

OTEC In-house Trade Fair 6 June 2013

Hi-tech exhibition with beer garden

Well attended In-house Trade Fair at OTEC Präzisionsfinish GmbH

Attended by some 200 visitors, this year's In-house Trade Fair at OTEC Präzisionsfinish GmbH in Straubenhardt was a renewed success. This is the fourth time that this type of presentation and exhibition has been held and it has become a regular fixture among the fifty or so national and international trade fairs that OTEC takes part in each year. More than half of these take place in Europe, some 30% are in Asia and 10 % in North and South America.

Above all, OTEC's In-house Trade Fair is a magnet for visitors from southern Germany who for the most part come from the metalworking, automotive component and medical device sectors. Some of them are already regular attendees at this fair, since they have learned to appreciate the advantages of gaining extensive first-hand experience of the entire range of innovative and well-established technologies developed by OTEC. On this day, the company holds an open house in which all of its equipment and machinery are on view and in action – demonstrating the various surface finishing processes from disc finishing units and electropolishing systems to the sophisticated drag finishing units as well as the stream finishing units which have undergone extensive development over the past few years. Also of note were the handling systems for media recycling for CF machines and the new pulse finishing process, for which a patent is currently pending, designed for the deburring and polishing of less accessible areas and which operates on the principle of optimizing the relative motion between the workpiece and the media.

The absolute technical highlight was, of course, the recently developed SF 3-200 stream finishing unit which opens up a new chapter in the burnishing, edge rounding and mirror-finish polishing of many different types of workpieces. Utmost precision in all corners, grooves and recesses of forming tools, cog wheels, bathroom fittings, decorative parts and medical device components. Extremely short processing times, the option to incorporate three workpiece holders and the possibility of equipping the system with robots to eliminate



manual workpiece changeover make the SF 3-200 the perfect "partner" for all companies who need to process workpieces in large quantities.

An in-house trade fair of this kind, in which OTEC's entire know-how is on display, is also very important for the company itself, since visitors occasionally confront the creative team with specific problems which inspire them to find new solutions and develop completely original innovations. "We need incentives like this," says OTEC boss Helmut Gegenheimer, "for real technical innovations, a regular exchange of ideas with potential users is very important. And the users often come up with good ideas and suggestions which our expertise and knowledge enable us to put into practice."

This openness for cooperation and bundling of forces in the interests of dynamic technical development was also in evidence in Straubenhardt through the presence of several co-exhibitors. Visitors were offered additional information from Nanofocus (optical 3D surface metrology), ELMA (ultrasonic cleaning systems), SHL (automation), Sauer (precision milling machines), ULTRASONIC and Alicona (automatic cutting edge measurement). The program was rounded off by three technical presentations by OTEC, Nanofocus and Sauer.

In view of the wealth of information on offer, visitors – and the OTEC team – had earned the opportunity to relax in the truly welcoming beer garden set up on the company premises especially for the event. A glorious blue sky, not too hot and not too cold, culinary specialties from the barbecue and a wide choice of beverages – it was almost like being on holiday. And this form of liaison helps to bring supplier and customer closer together in a spirit of mutually beneficial networking on a range of technical and business-related topics.