Dear readers,

After an extremely successful year in 2006, the entire NUM group has again achieved a positive result in the first half of 2007. This is due to the strengthening of our team in the areas of special applications development and customer support. The opening of an additional service branch in Germany, near the Czech border, is just one example of our efforts to expand our network across the world. And to enable us to keep improving the benefit that our products give our customers, the NUM group will continue to be adjusted to meet new market requirements in the future.

One central element in our marketing strategy has been the CNC complete solutions for selected application areas. Tool sharpening is one area in which we have had considerable success, and one important reason for this success is our consistent maintenance and development of the software – evidence of which you can see on the updates list on page 3. This development is largely centred around the feedback received from our users and wishes expressed by them. One of the most conspicuous innovations is the 3D workpiece simulation, which features an animated depiction of the sharpening process and collision monitoring, and the 3D machine simulation of the NUMROTO software. By integrating the 3D machine simulation, we have created a comprehensive solution that offers a huge range of functions and is extremely easy to operate.

Partnerships with our customers are maintained in the evaluation, project and installation phases by means of training courses, support and service centres, and continue after commissioning. Our development specialists work closely with the machine and tool sharpening industries, conduct training tailored especially to the needs of our customers, and build on these activities with seminars. We are pleased to be holding the very first Asian NUMROTO seminar in Taiwan in November, and look forward to the participation of numerous machine manufacturers.

In this issue of Flash, we show you how companies can make intelligent use of machines from various manufacturers to optimize productivity and profit – all thanks to NUMROTOplus.

I would like to thank you on behalf of the NUMROTO group and the company as a whole for the excellent collaboration we have enjoyed with you – users and machine manufacturers.

Happy reading!

Peter von Rüti
High-quality and flexibility: the key to success in tool grinding

The Swiss company, TBS, shows how tool grinding can look at its best: strong customer orientation, quality and flexibility are just some of the most important factors that have been made possible by NUMROTOplus.

Marcel Beier is the son of the company founder and the future managing director. He speaks proudly of this company which will soon be his own. TBS Werkzeugschärferei AG (tool sharpening company) located in Flawil (Switzerland) was founded by Ruedi Beier over 35 years ago and together with its longtime employees has since become a recognised specialist for the re-sharpening and manufacturing of tools for the metalworking, plastics and paper industries.

Its positive development, particularly over the past three years, has confirmed the company philosophy of making the customer and the employees a priority. Marcel Beier explains the five columns on which their success is based: “We want to deliver to our customers just-in-time. We can only do that if we are flexible and have a well-trained workforce. Training our staff supports two other important points for our customers: precision and quality.”

Regular training sessions are carried out on one Saturday of every month: Here colleagues can exchange know-how, skills and tips which also motivates at the same time. Training on NUMROTOplus is a focal point. New employees can work at a higher level far quicker and know-how is widely distributed. Despite all the new technology available, manual tool sharpening still holds great importance. TBS places great value on the qualifications of his staff which can be also seen in his commitment to the professional training of apprentices in tool grinding.

In the production hall at TBS, there are a variety of machines ranging from Saacke, Strausak, UWS Reinecker and Hawema. They are evaluated and adjusted exactly according to requirements but all have one thing in common: they are all controlled by NUMROTOplus. Thanks to the basic principle of the company, every employee is able to operate all the machines, as the work environment is the same. In addition, the work and staff can be moved from one machine to another depending on capacity and how specialised the work is – whether it is re-sharpening a standard tool or manufacturing a customised tool. This will become easier in the fu-
ture as an investment is already in the pipeline for a multi-user-server which can then open the parts program via a central network.

TBS values NUMROTOplus as a reliable high-quality product with particular praise for the button cycles. “Our customers have extremely high requirements of us and the tools and NUMROTO ensures that we are able to meet these demands in an economical way. We provide a comprehensive service for the customer as a general contractor and we also work very closely with selected sub-suppliers” says Marcel Beier. Flexibility has successfully become an integral part of TBS.

www.tbs-tools.ch

The most significant changes between version 2.7.3 and 2.8.4

NUMROTO General
Integration of NUMROTO-3D into NUMROTO. Automatic launch of collision monitoring during manufacturing; also works in conjunction with NR Control, the NUMROTO job manager.

Wheel probing optimization through the use of smaller measuring distances from the second measurement onwards.

Simulation colours can now be selected manually when required and the settings saved for each workpiece.

When resharpening, reverse finishing can now be used in combination with the regular cyclical grinding programme.

The profile editor now displays the original profile in the background as a dotted line.

The number of teeth with irregular division is no longer restricted to 12.

Up to 999 teeth can now be sharpened with irregular division.

When starting to process a job list with NR Control, information on previously-used tools and grinding wheels can be saved in the database for future use.

It is now possible to run multiple instances of NUMROTO on one computer.

A read-only password can now be set for individual tools and used alongside the master copy function.

NUMROTO Drills
When using the step face operation, it is now possible to manually select the grinding procedure (peripheral grinding, face grinding).

When widening the drill’s gash out, a second radius can now be sharpened at the end of the walk length.

NUMROTO Form Cutters
The new thread forming tap is available as a form cutter option.

The new Copy form operation allows the grinding of a shape so that the machining generates a screw thread surface. This can be used for special tools (such as flow-form drills) or to pre-grind a given shape.

There is a new “rake surface along the form” function that can be used to sharpen a rake surface along the shape with a defined rake angle. This allows cutters with several tip radii to be created.

All relevant enhancements and improvements can be found at: www.numroto.com

> Customer Area
GrindTec 06 and 08: Success through innovative solutions

A trend-setter for some time now, NUMROTO has been continually subject to further development, and in turn GrindTec 06 was able to demonstrate several dozen improvements. The new 3D simulation, which immediately recognises kinematic problems based on the machine simulation, was met with active interest. NUMROTOplus provides extensive programming support in the form of graphical help screens and a very user friendly interface and can be expanded to virtually any tool form. This software is currently offered by fifteen machine manufacturers on about thirty different machines – a strong argument for tool manufacturers and regrinding specialists, who can then use the same software for different machines. NUMROTO has been continually subject to further development.

It is not much longer until GrindTec 08! The event takes place from the 12th to the 15th of March 2008 in Augsburg – and NUMROTO is of course going to make an appearance.

New trade fair „Grind Tec USA“ – with NUM

Not to be confused with the international trade fair of the same name (GrindTec) in Germany, Grind Tec USA, caters exclusively to American specialists. Created after the extraordinary success of the “Grind Tec Seminars 2006,” for the first time on the 4th and 5th of October 2007, Grind Tec USA is offering a combination of numerous trade-specific presentations and seminars as well as an overall trade fair. NUM is stepping in to support the new Grind Tec USA, which will be held in Asheville, North Carolina, where the public will be greeted and informed by NUMROTO specialists.

NUMROTO seminar in Taiwan

With its first seminar on the Asian continent, NUM supports the positive development of these markets. The NUMROTO seminar is to take place on the 21st of November, 2007 in Taipei Taiwan. NUMROTO specialists and many international manufacturers of tool machines offer participants an intensive and informative program in Chinese and English. For further information, please contact us at info@numroto.com.

NUM Partners at EMO 2007, 17. – 22.9.2007, Hannover

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