality for Italian fire door manufacturer, producing 6000 flat, stress-free blanks per day**

*Aldo Menestrina, plant technician at Ninz, during leveling tests*



**Ala, Italy** – The Italian countryside near Lake Garda is an ideal setting for leisure activity, but it is also an excellent location to process steel, as evidenced by Ninz S.p.A., one of Italy's leading manufacturers of fire doors and gates. The family-owned metalworking company has been manufacturing

fire doors since 1976, and today it produces up to 3000 doors per day in an automated plant. To reach that level of productivity, however, Ninz had to overcome a hurdle. The straighteners in the company's cut-to-length lines did not eliminate all stress and edge wave (up to 10 mm) from blanks, causing problems during

automated punching and bending. ARKU's HiCap® 45 high-capacity leveler, installed in the summer of 2010, proved to be the answer.

Each fire-resistant door requires two blanks, so Ninz produces up to 6000 blanks per day. That level of production requires sophisticated material logistics and a high degree of automation. "Flat, stress-free sheets are important to our downstream pro" said Michael Ninz, Project Manager at Ninz. The blanks are typically between 0.4 and 1.5 mm (0.016 and 0.059 inches) thick and up to 1600 mm (63 inches) wide. Blanks are cut from the coil, leveled by the HiCap® 45 and then automatically punched and formed. The HiCap® 45 features a patented EcoPlan® drive, ensuring slip-free transport of the material and preventing the leveling rolls from slipping on the sheet.

"ARKU has fully met our high standards for leveling quality and flatness," said Mr. Ninz. "We put the HiCap® leveler into operation this summer and it has been providing flat, nearly stress-free blanks from the start."

### Leveler for sheets up to 60 mm ready for operation in December

A roller leveler for sheets up to 60 mm thickness is in its final development. The precision leveler will be finished and in operation this December at a German roller mill. This leveler for large work pieces has a maximum material width of 3000 mm and weighs over 150 tons.

**ARKU-Ticker** ➤

# Easier coach building

## FlatMaster® in use at Bombardier Transportation in Görlitz, Germany

**Görlitz, Germany** – The history of Bombardier production facilities in Görlitz dates back to 1849. Since then Görlitz is well-known for its rail car and coach

building tradition. In just the last 60 years over 17000 rail cars have come off the production line in Görlitz. It is a European subsidiary of the successful transportation group based in Canada.

minimum. Due to changing materials and multiple production steps, standards for flatness are high. When 1960's technology could not meet current needs, Bombardier replaced it with the ARKU FlatMaster® 80 leveler.



Bombardier manufactures rail cars and coaches for many local, regional and long-distance transport applications. The most popular product is the double decker coach – in use all over the world.

Bombardier's main focus is the fabrication of complete vehicles. They also produce a range of railcar bodies in steel, stainless steel and alu-

The FlatMaster® levels visible parts, shell plates, casings and cover plates, but also frameparts and traverses. Flat and stress-free parts are important for a good appearance of the final product. Even more important, stress-free parts vastly improve subsequent fabricating processes; such as bending, chamfering, and welding. "Through leveling with the FlatMaster®, the quality of our parts has improved significantly. Thus, expenses for rework were reduced considerably" exclaimed Michael Clauss, Project Manager of part and component manufacture at Bombardier!

*FlatMaster® 80130 in use at Bombardier in Germany*

# Highly automated press feeding

## König Metall has an ARKU coil line

*Serge Schott (right) reports the advantages of the high degree of automation to ARKU sales engineer Jürgen Metz (left)*



**Gaggenau, Germany** – The Karlsruhe Technology Region is one of the most successful industrial regions in Europe. Highly innovative mid-sized businesses are the secret to the area's success. The König Metall

GmbH & Co. KG is one of the companies shaping the region. Founded in 1901, the family-owned company is now managed by its fourth generation, Dr. Otmar Zwiebelhofer and his daughter Nina Zwiebelhofer.

The entire coil line is operated in three phases by a single operator. The highly automated coil line allows for quick and easy coil changes, resulting in little downtime. Coil loading car, double-end decoiler and a threading unit

used in combination significantly reduce down times of the press line due to coil change. The high degree of automation also relieves the operator. "The handling of the machine is very easy and it is learned quickly," declares Serge Schott, Foreman at König Metall. The coil line processes sheet metal up to 4 mm. Overall, König Metall is very satisfied with the ARKU coil line and ARKU's customer service. "It is a big advantage for us that ARKU is just around the corner so that service technicians can quickly be at our facility in the event we should need them," states Schott.

With three international locations, König Metall processes sheets and tubes for the automotive industry as well as several others. The construction and development of the products as well as tool making reside at the main Gaggenau location.

A crucial part of the large-scale fabrication is bending and drawing. This is done directly from the coil. An ARKU coil line provides the insertion of the sheet into the

## High capacity leveler for perforated sheets

The newly developed HiCap® 25 will be unveiled at ARKU's EuroBLECH booth. The leveler can handle perforated sheets with a thickness range of 0.3 mm to 1.2 mm. The machine will be available for leveling tests after the EuroBLECH at the leveling center Baden-Baden.



## All the best for a 60<sup>th</sup> birthday!

Willibald Ullrich has been a project manager at ARKU for over 40 years and celebrated his 60th birthday this past Summer. He has decided to partially retire by scaling back his work schedule. He will stay with ARKU until 2014. Best wishes and happy birthday!

Ten honored at  
ARKU's summer fest!

**Baden-Baden, Germany** – With the recent machine construction industry crisis coming to an end, ARKU has come away relatively unscathed. More than ever the company relies on its junior employees. This year ARKU touts a new

President, Albert Reiss, was privileged to honor ten employees for their seniority. This year, the following nine honored employees celebrated their 10th year at the German machine tool builder:

Christian Hunkler, Dieter Kleppel, Dmitri Drobjazky-Lehr, Ebrahim Haghghi, Guido



ARKU President Albert Reiss with honored employees

internal record: For the first time, ARKU has 11 interns in their apprenticeships at the same time.

In addition to the successful junior programs, ARKU is especially proud of the long seniority of its employees. At this year's summer fest, ARKU

Daecke, Harald Kohl, Heinz Lederle, Irina Michailovski, Stephan Gerteis, and Sylvain Stumpf. Almost half of the employees have been at ARKU for at least ten years. "I am very proud of our employees and what they accomplish each day," says Reiss.

**Personality**

**Oliver Friz**

Oliver Friz, sales manager at ARKU since November 2009,

certified mechanical engineer and MBA, Friz is more than capable of handling the duties required of the position and expanding international sales at ARKU. Originally from southern Germany, Friz enjoys exercising, playing badminton, downhill skiing and traveling the continent in his free time. He likes to explore and discover new countries and experience the different people, cultures and locations with a caravan. On his most recent holiday, Friz toured the countryside of Scotland. If you are interested in a badminton match or



brings his many years of experience in international machine tool sales to help improve ARKU's internal and external sales processes. As a

learning about some great vacation destinations for caravanning, you can contact Friz at [oliver.friz@arku.de](mailto:oliver.friz@arku.de)

**FlatMaster® 120 offers**

**five times the speed of a straightening press**

**ARKU roller leveler at Liebherr is used in continuous operation**

in 1-2 shifts. Thanks to the FlatMaster® 120, only a few parts have to be leveled on the straightening press.

The FlatMaster® 120 effortlessly levels more than 90 percent of all metal parts – high-tensile steel up to 25 mm thick. "It takes 5 times as long to level a part with the straightening press compared with the FlatMaster®. Furthermore, the straightening result highly depends on a single worker," explains Erik

**Ehingen, Germany** – the storied history of the Liebherr facility in Ehingen began in 1969 with the production of mobile cranes. Today, the

ly leveled in contract work at ARKU. As demand at Liebherr grew, increasing lot sizes, logistic expenses and other costs moved Liebherr to implement



From left to right: Otto Schmid, Peter Eiswirt (ARKU), Erik Lorenz, Wolfgang Beringer – Factory Manager Erik Lorenz reports his experiences with the FlatMaster® 120

southern German factory celebrates over 40 years of success. Nearly 2700 employees produced 1500 mobile and crawler cranes per year, which has helped make Liebherr the world market leader of those products.

The Ehingen factory produces in a modular-construction method where the single sub-assemblies are manufactured simultaneously and are subsequently put together. The flatter the single parts are at the beginning, the better the single components can be assembled later on. This uniform flattening is the job of the FlatMaster® 120. The first interaction between Liebherr and ARKU took place in spring 2008, when Liebherr ordered leveling tests of parts at the ARKU leveling center. The leveling results of these tests were so good and professional that Liebherr was convinced to expand the services. The original thick, flame-cut parts were initial-



The FlatMaster® 120 provides best leveling results for many different laser- and flame-cut parts at Liebherr

its own FlatMaster® 120. After the initial rental of the machine, it was purchased outright in Spring 2010. It now operates

Lorenz, Factory Manager at Liebherr. With the FlatMaster®, the cycle times were reduced while leveling quality was increased significantly. Roller leveling is especially beneficial to welding. No matter if manual or automatic welding, flat parts can be welded faster and more precisely. This saves time and increases safety of the welding seams at the mobile cranes.



Liebherr mobile crane in action

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