

Cutting edge of sheetmetal processing

ACKNOWLEDGING the exacting requirements of the sheetmetal bending and processing industry, First Cut elected to partner with a leading manufacturer of capital equipment for this market.

As a well-known supplier of cutting consumables and capital equipment, First Cut has aligned itself with Swiss company Bystronic's high-quality solutions for the economical processing of sheet metal and other sheet materials. "Our customers profit from Bystronic's application-oriented systems and services for laser and waterjet cutting as well as bending,"

says Andrew Poole, managing director of First Cut.

According to First Cut's technical sales representative for Bystronic, Garth Haigh, Bystronic focuses on the cutting-bending process chain and the automation of the complete materials and data flow. "They employ a number of trendsetting key technologies such as Regulated Pulse Piercing, Cut Control, the specialised Direct Helical Motor System, CNC control and Bysoft application software to provide a greater return on investment for customers."

Bystronic offers both 3-point bending (up to 12

mm mild steel) technology and air bending (up to 50 mm mild steel).

The ByJet Smart waterjet cutting system is not only powerful in its operation but also offers cost-effectiveness in a compact design. "Ease of use and safety are standard elements of the ByJet Smart thanks to the high-performance ByVision controller and the integrated control panel with touch screen technology. This, together with the machine's reputed longevity and robustness make it the ideal option for our customers," says Haigh.

From a technical per-

spective, a high-performance cutting head covers the entire cutting range with multi-head operation. "The machine also has quick and precise height sensing with low sensing pressure, integrated collision monitoring, and automatic nozzle calibration," says Haigh.

Another compact machine, the Bystronic Xcel 50 pressbrake, was designed with affordability and user friendliness in mind. "The Xcel 50's numeric control guarantees quick programming of simple bending tasks. Another plus for smaller businesses is the ma-



The machine has quick and precise height sensing with low sensing pressure, integrated collision monitoring, and automatic nozzle calibration.

chine's 3 540 mm by 2 100 mm footprint, which allows it to be positioned in a small area without the need for a foundation," says Haigh.

The ByVention is claimed to be the world's smallest laser cutting ma-

chine for standard-sized sheet metals and guarantees extreme levels of efficiency. "The ByVention can in fact process approximately 80% of the parts spectrum at an investment which translates into a comparative

reduced cost to customer of almost 50%. If you add to this the fact that the machine has an integrated sheet feeder that ensures continuous processing, the return on investment for customers is apparent," Haigh adds.

The ultimate fastener connection

EPPING-based Fastenright is a specialist in the distribution of stainless steel fasteners for a good reason – more and more customers realise the huge advantage of using stainless steel for their production. "The biggest benefit of stainless steel is the fact that it does not stain, corrode or rust as easily as ordinary steel," says MD Rainer Lutz.

"Stainless steel differs from carbon steel by the

amount of chromium present. Unprotected carbon steel rusts readily when exposed to air and moisture. This iron oxide film - the rust - is active and accelerates corrosion by forming more iron oxide. Stainless steels contain sufficient chromium to form a passive film of chromium oxide, which prevents further surface corrosion and blocks corrosion from spreading into the met-

al's internal structure," he says.

Other advantages of stainless steel are:

- Relatively low cost (in comparison to the huge benefits).
- Low maintenance.
- 100% recyclable.
- Antibacterial properties (ideal for food- medicine and pharmaceuticals-industry).

There are many different grades and surface

finishes of stainless steel, but the most commonly known in the fastener industry are two grades: 304 (a2) and 316 (a4).

The easiest rule of thumb for their usage is: a2 (304) – to be used above water and in continental climate and a4 (316) – to be used under water and in coastal climate, marine environment and so on.

All stainless steel hex bolts, nuts and screws

and cap screws of size m5 and greater must be marked with the grade, property (strength) class and manufacturers id to ensure the consumer that it is in fact the required st/st material he is using.

Lutz says Fastenright only stocks genuine stainless steel fasteners in both grades (where available).

Lutz gives some further insights: stainless steel fasteners tend to seize while being assem-

bled (tightened). This problem is called 'thread galling'. A few tips how to reduce the risk of seizing/galling:

- Slowing down the installation rpm speed.
- Lubricating the threads, e.g. using 'gleitmo'.
- Using different stainless steel grades for the bolt and the nut, e.g. 304 with 316.

"Despite the fact that our product range and

stockholding are constantly growing, our prices remain very competitive. However, we believe that our service is the main reason for the constant increase in our customer base. Many of our customers appreciate the fact that there are no waiting times when collecting goods at our sales counter and same day order-delivery can be arranged when required," Lutz says.

THE SPECIALISTS IN LASER CUTTING

Also providing CNC bending, brushing, drilling and tapping services



NEW ADDITIONAL 24 HOUR CUTTING SERVICE

express@sl.co.za
Terms & Conditions Apply

schuurman
LASERCUT
since 1995

Tel 021 951 7733 Fax 021 951 1920

Email info@sl.co.za Website www.sl.co.za

Address Laser Park, Crn Sacks Circle / de Beer Street, Bellville South, Cape Town

MOD-SL512

Regulators for SMEs

INTRODUCED towards the end of 2011, Afrox's new generation Saffire Series 6000 single-stage regulator range caters for price-conscious medium to small end users who demand quality and reliability.

This is the only single-stage regulator range on the South African market that is SABS approved to SANS 2503. With flows comparable to many multi-stage regulators on the market today, the broad flow and pressure range make this an ideal regulator for welding, cutting and heating applications.

The regulators are comprehensively tested at full service pressure for superior operator safety and control, with a fully-fledged back-up service

available from Afrox's Gas Equipment Factory.

Every regulator incorporates proven global regulator technology to provide superior performance and extended life. This, together with a heavy-duty construction, provides longer trouble-free operation, the company claims.

The series comprises a range of versatile regulators designs specifically for use in applications harnessing oxygen and acetylene. The 600 kPa oxygen regulator is ideal for general purpose welding, heating and cutting up to 100 mm, providing an adequate pressure to run the entire range of welding nozzles, as well as AHT heating nozzles and the 1H and 2H superheating nozzles.



fastenright
Your Stainless Steel Bolt and Nut Experts

CONTACT US
t: 021 534 9095
f: 021 534 5997
sales@fastenright.co.za
www.fastenright.co.za

VISIT US
27 Mail Street
Western Province Park
Epping



best service | best price | high stock availability