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The new Z084/… locating units from HASCO are designed for the precise centring of mould bases.

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Impressions Fakuma 2024 (Picture: P. E. Schall GmbH & Co. KG)

Fakuma 2026: A Multifaceted Programme for the Anniversary Event

The 30th Fakuma will once again be a celebration for the plastics industry from Monday the 12th through Friday the 16th of October, 2026. Exhibitors and expert visitors will celebrate the extraordinary success story of the international trade fair for plastics processing with a colourful array of world-class programme highlights that will serve as a backdrop for the event, i.e. presentations at the forum featuring the latest expert know-how, the first edition of the Fakuma Innovation Award ceremony, the next instalment of the round-table discussion, the return of the "Mould Your Dreams, Mould Your Future" careers campaign and, last but not least, the inaugural presentation of the Paul Eberhard Schall Medal.

The entire world of plastics – plus much more – is on the agenda for the 30th Fakuma international trade fair for plastics processing which will take place daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. from Monday the 12th through Friday the 16th of October, 2026. The Friedrichshafen Exhibition Centre will host an enormous family celebration for five days to mark its anniversary. On the one hand, it will serve as a showcase for the entire world of plastics – from injection moulding, forming and extrusion technology, as well as 3D printing, masterbatches and raw materials, right on up to tooling, process technology and recycling. On the other hand, it will provide a unique platform for communication, discussion, knowledge-sharing, awards and career planning.

You can find the whole text on page 16-18.

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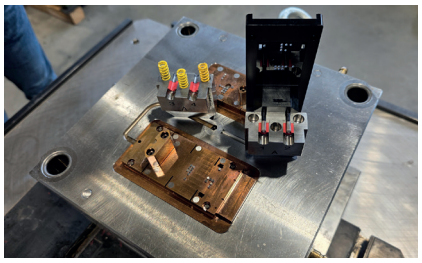
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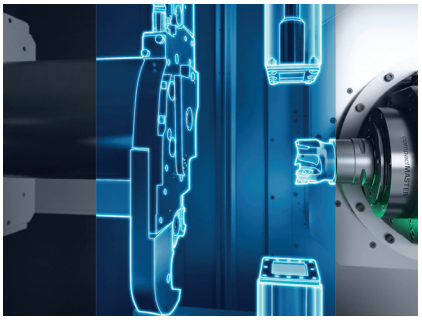
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Plastics processor Giuseppe Caruso, based in Germany, is unwilling to compromise when it comes to quality. To ensure perfect sealing and protect both metal inserts and the injection moulding tool, his company relies on HASCO's flexible sealing elements made from a special plastic.



38 Driving customer manufacturing performance: MAPAL combines turnkey expertise, tooling performance and tool management

Italian hydraulic manufacturer Benvenuti S.r.l. runs its modern manufacturing with MAPAL – relying on tooling, tool management and tailored turnkey solutions of the precision tooling specialist throughout. With this setup, production has been made so efficient that it is now set to be rolled out to other sites within the parent company Casappa S.p.A. and Casappa Hydraulics Shanghai China.



56 AI in CNC manufacturing

Artificial intelligence is evolving from a topic of the future to a practical tool for industrial manufacturing. In line with this, DMG MORI will be presenting a turn-mill showcase at Hannover Messe 2026 to demonstrate how AI can deliver substantial added value along the CNC process chain, from work preparation and machining to the analysis of energy and status data.

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ELMET sets the course for further growth: Markus Nuspl becomes CEO

Dr. Markus Nuspl, an experienced manager and proven industry expert, is taking over as CEO of ELMET. A mining engineer with a Ph.D., he brings more than 20 years of industry experience as well as extensive expertise in silicone processing, quality management, innovation, and corporate development. Most recently, he served as CEO of RICO Elastomere Projecting GmbH, where he was responsible for the company's strategic and operational development for several years.

"In Dr. Nuspl, we have gained a leader who combines professional excellence, entrepreneurial thinking, and strong interpersonal skills. He knows our industry, understands the challenges our customers face, and shares our conviction that sustainable business success can only be achieved together with dedicated employees. We are very much looking forward to leading ELMET into the future alongside him," the owners agree.

Markus Nuspl has a clear vision for the coming years: sustainable and continuous growth based on long-term partnerships with customers, suppliers, and employees. This vision places people at the center, alongside the highest level of customer satisfaction, uncompromising quality, technological innovation, and the consistent improvement of efficiency and competitiveness. At the same time, the company aims to further strengthen its international market position and strategically drive diversification into various industries and regions.



From left to right: Moritz Manigatter, Paul Fattinger, Markus Nuspl (new managing director), Christian Reslhuber, Roman Adlesgruber, Christine Adlesgruber, Kurt Manigatter. Photo: ELMET

"ELMET has outstanding employees, a strong technological foundation, and an excellent reputation in the market. Together, we want to further build on these strengths. My goal is to combine innovation, quality, and economic success with a corporate culture in which responsibility is embraced, trust grows, and collaboration is put into practice."

With Markus Nuspl at the helm, ELMET is setting the course for the company's next phase of development and consistently continuing on its path as an innovative partner for the international silicone industry.

Merger of the two companies, KEBO and Plastisud



KEBO AG (Neuhausen am Rheinfall, Switzerland), a leading manufacturer of high-precision injection molds for applications in the medical/pharmaceutical, laboratory, and thin-wall packaging sectors, will operate under the umbrella of the French Plastisud Group (Castelnaudary, France) in the future. The transaction was signed on June 22, 2026.

Founded in 1979, KEBO is a pioneer in the development of high-precisi-

(Picture: KEBO)

on injection molds and innovative hot runner technology. With Gerold Keller and Daniel Bodenmann representing the second generation, the company has stood for the highest precision, quality, and customer focus for many years. The merger with Plastisud is intended to enable more efficient use of capacities in order to better serve rising customer demand, particularly in the rapidly growing diabetes and obesity market. By combining the two companies, the strengths in the areas of innovation, technology, and rapid scalability are to be realized even more effective for customers.

KEBO will continue to operate as an independent company within the Plastisud Group. At the same time, the new majority owner is clearly committed to the Swiss location, which is to be further strengthened and expanded in a targeted manner. Within the Plastisud Group, KEBO will serve as the center of excellence for applications in the medical/pharmaceutical and laboratory industries.

Continuity is a key element of the transaction: the existing management team and the previous owners will remain on board to ensure a customer-focused transformation and collaboration.

For employees, customers, and suppliers, the merger will not change anything in day-to-day business. The existing points of contact will remain unchanged, and the KEBO team will continue on its successful path with the same reliability and customer focus.

“In Plastisud, we have found a partner for our family-owned company that shares our DNA and has the same high standards for quality and customer service. With this long-term succession plan, we are confident that KEBO will be able to further strengthen its strong position in the field of drug delivery devices,” says Gerold Keller, current co-owner of KEBO.

Plastisud also sees significant strategic potential in the transaction: “KEBO is an ideal fit for the Plastisud Group. This strategic alignment opens up very attractive opportunities for us in the medical and pharma-ceutical sectors, a business that complements our existing product and customer portfolio very well,” says Laurent Buzzo, President and CEO of Plastisud.

With this merger, both owner-managed companies are laying the foundation for further growth, an even stronger market position, and the targeted expansion of their expertise and capacities in demanding and high-growth end markets.

We also publish editorial articles from your company – free of charge, of course!



20 Years of ZAHORANSKY in the USA

ZAHORANSKY USA Inc. is celebrating its 20th anniversary. What began two decades ago through a partnership with a U.S. sales representative has grown into an independent subsidiary based in West Chicago, Illinois, serving customers throughout the United States and Canada. To mark the anniversary, the company hosted an Open House, highlighting the strong connection between the North American market and German engineering expertise.
During its early years, ZAHORANSKY was represented in the North American market through a U.S. sales agent. A major milestone followed in October 2014, when the partnership evolved into an independent subsidiary. Since February 2015, ZAHORANSKY USA has operated from its current location in West Chicago, providing comprehensive support to customers across the United States and Canada – from consultation and machine commissioning to after-sales service.
The location also played a remarkable role during the COVID-19 pandemic. As part of the U.S. government's Operation Warp Speed, ZAHORANSKY contributed to supplying production equipment for components used in the distribution of newly developed vaccines. This was a compelling example of the team's ability to respond quickly and flexibly to extraordinary challenges.



(Picture: ZAHORANSKY)

Over the past decade, ZAHORANSKY USA has continuously strengthened its market position. Several Open House events have fostered direct dialogue with prospective customers and repeatedly led to new business relationships. At the same time, the subsidiary has strategically expanded its service and spare parts teams while optimizing internal processes. Throughout this development, the focus has remained on increasing customer satisfaction and ensuring fast response times.
"Twenty years in the United States demonstrate how important local presence and close customer relationships are to our business. Our team on site combines ZAHORANSKY's innovative strength with a deep understanding of the North American market," says Dr. Heinrich Sielemann, Chief Technology Officer of ZAHORANSKY, who traveled from Germany to attend the anniversary celebration.
To celebrate its 20th anniversary, ZAHORANSKY USA welcomed customers from across the United States to its Open House event, representing regions from the West Coast and the Midwest to the East Coast. The highlight of the event was a live demonstration of the Z.PUMA, showcasing the production of two different brush sizes. The demonstration impressively illustrated the machine's performance, flexibility, and versatility.

New Managing Director for Arburg Mexico

Arburg's Mexican Subsidiary Under New Leadership

On July 21, 2026, Julio Lopez took over as head of Arburg, S.A. de C.V. in Querétaro, Mexico. As Mexico navigates a dynamic economic landscape, he will focus on turning challenges into opportunities. Thanks to long-standing, trusting customer relationships – including international partnerships – and a capable, experienced local Arburg team, he is well positioned to drive innovation, tap into new growth markets and further expand Arburg's presence and success in Mexico.



Julio Lopez has been the new Managing Director of Arburg's subsidiary in Mexico since July 21, 2026 (Picture: Arburg)

Julio Lopez is ideally qualified for his role at the helm of Arburg's Mexican subsidiary: The 57-year-old studied mechanical engineering and also earned an academic degree in marketing.
Before joining Arburg, Julio Lopez held various positions at the Coesia Group, which specialises in highly innovative industrial and packaging solutions in mechanical engineering, including Managing Director in Mexico and Brazil and Chief Sales Officer for North America.

New Airmould starter package plus from WITTMANN

Internal gas pressure technology with plug & play convenience

With the Airmould starter package, WITTMANN simplifies the access to internal gas pressure technology. The new plus version now also includes the pressure generation unit.

Airmould internal gas pressure technology saves raw material, reduces the part weight and minimizes warpage, sink marks and shrinkage. In this way, the injection molding technology combines high surface quality with cost efficiency and sustainability.
To enable quick and easy startup of internal gas pressure technology, WITTMANN offers all necessary modules in a cost-effective package. Each Airmould starter package contains a central unit for 2 pressure control modules, an IoT-compliant pressure control module, the manual control unit and now also a pressure generator – a novelty in the Airmould starter package plus. All variants come with thorough application technology counselling by specialist engineers from WITTMANN. With the help of simulation and feasibility studies, the parts are examined thoroughly to determine whether they are suitable for internal gas pressure technology. Whenever a decision is made in favor of internal gas pressure, WITTMANN will take care of both the equipment's layout and its start-up. In this way, users will benefit from the WITTMANN application technology specialists' many years of experience and profound injection molding expertise. Existing production processes can also be adapted quickly and easily, since in many cases the molds can be used for Airmould without requiring any changes. Typical fields of application are automobile components such as handles, gardening equipment and technical components with bulges.
For Airmould internal gas pressure injection molding, nitrogen gas is injected into a partly or completely filled cavity. The pressurized gas forms a bubble at the center of the melt, which counteracts shrinkage contraction on the outside and thus eliminates sink marks. By reducing the quantity of plastic material and simultaneously enlarging the hollow space at the center, light-weight components can be produced effectively with short cycle times and attractive surfaces.

Compatible with machines of all brands

To spread the benefit from internal gas pressure technology across many different fields of application, Airmould from WITTMANN offers extreme flexibility. The packages have a modular design. All technology modules can be used via Euromap 62 on any injection molding machine regardless of its brand or model. When connected with an injection molding machine from WITTMANN, Airmold can be completely integrated into the work cell via Wittmann 4.0 and operated from the injection molding machine's display.
WITTMANN's concept of "everything from a single source" even includes nitrogen generation. The N2easy nitrogen generators developed and manufactured by WITTMANN extract nitrogen gas from the ambient atmosphere and supply it simultaneously to several consumers. N2easy already pays off from a daily nitrogen consumption rate of just one gas bottle.



Just plug it in and get started: the Airmould starter package plus for internal gas pressure technology includes the pressure generator (Picture: WITTMANN)

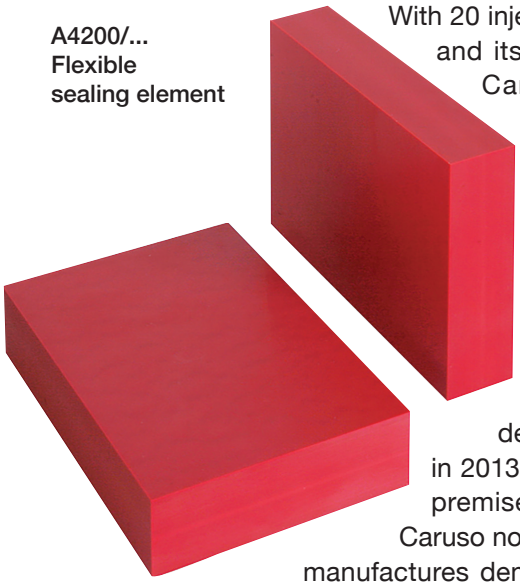
WITTMANN Expert Day in September

Interested processors are invited to try out the potential of Airmould at the technical labs of the WITTMANN facilities. At the SKZ Center in Würzburg/Germany, WITTMANN injection molding machines with Airmould technology are also available for application technology testing and training.
Mark your calendar now for the WITTMANN Expert Day about foam injection molding and internal gas pressure technology on 10 September 2026 at WITTMANN in Meinerzhagen/Germany.
Information and registration: www.wittmann-group.com/ExpertDay

Plastics processor Caruso opts for flexible sealing elements from HASCO

Perfect sealing of inserts

Plastics processor Giuseppe Caruso, based in Germany, is unwilling to compromise when it comes to quality. To ensure perfect sealing and protect both metal inserts and the injection moulding tool, his company relies on HASCO's flexible sealing elements made from a special plastic.



A4200/...
Flexible
sealing element

With 20 injection moulding machines and its own toolmaking centre, Caruso Kunststofftechnik, based in Meschede, Germany, is one of the largest plastics processing companies in the region. Giuseppe Caruso, a master craftsman and process engineer specialising in plastics and rubber technology, founded the company in Sundern in 2013 before moving to its own premises in Meschede in 2020. Caruso now employs 25 people and manufactures demanding plastic components for a wide range of industries, including automotive, sanitary, public safety, electrical engineering, household appliances, caravans, cycle accessories, rehabilitation technology and many more.

Caruso's portfolio is distinguished by its comprehensive service, beginning with the design of the component, for example based on an existing part that is captured using modern 3D scanning technology. Once the injection-moulded component has been designed, a functional demonstration model can, if required, be produced using 3D printing. The mould is then designed and, as a rule, manufactured either in-house in Meschede or by highly qualified partner companies in China. "Especially when things need to move quickly, we rely on our partner companies," says Caruso.

For all moulding tools, the service also includes flow and warpage simulation of the plastic products to be manufactured. "We offer our customers every step from a single

A4200/... reliably protects sensitive inserts in the mould from damage

