



CyberCon4: EWS and BENZ Tooling with a joint digital strategy

Industry 4.0 and the digital transformation can only succeed in combination. The companies EWS from Uchingen and BENZ Tooling from Haslach agree on this.

Cooperation is becoming increasingly important, especially in the field of digitalization. Especially when it comes to communication between different systems, it is of immense importance to lay the foundations for future product developments through innovation projects. A good example in this context is the sensor technology of tool systems. End users want data to be brought together in one system and have a standardized data structure. For the control manufacturers of machine tools, the standardization of sensor interfaces offers the great advantage of being able to provide a variety of systems and functions in their infrastructure.

In order to fulfil these requirements, EWS and BENZ Tooling have decided to jointly develop the CyberCon4 product and use it in their tools. The product resulting from the cooperation enables customers to read out relevant data and measured values from EWS and BENZ Tooling units via an app.

"It is clear to us that despite the competitive situation with products from BENZ Tooling, we want to act in line with the market in the area of recording, processing and providing tool data and provide our digital services using one language and one technology," says Matthias Weigele, CEO of EWS Weigele GmbH & Co. KG.

"If the digital transformation in mechanical engineering is to succeed and individual components are to communicate reliably with the machine control system, the mindset of those involved in the market must change towards common standards," adds Martin Schreiber, Managing Director of BENZ Tooling.

What is CyberCon4?

CyberCon4 is a Bluetooth Low Energy sensor technology that can be used to determine and transmit running times, rotational speeds, tool temperatures and maintenance intervals. The developers of the fluid control module are particularly proud of the latest innovation, the detection of water ingress into the unit. For the first time, it makes it possible to detect the seal failure of a tool system.

Particularly with internally cooled driven tools on lathes that are operated with a coolant pressure of up to 100 bar, failure of the seals can lead to costly turret damage. The machine downtimes associated with a failure also increase the cost and time pressure.

Media contact:

Jasmin Eble
Marketing Communications
Tel +49 7832 704-8517
Fax +49 7832 704-8001
Jasmin.Eble@benztooling.com

BENZ GmbH Werkzeugsysteme
Im Muehlegruen 12
77716 Haslach
www.benztooling.com

PRESS RELEASE

Haslach i.K., 03/11/23

The sensor integrated in the tool is powered by a replaceable battery. The battery needs to be changed about once a year in normal industrial use. A property right has been registered for the CyberCon4 technology.

Open to additional partnerships

EWS and BENZ Tooling do not see their joint development as a individual solution. On the contrary: with the increasing establishment of this technology, both partners expect increasing interest from users and the market.

"We started in this constellation and would like to expand the partnerships further in the future and connect additional technology users," says Christoph Zeller, Head of Technical development of the Haslach-based company.

EWS will mainly integrate the sensors with additional functions into its new "EWS.TecLine" technology series. The first tools will be available from September 2023.

At BENZ Tooling, the technology will be available for selected products from the beginning of 2024.

PR No: 10-2023

Words: 533

Characters: 3.384 (incl. space)



Media contact:

Jasmin Eble
Marketing Communications

Tel +49 7832 704-8517

Fax +49 7832 704-8001

Jasmin.Eble@benztooling.com

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www.benztooling.com

Images



Image 1: From the left: Hüseyin Sivaz (Head of Sales Germany & Global OEM EWS), Martin Schreiber (CEO BENZ Tooling), Matthias Weigele (CEO EWS Weigele), Christoph Zeller (Head of Technical Development BENZ Tooling), Niklas Vogt (Head of International Sales and Marketing EWS), Michael Kempf (Director Sales BENZ Tooling)

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Marketing Communications
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Fax +49 7832 704-8001
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About BENZ Tooling

BENZ Tooling is one of the leading system partners in the development and production of CNC units for the metal, wood and composite material processing industry. The sophisticated product portfolio, which is characterized by its recognized high quality, includes static and driven tools, changeable units such as angle heads, multi-spindle drilling heads and high-speed spindles, the modular quick-change systems BENZ Solidfix® and BENZ CAPTO™, broaching units, large drilling heads as well as 2- Axis NC heads. The symbiosis of modern management and creative engineering turned the traditional company with over 300 employees into an innovative growth company.

About EWS

EWS is a globally active, medium-sized family business. It specializes in the development, manufacture, and sale of high-precision tool holders for lathes and milling machines. For more than sixty years, EWS has stood for quality, reliability, and innovation. The group of companies is headquartered in Uhingen, Germany, with manufacturing subsidiaries in South Korea and the USA.

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Media contact:

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