



Makino and ASCO: significant deal expands titanium cutting capability for aerospace parts

Hamburg, 6 November 2012

ASCO Industries, a world leader in the design and manufacture of high lift devices, complex mechanical assemblies and major functional components for the aerospace industry, has recently purchased four Makino machining centres for titanium processing. This investment marks a significant step forward both in ASCO's production capabilities and Makino's engagement in the European aerospace industry.

ASCO has acquired three T2s horizontal machining centres and one a92 horizontal machining centre from Makino. ASCO is particularly convinced by the technological cutting edge of the T2 – above all with regard to its excellent axis damping performance and the rigidity and stability of the 5-axis spindle head. These features will prove particularly beneficial in manufacturing titanium components such as landing gears, for which the machines will mainly be used.

Serge Wintgens, Technical Director at ASCO Industries explains: "ASCO's decision to choose Makino machines was taken after a close technical evaluation and machining trials. The new Makino machines will not only enable us to significantly reduce the time required to machine titanium parts but also bring a dramatic increase in the lifetime of the tools. This will lead to improvements in our work in process, shorter delivery times and an optimisation of manufacturing costs."

"The cooperation with ASCO Industries is the reward of an outstanding R&D work made by Makino during the last years." says Dr. P. Anders Ingemarsson, President & CEO of Makino Europe. "For aerospace suppliers in this league who aim at keeping their leading position, there are simply no alternatives to premium technologies of this kind."

About Makino

Makino Milling Machine Co., Ltd. is recognised as one of the leading technology and service providers in the machine tool industry. The corporation is listed on the Tokyo Stock Exchange and employs some 4,000 people throughout the Americas, Europe and Asia. Its revenues for the fiscal year ending March 31st 2012 totalled US\$1.4 billion. Makino's wide range of premium-quality production solutions includes machining centres for the production of parts as well as for die and mould manufacturing in a great variety of applications in the aerospace, automotive, off-highway vehicles, industrial components and micro-technology industries. MAKINO Europe employs 240 people at technology centres and offices in Hamburg, Kirchheim unter Teck (near Stuttgart), Cavenago (near Milan), Paris, Barcelona, Bratislava and Moscow, focusing on marketing, sales, application engineering and services.

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