

Mesh Welding Roundup

"Tunatek produces very powerful and easy-to-use machines with a high degree of quality and at very reasonable prices. Our rivals are European companies that add high-cost electronic processes to their machines. These electronic processes could cause problems in the countries that do not have qualified technician support. We ask that you get a 'profitable solution' proposal from Tunatek on any of our machines before you make your final purchase decision.

"Tunatek representatives include **Jerome Silhol** for France and North Africa, **Sankaran Nair** for Kenya, **Hans Priess** for Central America and **Ivo Jemelik** for east Europe." www.tunatek.com

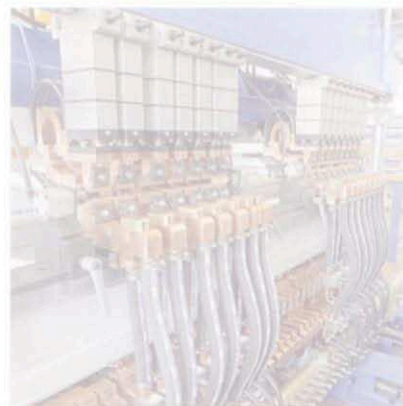
New Economic Solutions

Roger Seliner, Schlatter Group Marketing, of **Schlatter Industries AG** in Switzerland, says, "The global industrial wire mesh market is demanding an economic way to produce higher-quality mesh today. Tighter geometric tolerances and flatness requirements have caused Schlatter to develop new technologies. To minimize changeover times, Schlatter Industries AG has developed a new jig system. With this new system, a line wire changeover can be accomplished in minutes. The new design with minimal lateral play allows customers to achieve all relevant tolerances applied in the wire industry.

"The overall maintenance cost has also been significantly reduced by using the new welding press. Although single-acting, no polluted air can get into the welding press. As known from Schlatter, the stroke of the company's welding presses can be adjusted according to the wire diameter by raising and lowering the welding beam. This means that the consumption of compressed air is as little as necessary. Please note that all existing Schlatter MG 900 Mesh Welders can be upgraded with this new



New jig system allows rapid line changeovers on Schlatter mesh welders.



Close-ups of Schlatter mesh welders.

generation of welding presses.

"The quality requirement of the mesh market calls for flat mesh. Schlatter Industries designed a new single welding group with a width of under 50 mm (2") suitable to weld large wire diameters in narrow spacing. The working range may start at 20 mm or even less.

"For customers looking for the highest mesh flatness quality, Schlatter now offers MF welding technology for its MG 900 mesh welder platform. The Schlatter modular design lets you select the minimum number of MF inverters to keep the overall capital investment low. Additional inverters can be installed at a later date if your wire mesh product range widens.

"The Schlatter modular principle allows users to start with a low cost-effective, simple yet expandable system. The wide range of extra modules and options guarantees upgrades to an automatic production system." www.schlattergroup.com

Cross Wires for Mesh Welders on Machines from 100-Year-old Supplier

Kirk Prosser, VP Sales and Marketing for **Rockford Manufacturing Group Inc. (RMG)**, **Fastener Engineers and Lewis Machine**, S. Beloit, IL, USA, says, "We are pleased to announce the 100th anniversary of Lewis Machine. Lewis Machine has been building robust straighten-and-cut equipment since 1911. In fact, Lewis machines have been providing the

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cross wires for mesh welders from the beginning. Currently more than 30% of the Lewis and RMG straighten-and-cut machines in the marketplace are supporting mesh welding lines.

"This is a critical time for our customers to improve up-time and throughput, and RMG has advanced these objectives by replacing old-style mechanical clutches with our patented 'Clutchless' cutting technology. In addition, we utilize the latest in variable frequency AC drives providing independent control over arbor, feed and cutting speeds to optimize the performance of the equipment. And now feed roll pressure is applied pneumatically, therefore pressure settings are absolute and eliminate the 'guesswork' of manual crank-style adjustments. Our new machines offer superior ease and repeatability of setups, less maintenance and years of dependable service.



Lewis straighten-and-cut machine (above) and in-line drawing system (below) from RMG.



"RMG also offers several high-speed payoffs for use in front of our straighten-and-cut equipment. We've found that inadequate payoff is one of the biggest problems with straightening and cutting of wire. A poor payoff can greatly reduce production rate and wire quality of the straighten-and-cut machine.

"Many of our customers have found that RMG in-line mechanical descalers and wire drawers present an economical solution to their wire procurement. In-line wire drawing is the definition of lean manufacturing including reduced down time, increased productivity and minimized material handling. By purchasing hot-rolled rod, they reduce cost and inven-

tory, putting more to the bottom line. A fully utilized wire drawing line with RMG descaler and rod-flipper can enable continuous production and pay for itself in less than six months. RMG wire processing equipment can also form square twisted and profiled wire, in-line, while supporting wire mesh equipment." www.rmgfelm.com

Quick-Change Wire Mesh Welder

Information from Golden Spot Industry Inc., Ta Li City, Taichung Hsien, Taiwan, says, "A main feature of the GSA-125C Wire Mesh Welding Machine is quick changeover for different sizes of wire mesh. The GSA-125C also features a modular design that allows options for meeting future requirements. The machine allows inserting line wires off coil to the wire feeding device, and then sending them to the wire accumulator via two sets of motor-driven wire straightening devices. The system sets the pitch precisely, relative to the required distance. The automatic cross wire loading carriage has a cross wire hopper for sorting, positioning and ejecting straightened and cut-to-length wires. Welding time and current are easily adjusted relative to the wire diameter.



Golden Spot GSA-125C Wire Mesh Welding Machine.

"The system's wire straightening device consists of two wire feeding device. One device is driven by the converter motor for sending the wires to the wire accumulator, and the other is driven by the servo motor for sending the wires to the welding machine. "The GSA-125C Wire Mesh Welding Machine can adjust upper cylinders and electrodes. Welding and current are controlled by thyristor and micro-computer timer for the most proper electrode stroke and optimum use of electrode dies.

"The system operator sends pre-cut wires to the carriage by crane. The WINDOW[®]-based PLC is a color man-machine interface that allows screen setting of all system parameters." www.goldspot.com.tw **WFTI**