

A More Cheaper Way Towards Casting Moulds

(Markt und Mittelstand, 12 / 2008)

Content:

The Fraunhofer Institute together with IFF Magdeburg present a method of manufacturing big casting moulds. Thus, robots are milling the casting moulds directly out of a massive block. The same method can be used in manufacturing lost moulds. Summed up, the authors are acting on the presumption, that in case of manufacturing big casting moulds, the costs of the models can be reduced by 1/3. The new method could be ready for production within one year.

The Small One's Die Quietly

(Automobilwoche, 26th edition, 1st December 2008)

Content:

While the politicians are discussing about warranties for Opel, the first suppliers are insolvent. Vehicle manufacturers grasp towards self-help measures in order to save their suppliers.

Approximately 200 mostly middle-sized companies of the industry confederation sheet metal forming, which make 75 % of their turnover with the automobile industry are in a serious jeopardy.

Until the end of 2009, 50.000 jobs of German suppliers and manufacturers could be eliminated.

Holger Härter, finance director at Porsche, has announced

supporting measures for its suppliers. This is possible, because Porsche is ready to prefer the financing of expensive materials for the vehicle production – this way, a liquidity cushion for the contract partners is being created.

The experience shows that companies which do not give up their offensive attitude emerge invigorated from a crisis. KW-Consulting-Group helps you to avoid the anxiety which can lead to the inability to act and to find paths which help you emerge invigorated from the crisis.

Smaller Cars for Audi – The End for Small Cylinder

(Automobilwoche, 25th edition, 1st December 2008)

Content:

Mercedes-Benz decides against the 12-cylinder motor. This way, one of the biggest OEM's is conducting another step towards downsizing motors.

Audi is massively thinking about installing smaller motors in bigger cars, too. This way it is imaginable to equip an Audi A8 with a 4-cylinder motor. This has effects on the entire foundry business which has technically orientated towards the manufacturing of high-premium class and peripheral aggregates. The technological adjustment pressure in front of the massive increased environmental consciousness of clients and politicians, constrain the companies to change. KW-Consulting-Group would be pleased to assist you in this change process.

A Branche in Blind Flight

(Automobilwoche, 25th edition, 1st December 2008)

Content:

Massive production backlogs at the OEMs in the field of automotive and commercial vehicles of more than 40 % are characterizing the current sector situation. Strikes on the buyer side as a result of incorrect model politics, liquidity shortages and incertitude on the consumer side aggravate additionally the backlog in machine distributions of passenger and commercial vehicles. The current distribution crisis of the OEMs leads a lot of foundries and foundry groups to the edge of their subsistence by means of cashflow-shortages of partially 70 % of the turnover backlogs. KW-Consulting-Group's clients were partially able to strategically react against the crisis and thus, they could ensure their survival as a result of massive decreasing cost structures. The team of KW-Consulting Group would be pleased to support your company, too, in overcoming the current problems in the field of cost-cutting.

**Optimized
Disposability**

**Machine
Reduces**

Logistics and Warehouse Costs

(Das Industriemagazin, 49th edition, 1st December 2008)

Content:

Setup times mean production stagnancy. Their optimization causes not only time saving processes of partially more than 50 %. A more often and faster setting-up leads also to reduced stocks and thus, to considerable savings in the field of logistics and warehouse costs. Different setup workshops prove these facts.

Getrag in Subsistence Misery

(Automobilwoche, 24th edition, 17th November 2008)

Content:

The gear constructor Getrag threatens to stumble over his high growth plans because the company has a high leverage. The chairman of the board wants to cut 380 jobs in Germany, i.e. approx. 13 % of the personnel. According to the worker representatives, especially the risky expansion to overseas has caused this situation.

Mercedes Focuses on New Economy Engine

(Automobilwoche, 23rd edition, 3rd November 2008)

Content:

The 4-cylinder diesel engine is stipulated for all lines starting with the A- and ending to the K-class. The new engine shall set benchmarks not only regarding performance and consumption, but it shall also bring savings on the cost side. The 4-cylinder engine comes into operation at the beginning within the C-class special model C 250 DCI Blue Efficiency.

Depending on the Manufacturers

(Automobilwoche, 23rd edition, 3rd November 2008)

Content:

The author underlines the fact that the automobile supplier hope towards strategical investments of the vehicle constructors. The current production reductions of the vehicle manufacturers worry the manager of the supplier industry. However, there is a small ray of hope because the access of the predominant middle-sized companies to the capital markets has not downgraded.

German Manufacturers in the USA Further on Downswing

(Automobilwoche, 23rd edition, 3rd November 2008)

Content:

In September, the German vehicle constructors have lost 17,6 % on the US-market compared to September 2007. The entire market decreased by 26,6 %. Only Daimler can present an increase of 8,4 % in the sales balance of the first nine months.

Mercedes Shortens Passenger Car Production

(Automobilwoche, 21st edition, 6th October 2008)

Content:

As a result of the strongly recessive demand, Mercedes-Benz will shorten the passenger car production for the next months by 35.000 vehicles. Insiders confirm the fact that the sales department has again adjusted the figures downwards.

Thus, Mercedes stands with 80.000 units below the original plan together with the production reductions announced in the summer.