

May 2015, Kottlingbrunn/Austria

USER REPORT

Dieter Wiegemann GmbH, Olsberg-Bruchhausen, Germany

Closeness to customers, flexibility and high quality standards make Dieter Wiegemann an ideal partner for sophisticated solutions in plastics

Dieter Wiegemann, based in Olsberg, North Rhine-Westphalia, has made a name for itself in Germany and beyond its national borders as a problem solver in the area of complex plastics applications. Since last year, a MacroPower 1500 and a hydraulic HM 240 equipped with the CELLMOULD® package have been in operation to complement the machinery of this successful medium-sized enterprise.

Dieter Wiegemann GmbH was established by Dieter Wiegemann as a model construction and mold making company. In 2007, Marc Wiegemann succeeded his father as Managing Partner. Aluminum is the material most frequently used in prototype construction. One of Wiegemann's strengths is the machining and assembly of a great variety of aluminum alloys. But depending on requirements, the company also produces molds made of steel for series production.

The extension of activities to injection molding of plastic parts took place after Marc Wiegemann had taken over the company. Initially, this involved only sampling from test runs of the molds, but it wasn't long before this activity was extended further. Today, the company's main focus lies on the production of plastic parts with batches ranging from 500 to 10,000 units or more.

Most of the products go to automotive suppliers, with production targeting primarily the premium segment of the automobile industry. Products from Wiegemann can be found, for example, in vehicles of the Audi, Mercedes, Ferrari and Bugatti brands. Apart from the automobile industry, other industries are being supplied as well, such as the sanitary industry, the household appliances sector, the medical technology, packaging, agricultural and telecommunications industries. The company's customer base includes automotive suppliers such as Kostal, Ackermann and Gerhardi, and

the milking machine manufacturer Gea Farm. The market ranges from Germany and Europe to North America and Argentina.

Wiegelmann sees itself as a problem solver for its customers and, besides its top quality standards, stands out primarily by its flexibility and short lead times. From consulting and product development to mold making and finally production, Wiegelmann provides its customers with everything from a single source. It also offers component assembly, which is gaining in importance. Some of the characteristics customers appreciate about Wiegelmann are the short communication channels and response times, as well as the company's high innovation potential.

In 2014, Wiegelmann realized 6.5 million Euros in sales with a workforce of about 70. The company is certified according to DIN ISO 9001 and DIN ISO 14001 standards. It also fulfills most of the requirements for the TS 16949 standard – which is important for the automobile industry. Moreover, Wiegelmann has been certified as a family-friendly company. To counteract the general shortage of skilled workers, Wiegelmann also trains young people in mold making, plastics processing and product design.

The company's machinery includes spotting presses, high-quality milling machines, eroding machines, a deep hole drilling machine, optical measuring devices and 9 injection molding machines, of which 4 are used for series production and 5 for testing purposes. Parts ranging from 10 to 7,000 g in weight are injection-molded from all commonly available materials.

For Wiegelmann, the most important features of injection molding machines are top quality, and monitoring and recording systems to ensure the traceability required by the automobile industry. Other significant aspects are good energy consumption values in production and state-of-the-art process technologies.

WITTMANN BATTENFELD succeeded last year in placing at Wiegelmann a *MacroPower* 1500/8800 with a WITTMANN W843 robot and ServoPower drive, and a hydraulic HM 240/1330. The HM 240 was supplied with the equipment packages for the WITTMANN BATTENFELD AIRMOULD[®] internal gas pressure process and the CELLMOULD[®] structured foam process, which enable the production of light-weight parts with low warpage and without sink marks, and with high rigidity as well. A material dryer from WITTMANN was also delivered in 2014.

Melanie Wiegelmann, who assists the company's management and is also responsible for quality management, appreciates the technologically mature features of the WITTMANN BATTENFELD machines as well as the flexibility and competence of the machine manufacturer's staff. "The WITTMANN BATTENFELD associates have shown a high level of problem-solving competence", Wiegelmann comments.

Wiegelmann also appreciates the option offered by WITTMANN BATTENFELD to acquire everything from a single source, from the machine, automation and peripheral equipment to ultra-modern process technology. Frank Karwinski, Manager of Plastics Technology at Wiegelmann, is impressed primarily by the *MacroPower's* compactness and its energy efficiency, which results from the use of latest servo drive technology.



Fig. 1: f.l.t.r.: Frank Karwinski, Manager of Plastics Technology at Wiegelmann, Marc Wiegelmann, Managing Partner of Wiegelmann, Melanie Wiegelmann, Management Assistant and Quality Management Officer at Wiegelmann and Frank Höher, Sales WITTMANN BATTENFELD, in front of the 1500/8800

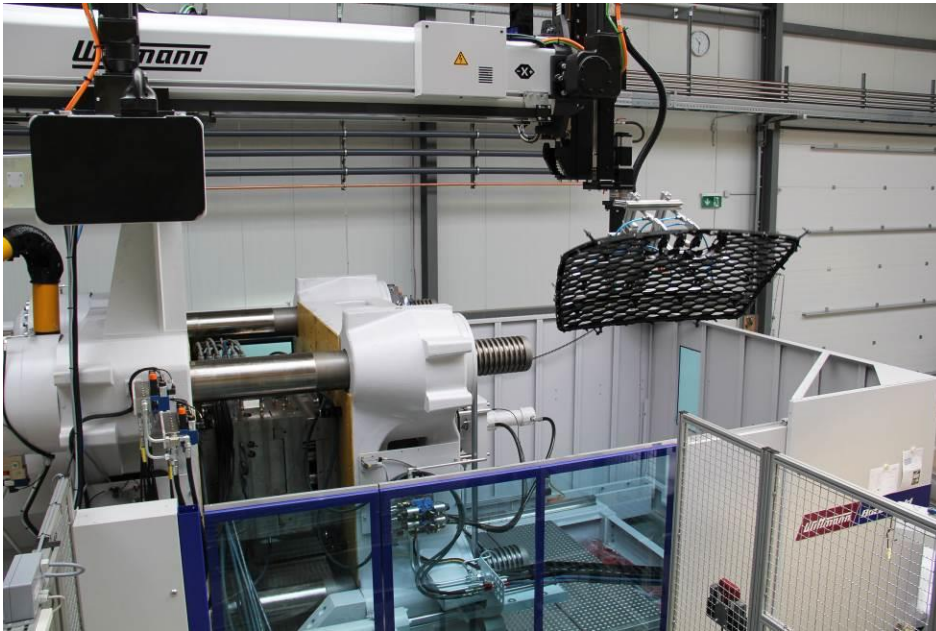


Fig. 2: Removal of a radiator grille from the *MacroPower* 1500/8800 by a W843 robot from WITTMANN



Fig. 3: Pressure generator from WITTMANN BATTENFELD for the AIRMOULD[®] gas injection process and the CELLMOULD[®] structured foam process



Fig. 4: WITTMANN conveyance system

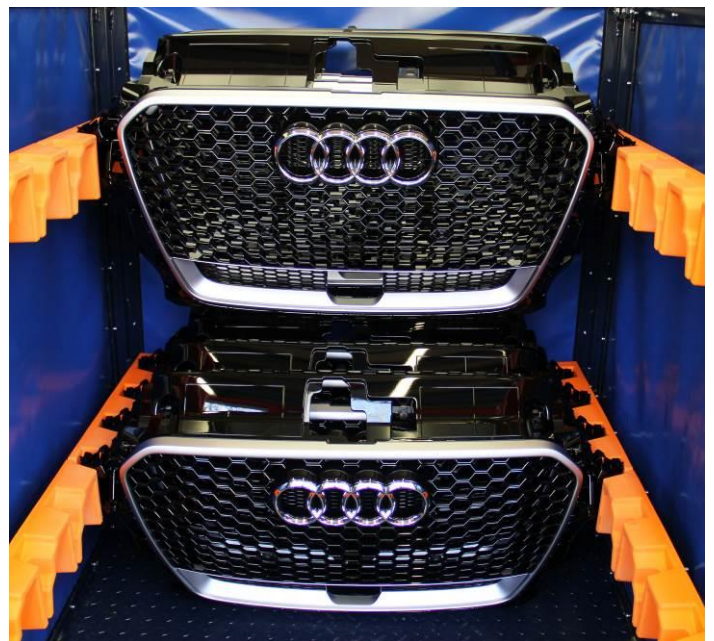


Fig. 5a + b: Assembly work on an Audi radiator grille and finished parts



Fig. 6: Headlights



Fig. 7: Various parts for the automobile industry

The WITTMANN Group

The WITTMANN Group is a worldwide leader in the manufacturing of injection molding machines, robots and peripheral equipment for the plastics industry. Headquartered in Vienna/Austria, the WITTMANN Group consists of two main divisions, WITTMANN BATTENFELD and WITTMANN, which operate 10 production

facilities in 7 countries, including 30 direct subsidiary offices located in all major plastics markets around the world.

WITTMANN BATTENFELD focuses on the independent market growth in the manufacturing of state-of-the art injection molding machines and process technology, providing a modern and comprehensive range of machinery in a modular design that meets the actual and future requirements of the plastic injection molding market.

WITTMANN's product range includes robots and automation systems, material handling systems, dryers, gravimetric and volumetric blenders, granulators, mold temperature controllers and chillers. With this comprehensive range of peripheral equipment, WITTMANN can provide plastics processors with solutions that cover all production requirements, ranging from autonomous work cells to integrated plant-wide systems.

The syndication of the WITTMANN Group has led to connectivity between all product lines, providing the advantage plastics processors have been looking for in terms of a seamless integration of injection molding machines, automation and auxiliary equipment – all occurring at a progressive rate.

Contact:**WITTMANN BATTENFELD GmbH**

Wiener Neustädter Strasse 81

A-2542 Kottlingbrunn

Tel.: +43 2252 404 – 1400

Fax: +43 2252 404 – 991400

gabriele.hopf@wittmann-group.com

www.wittmann-group.com

Dieter Wiegelmann GmbH

Zur Hammerbrücke 6

D-59939 Olsberg-Bruchhausen

Tel.: +49 2962 9764 – 0

Fax: +49 2962 9764 – 70

info@wiegelmann-gmbh.de

www.wiegelmann-gmbh.de