ARKU

InfoMAX

The leveling and deburring experts

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Deburring & Leveling

Full Speed Ahead into the Future of Steel Distribution

Digitalization and value-added processing boost competitiveness at Kloeckner Metals Germany.

Kaufungen, Germany – Kloeckner Metals Germany is undergoing rapid transformation. Through digitalization, artificial intelligence, and an expanding range of value-added processing services, the steel and metal processor is positioning itself at the forefront of a highly competitive market.

pendent metal processors and service centers. This independence enables the company to offer its customers a wide range of sourcing options from around 35 key suppliers. Value-added processing services are among its competitive advantages – and the company plans to expand them further.

faster and with consistent quality.

"Sometimes our customers send us bills of materials with 100 line items. AI helps us evaluate them quickly. It also answers technical questions," says Marek Olejnik, authorized representative at the Kaufungen location.



Better results, satisfied employees: Kloeckner Metals Germany relies on a FlatMaster® 140 precision leveler for leveling cut parts. An integrated EdgeBreaker® 9000 LINE is also used for deburring.

When Peter and Florian Klöckner founded their company in 1906, they laid the foundation for an impressive success story. Today, Kloeckner Metals Germany is one of the world's largest inde-

Kloeckner Metals Germany's development is also reflected in its approach to digitalization and artificial intelligence. Several years ago, the steel distributor even established its own subsidiary, kloeckner.i, to drive digitalization in the industry. Its goal is to digitalize the entire supply chain, from procurement to delivery.

The company has made artificial intelligence the fifth pillar of its strategy. At the same time, it relies on its employees to identify potential applications. The reason is simple: they know the processes best. This approach is already delivering results. Several projects now use AI agents to complete tasks

At the same time, his team needs to understand exactly what customers are looking for when handling inquiries. "The nuances make a big difference, and we still need people to provide personal consultation," he says.

The Kloeckner location in Kaufungen demonstrates what this strategy looks like in practice. The facility serves as the group's competence center for flat products. From there, Kloeckner Metals Germany supplies steel to companies in industries including mechanical and agricultural engineering, material handling equipment manufacturing, structural steel construction, and defense.

"We are currently in a strong position," Olejnik says, describing the current situation. The facility is operating at full

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◀ Kevin Barth, Plant Manager at Kloeckner Metals Germany in Kaufungen, Marek Olejnik, Authorized Representative at Kloeckner Metals Germany in Kaufungen, and Christian Nau, ARKU Sales, rely on EdgeBreaker® and FlatMaster® machines.



Where Is the Global Economy Headed?

Inflationary pressures are returning, interest rates remain elevated, and rising costs continue to weigh on businesses and consumers alike. Energy prices, in particular, are creating significant challenges for industrial companies across Europe.

At the same time, European manufacturers face increasing competition from a wave of low-cost imports from China. Many products are entering the market at price points that are difficult for domestic producers to match. As a result, the question of how Europe can preserve its industrial strength and global competitiveness is becoming more urgent than ever.

In times like these, innovation, customer proximity, and entrepreneurial courage make the difference. History has shown that the companies that thrive are those that recognize change early and act decisively. ARKU is committed to being one of those companies.

Visit us at EuroBLECH and discover how ARKU continues to help manufacturers improve productivity, efficiency, and competitiveness. We look forward to welcoming you.

Gottfried Sihler
Chief Executive Officer

Continued from page 1

capacity, even with a two-shift schedule. "We have grown compared to last year, and we want to continue growing," he explains.

Behind this success is a commitment to helping customers whenever needed. Olejnik illustrates this with an example: "An agricultural equipment manufacturer was having problems with cut parts we supplied because the paint was not adhering properly." The issue was not only resolved, but the business relationship with the customer was expanded as well.



Christian Nau, ARKU Sales, and Christian Bieber, Head of HVAB Transformation at Kloeckner Metals Germany, discuss the benefits of leveling long, geometrically complex parts.



Deslagging, deburring, and leveling in a single line: At Kloeckner Metals Germany in Kaufungen, the EdgeBreaker® 9000 LINE is linked to a FlatMaster® precision leveler. This means employees only have to load the parts once and remove them at the end.

The solution was to round the edges – an essential step for proper paint adhesion. To accomplish this, Kloeckner Metals Germany purchased an ARKU EdgeBreaker® 4000 deburring machine in 2016. Today, the Kaufungen facility also operates an EdgeBreaker® 9000 LINE deburring system linked to a FlatMaster® 140 precision leveler.

Employees particularly benefit from the integrated deburring and leveling line. "We no longer have to turn over the large, heavy parts. We simply place them on the machine once. They are then deslagged, deburred, and leveled before we remove them at the end of the line," Olejnik explains.

This is also a clear advantage in terms of workplace safety. "We have now gone more than 500 days without a workplace accident, and that's something I'm proud of," says Olejnik.

www.kloeckner.com/en

Deburring

Crane Production ready for the Future

Liebherr invests in a one-of-a-kind system for autonomous deburring.

Biberach, Germany – They can be seen all over the world: Liebherr tower cranes. For more than 75 years, the company has specialized in lifting technology for all types of construction sites. Liebherr Tower Cranes is part of the Liebherr Group, a family-owned company founded in the Biberach region in 1949. Today, Liebherr is one of the world's largest manufacturers of construction equipment and is also active in numerous other industries.

The Liebherr production facility in Biberach recently celebrated a world first with a new deburring line for cut parts. Together, ARKU, Rösler Oberflächentechnik, and Teqram have automated the edge rounding of plasma-, oxyfuel-, and laser cut sheet metal parts. The line also incorporates an EdgeBreaker® 9000 LINE. With this investment, the plant is preparing its tower crane production for the future.

The new system performs several processing steps: slag removal, descaling, deburring, and edge rounding. It prepares sheet metal parts weighing up to 200 kilograms (440 lbs.) for subsequent production processes.



Major projects, precision parts: Liebherr cranes perform heavy-duty work on construction sites around the world. The sheet metal parts they require are processed, among other systems, on the autonomous EdgeBreaker® 9000 LINE deburring system.

"The new deburring line combines quality, efficiency, and workplace safety. By automating several processing steps, we have created a continuous process for the further processing of our sheet metal parts. At the same time, we are increasing cost efficiency and relieving our employees of monotonous and physically demanding tasks," says Robert Piesche, Manufacturing Technology Engineer at Liebherr.

www.liebherr.com

EURO BLECH

Deburring. Leveling. Coil lines.

Scan now – secure your appointment & ticket!

See ARKU live at EuroBLECH in Hannover from October 20–23, 2026, and discover how we can take your production to the next level!
Booth A94 | Hall 11 Live demos of leveling and deburring technologies – precise, efficient, and tailored to your needs. Our experts will be on site and happy to provide personal consultation. We look forward to seeing you!

Coil Lines

Connect2Cut demonstrates Coil-fed Laser Blanking in practice

Live demonstrations and shared experiences highlight the potential of modern coil-fed laser systems.

Baden-Baden, Germany – Coil-fed laser cutting took center stage at ARKU's Connect2Cut Technology Day on September 30, 2026. The technology is becoming an integral part of modern production processes in an increasing number of industries. Numerous experts from various industries and different manufacturing sectors attended the event to learn more about real-world applications.

Experts from ARKU, Precitec, Weil Technology, and Isochronic provided participants with insights into practical applications and current developments. Key topics included cost efficiency, material flow, modern laser technology, and integrated manufacturing processes.

One of the highlights of the event was a demonstration of ARKU's coil-fed laser blanking line. During live operation, the system demonstrated how automated series production and a wide variety of parts can go hand in hand. New geometries could be produced without retooling, while optimizing material usage, handling, and logistics.
The demonstration also used specific examples to show how companies can increase productivity and use resources more efficiently. The event provided plenty of opportunities for questions, technical discussions, and new ideas. During the Oktoberfest-style after-work event, attendees made new connections and continued their conversations.

Couldn't make it to Connect2Cut? The system is still available for your own test runs. Contact our expert: Kevin Bechler (kevin.bechler@arku.com)



Hands-on technology: At Connect2Cut, industry experts took the opportunity to discuss innovative coil-fed laser blanking solutions and process optimization.

Deburring

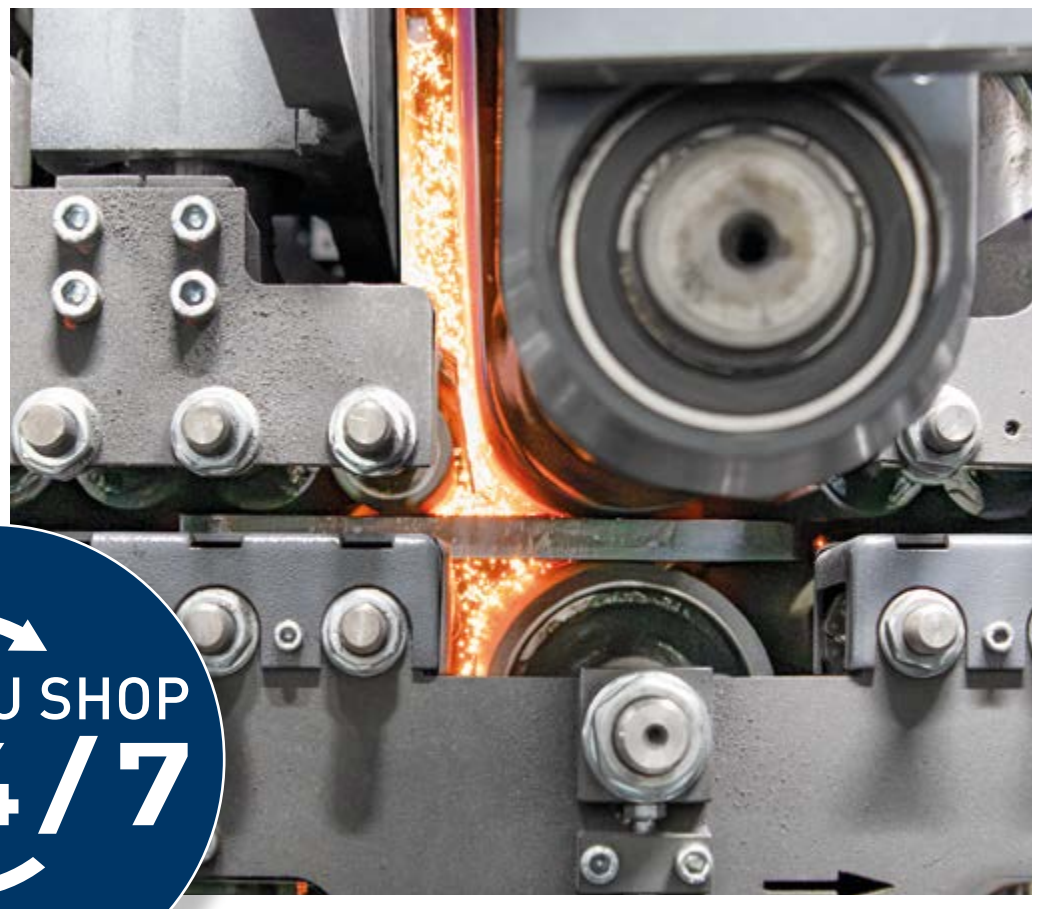
Deburring Tools: The Key to Greater Productivity

ARKU expands its shop with 3M abrasives.

Requirements for components are increasing. Sheet metal processors need defined edges and reproducible surfaces while continuously improving the cost efficiency of their processes. As a result, the tooling costs of deburring machines often come into focus.

However, the impact of tooling costs on overall part costs is frequently overestimated. "In most cases, tooling costs account for less than ten percent of deburring costs," explains Claudio Baroni, Head of Services at ARKU. At the same time, selecting the right abrasive can significantly increase process reliability and processing speed. This directly boosts productivity.

A simple example illustrates the difference: Reducing tooling costs by ten percent lowers deburring costs by only about one percent. By contrast, increasing processing speed by ten percent can save nearly ten percent of total deburring costs.
For Claudio Baroni, the conclusion is clear: Companies looking to sustainably reduce costs and increase productivity should focus primarily on the performance of the right tools.



Choosing the right abrasive is essential for optimal deburring results on fiber laser cut parts, as demonstrated here on the EdgeBreaker® 3000 FIBER.

"With the expansion of our tooling portfolio, we are taking the next step: 3M abrasive belts are now available directly from the ARKU Shop. This gives customers even more powerful abrasive belts for a wide range of deburring applications, helping increase process reliability and processing speeds," says Baroni, commenting on the new cooperation with 3M.

Contact Claudio Baroni (claudio.baroni@arku.com) to find out how the right tools can improve the performance of your deburring machine.

ARKU SHOP 24/7

Discover the right deburring tools in the ARKU Shop now.

Follow us!

Stay informed about current topics relating to leveling and deburring on our social media channels:

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Customer Success Stories That Deliver Results

Whether in mechanical engineering, steel distribution, or the automotive industry, companies around the world rely on ARKU. Discover how customers use ARKU coil lines, leveling machines, and deburring machines to improve quality, accelerate processes, and strengthen their competitiveness.

Scan the QR code and discover our customer success stories!

Leveling

A Major Leap in Quality

A 30 percent increase in productivity through leveling.

At many ARKU customers, precision levelers have been operating reliably for years, even in three-shift production. They ensure flat and nearly stress-free parts, providing greater reliability in downstream processes. Anyone who welds, bends, or assembles parts knows the problems caused by warped sheet metal. The example of Heimann GmbH & Co. KG shows how this pays off. "With the FlatMaster® precision leveler, we have experienced a real leap in quality. Leveling improves flatness, reduces deviations, and gives us around 30 percent more productivity," says Junior Managing Director Felix Heimann.

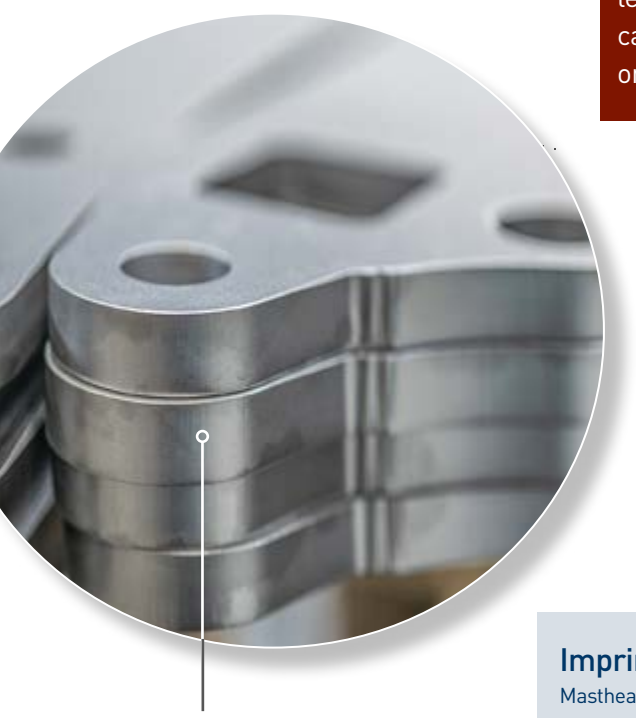
For those who recognize the benefits, a precision leveler can pay for itself even in single-shift operation. Another factor is that skilled workers are particularly difficult to find for manual leveling. Machine leveling provides an effective solution.

Its high leveling capacity and hydraulic overload protection are unique. This makes operation simple and delivers the required flatness quickly.



Flat parts at the push of a button: The FlatMaster® 120 provides the foundation for productive welding, bending, and assembly.

By the way, Stahlbau Heimann uses its available capacity for contract leveling. Would you like to have your parts leveled as a service? Contact us! We can connect you with a service provider or handle your request directly.



Precision leveled: The processed parts are flat and ready for the next production steps.

Scan the QR code and request a leveling test.

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2026 Sales Agent Meeting: Moving ideas forward together

One day before the 2026 ARKU Info-Days, Baden-Baden already had an international atmosphere. For this year's Sales Agent Meeting, ARKU welcomed partners from twelve countries. In addition to representatives from across Europe, a partner from Brazil also made the trip.

The open atmosphere and sunny summer weather provided the ideal setting for in-depth discussions. The exchange generated new ideas, valuable insights, and concrete approaches for future collaboration.



The meeting focused on an open exchange about market trends, customer proximity, and future collaboration.

The focus was on the latest product innovations in leveling and deburring. Another key topic was local customer service. The meeting highlighted the added value provided by local sales partners: close proximity to customers, short response times, and dedicated contacts in each market.

Once again, the event demonstrated how ARKU customers benefit from strong, long-term partnerships around the world.

A quarter century at ARKU Long-serving employees take center stage

Late-summer temperatures, lively music, and the aroma of fresh pizza created a festive atmosphere at the ARKU Summer Party on September 18. Numerous employees celebrated together with their families and guests, enjoying an evening filled with great conversations and time together.

A special moment of the evening was the recognition of long-serving employees by Gottfried Sihler, CEO. Tanja Mayer and Alexander Wald were honored for 25 years at ARKU, while three other colleagues celebrated ten years with the company.

Tanja Mayer joined ARKU in April 2001 as a sales representative. After several years in service, she returned to sales, where she continues to contribute her experience, expertise, and strong customer focus.

Alexander Wald started out as a machine technician at ARKU. Since 2005, he has been responsible for warehouse organization and operations as Warehouse Manager. His commitment and oversight play an important role in ensuring a smooth flow of materials.



The management team with the employees celebrating their work anniversaries at the ARKU Summer Festival.

"Twenty-five years with the company is much more than an impressive milestone. It represents loyalty, experience, and dedication," said Gottfried Sihler, thanking the employees for their many years of service.