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FORMING THE FUTURE

PRESS RELEASE

Servo press for research purposes

TU Dortmund uses a Schuler press line to examine how new high-strength materials and composites can be formed

Göppingen, February 21, 2013 – A servo press supplied by Schuler is the latest addition to campus life at the Technical University of Dortmund: it is one of six acquisitions made by the Institute of Forming Technology and Lightweight Construction unveiled in a ceremony attended by the university's rector Prof. Ursula Gather. The Institute's scientists aim to use the 400-metric-ton monoblock press to examine how new high-strength metal materials and composites of metal and plastic can be formed.

"Our servo presses are ideally suited to these research purposes as they enable users to precisely control important process parameters, such as the forming speed," explains Jörg Mayer, Schuler's Regional Sales Manager for Blanking and Forming Systems. "This results in improved process reliability, die lives, output and energy efficiency. As the slide's kinematics can be individually programmed, additional processes such as welding or thread forming can be economically integrated into the forming process." Due to its tremendous flexibility, ServoDirect Technology is used both for die tryout and for raising the productivity of the entire automotive and household appliance industries.

"Together with our other acquisitions, the Schuler servo press forms the basis for developing innovative processes and products which can help protect Germany's lead in manufacturing research," stated Institute Director Prof. A. Erman Tekkaya at the opening ceremony in early February. Schuler not only supplied the machine itself but also the automation equipment for transporting the sheet metal – in the form of a coil line and roll feed.

It is not the Group's first press to feature in the Institute's experimentation hall: in addition to the new press of the MSD2-400 range, there are also two hydraulic draw presses, a percussion press and a hydraulic C-frame press supplied by Schuler. In total, there are over forty machines in a space measuring around 2,900 square meters. They are not only used for research but also for teaching purposes: students of mechanical engineering and other technical courses offered by the TU Dortmund are trained on the machines.

Results transferred to practice

The Institute of Forming Technology and Lightweight Construction is one of the leading research institutes of its kind. Its main focus is the development of innovative forming processes and process chains with regard to lightweight construction and energy efficiency. These new processes are thoroughly researched in both experiments and computer simulations, before being optimized and transferred to practical applications. The Institute, which is led by Prof. Matthias

Kleiner and Prof. A. Erman Tekkaya, has been cooperating with Schuler in the field of forming technology research for many years.

Captions

Bild1.jpg: The Institute Directors Prof. A. Erman Tekkaya (4th from right), Prof. Matthias Kleiner (5th from right) and TU Dortmund's Rector Prof. Ursula Gather (4th from left), as well as Jörg Mayer (3rd from left) and Olaf Klein (3rd from right) of Schuler in front of TU Dortmund's new servo press.

Bild2.jpg: Equipped with ServoDirect Technology, the press is ideal for research purposes as the forming speed can be precisely controlled.

Please name Schuler as the photo source.

About the Schuler Group – www.schulergroup.com

As the technological and global market leader in metalforming, Schuler supplies machines, production lines, dies, process know-how and services for the entire metal-working industry. Its clients include car manufacturers and their suppliers, as well as companies in the forging, household equipment, packaging, energy and electrical industries. Schuler is also the market leader in coin minting technology and supplies systems solutions for the aerospace and railway industries. The company employs around 5,500 people and is represented by its own facilities and sales offices in 40 nations around the world. In fiscal year 2011/12 (ending Sep. 30), Schuler posted sales of € 1,226.1 million with an Ebitda margin of 9.6 percent.

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