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Andreas Quak, Owner and President of Global Retool Group

Laserplussystems - Strongly positioned on an international level as part of the Global Retool Group

The GLOBAL RETOOL GROUP (GRG) is a globally operating turnkey company in the field of mechanical engineering which offers comprehensive and technically complex solutions with its own technology subsidiaries. The subsidiaries include SVQ GmbH and WEMA VOGTLAND Technology GmbH as well as the brands Siepmann, Spicher, SATEG and LASERplusSYSTEMS, whose competences complement each other perfectly. In addition to classic machining technologies, the group of companies focuses particularly on future technologies such as innovative controls, Industry 4.0 and laser welding.



LASERplusSYSTEMS facility in Idar-Oberstein

As the latest member, LASERplusSYSTEMS was integrated into the group as a new division at the beginning of 2020, thus further expanding GRG's technology range in the field of laser applications to round off its existing portfolio.

LASERplusSYSTEMS is a technology partner for innovative systems for marking, engraving, cutting and precision ablation of most different

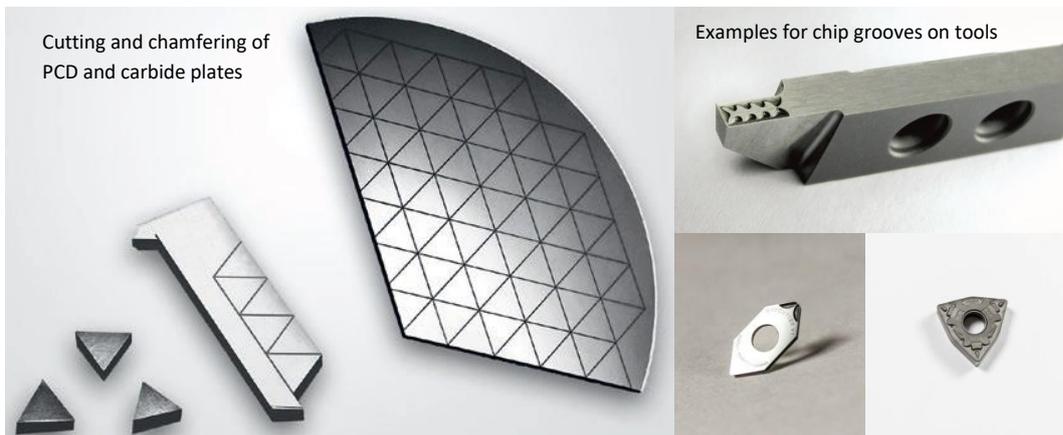
materials. The product and service portfolio covers the design and build of standard solutions for marking, engraving, 3D ablation, automation and special solutions as well as fixture manufacturing

and image processing, database applications and Industry 4.0. In addition, the service business for already installed systems of the former LASERPLUSS AG was taken over by GRG.

LASERplusSYSTEMS equipment and systems are used for micromachining of diamond materials, marking and engraving, precision cutting of hard materials such as PCD, pCBN, carbide, CVD, cermet, and for precision 3D ablation.

HIGHLY PRECISE AND AT THE SAME TIME ECONOMICAL

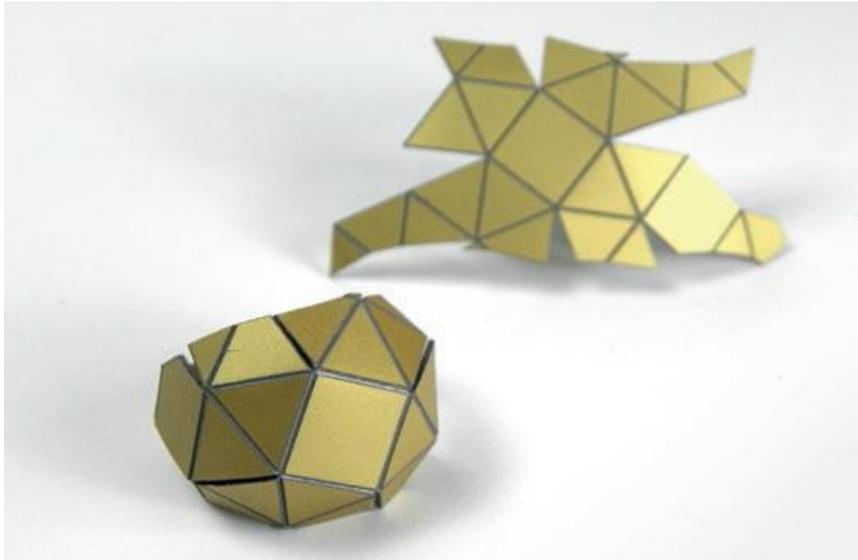
Apart from pure laser markers, the CutMaster is a special item in the LASERplusSYSTEMS product range. The machine is used when different laser processes are to be realized on only one system in a space-saving and economical way. With the CutMaster, high-precision chip geometries can be created and hard-brittle tool materials can be cut and marked. The pre-cutting technology allows efficient, economical entry into the market for processing hard and ultra-hard materials. Circular PCD, PcBN and CVD plates are cut using multiple ablation of layers of material. This 3D processing is precise, preserves material, and allows cutting depths to 2 mm, along with a cutting gap with defined angle.



CutMaster - Features and benefits

- Cutting, 3D ablation and marking on a single machine
- Machinable materials: PCD, PcBN, CVD, metals, ceramics, etc.
- Small cutting gap and low material loss
- Precision cutting of materials up to 2 mm thickness with outstanding cutting quality
- High precision cutting of chip geometries
- Measuring camera and probe for position measurement of components and XYZ position correction of the machining process
- High-precision, water-cooled 3D scanning system
- Zero point clamping system for quick change of application

CutMaster – the all-in-one specialist for precision cutting of plates, chip geometries and marking



Blanks from brass sheets

CONSULTING AND TECHNOLOGY FROM A SINGLE SOURCE

Around the actual machine, customers receive a comprehensive package of services at LASERplusSYSTEMS. In addition to the high level of expertise in laser technology and the comprehensive mechanical engineering competence, customers benefit above all from the industry experience and the employees' profound understanding of the customer's processes. "Together with our customer, we develop solutions that are individually tailored to his workpiece and requirements. If desired, with the corresponding automation options that fit optimally into his production chain," says Stephen Becker, Branch Manager at LASERplusSYSTEMS.

Already in advance of an investment decision, customers have the opportunity to convince themselves of the performance of the machines in the in-house showroom by means of application demonstrations and marking or cutting tests. Even after delivery of a machine LASERplusSYSTEMS continues to support the customer. Competent specialists take over the complete integration of the systems in the customer's plant and, if desired, provide application support up to series production. Later, maintenance and service and, if required, upgrades of existing systems will follow.

Only with the right software a laser system can exploit its full potential. As a universal software product for all laser applications, the in-house software RayMake is used on LASERplusSYSTEMS machines. In-house software developers take care of customer-specific software adaptations and the connection to the customer's own systems or higher-level control systems.

At the Idar-Oberstein location, an expert team of highly qualified engineers and service technicians forms the core team of LASERplusSYSTEMS. In addition, the team can draw on the resources of the powerful Global Retool Group, whether in the field of control technology and automation, in the areas of assembly, service and commissioning or documentation.

FROM SAARLAND UP TO MEXICO

The Global Retool Group, headquartered in Lebach in the Saarland, operates internationally. With around 300 employees at seven locations in Germany, the USA, Mexico and China, the company is globally represented in the triad Europe - America - Asia and thus always close to its globally active customers. Thus the Group is able to react flexibly to fluctuations in the geographical markets. The

importance of such flexibility is demonstrated once again by the current development of the global economy in the wake of the Corona pandemic. While business in Europe is still weak, the Chinese and American markets have recovered relatively quickly from the crisis. In the USA and Mexico, the Group's business is currently booming.

In addition to the current economic development, the industrial change towards electromobility is increasingly influencing the machine tool industry and thus also GRG. "These changes do not cause us grief," says Andreas Quak, owner and managing director of GLOBAL RETOOL GROUP. "We prefer to talk about 'opportunities', as our American colleagues say, that is, the chances that arise for us from the change." At this point the group's wide range of technologies is a great plus. "If you have a broad scope of technologies in your portfolio, you can go along with this change," Quak adds. From the very beginning, it was important for GRG to create as much value as possible in-house, which has increasingly shifted toward technological value creation in the course of the continued strategic development of the group. "It is important to us to have everything, or at least as much as possible, in our own hands. In our experience, this has in many cases given us advantages over our competitors," explains Andreas Quak. Historically, the Group's core business was almost entirely in the automotive sector. This has changed significantly in recent years. "Today we are at 50% non-automotive business," says Quak.

CV Andreas Quak:		Career	
Andreas Quak			
Place of birth: Düsseldorf		1986 – 2003	HonsbergLamb
Married			Sonderwerkzeugmaschinen
2 sons (25 and 28 years old)			GmbH, Remscheid, Germany
			Last position: Owner and President
Education			
		2004 – today	Owner and President of SVQ GmbH,
1972 – 1980	High school		founded 2004 in Erkrath near Düsseldorf and moved to the current location at Lebach/Saarland, Germany in 2007
1980 – 1982	Military service		
1982 – 1986	University of Applied Sciences, Düsseldorf, Germany		
	Degree: Graduate Engineer Mechanical Engineering		
1989 – 2001	Master of Business Marketing MBM University Berlin	2011 – today	Owner and President of Global Retool Group GmbH with its subsidiaries SVQ GmbH, WEMA VOGTLAND Technology GmbH and the brands Siepmann, Spicher, SATEG und LASERplusSYSTEMS

NEWLY DISCOVERED BUSINESS SEGMENTS

The origin of the company lies, as the name GLOBAL RETOOL GROUP says, in the retool business, i.e. in the conversion of existing machines and plants to fulfill new machining tasks. In this process,



Manufacturing plant in Lebach

proven but aging manufacturing equipment is made fit for a second service life, which provides the user with significant cost savings compared to a new investment. This has a long tradition, particularly in the automotive and tier 1 supplier industries, which explains the high proportion of automotive business. In the meantime, however, the company's focus is increasingly shifting towards systems business, especially in the area of (laser)

welding systems with a high automation and control share. The innovative technologies of lasers, control systems and Industry 4.0 now account for 50% of sales. The remaining 50% is retooling, overhaul and relocation of complete production plants, with GRG often acting as a turnkey partner.

The turnkey partnership is an important part of GRG's business model, but it is not mandatory.

"Where requested by the customer, we supply turnkey; however, we also offer each product independently. It often depends on the customer. In the end, it is always decisive to prevail against the competitors with our strategy and to offer the best solution technically and economically," explains Quak.

Andreas Quak sees the future of the group of companies in laser technology with GRG as a system partner. "Laser applications will successively replace our traditional technology solutions more and more," he emphasizes. Mechanical engineering companies, and thus GRG, are currently facing major challenges. "What is important is the direction in which our customers go in the next few years," says Quak. "We are in the midst of an industrial and technical transformation in which only companies with all-embracing solutions will survive." But in this respect, the company considers itself well equipped.



Headquarter of Global Retool Group in Lebach

COMPANY INFORMATION

**Global Retool
Group GmbH**

President:
Andreas Quak

Founded:
2011

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66822 Lebach

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www.global-retool-group.com

Product portfolio:

Retooling and overhauling of machines,
special purpose machines, welding systems,
laser systems, control and automation
technology, grinding machines

Headcount: 300 people

Turnover: 60 million Euro

Export share: 50%

Awards/Standards: ISO 9001:2015