BRANKAMP
THE PROCESSMONITORING COMPANY
Journal

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BRANKAMP demonstrates competencies in all areas of metal processing

Comprehensive solutions from one source

What do a machining center from AXA, an automatic multi-stage press from HATEBUR and a thread roller from E.W. Menn have in common? The production process can be optimized on all these machines with modern Process Monitoring systems from BRANKAMP. BRANKAMP is the only supplier offering tried and tested solutions for all metal processing sectors.

„Machine availability, quality, damage limitation in the event of a malfunction – these are three factors which are unavoidable for production today," says BRANKAMP managing director Hans-Peter Schneider. „Consequently we can see a clear trend; more and more companies are not just equipping individual machines with Process Monitoring systems but their entire production facility." These systems are especially used as measuring equipment in industrial production processes. This prevents process errors, provides support for quicker machine set-up and when there are malfunctions, for example, it switches off the system in time to prevent or limit

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Einer für alles: BRANKAMP hat bewährte Lösungen für sämtliche Produktionsbereiche

Brankamp CMS in use on a Michael Deckel grinder.

The special issue *page 3*
„Our reject rate has dropped from eight to zero percent"

Logistical master performance:

Trade Show Power

By participating in three international trade shows simultaneously in April, BRANKAMP impressively put its capabilities to the test. In addition to the Wire in Düsseldorf, the Process Monitoring specialist also presented its innovations at METPACK in Essen and Control in Stuttgart. These specialist trade shows for wire and cable, metal packaging and quality assurance cover the range of services offered by BRANKAMP and are the ideal basis for developing business contacts. „We are very happy with the results", says Hans-Peter Schneider, managing director of BRANKAMP, voicing his positive assessment.

News

VW: NEW FACTORY IN THE USA

The Volkswagen corporate group is building its new US factory in the federal state of Tennessee and is investing up to a billion dollars (around 620 million Euros). VW is hoping to use this to turn the corner in the US market which has been suffering heavy losses for a few years now. From 2011, models developed especially for the USA are to be produced in Chattanooga. Full production is planned with bodywork construction, paint shop and assembly.

THYSSENKRUPP INVESTS IN BRAZIL

ThyssenKrupp AG is increasing its investment budget for the new steel works in Brazil. The corporate group which is based in Duisburg/Essen has said that an investment budget of 3 billion Euros (nearly 4.5 billion dollars) will be rounded up to 4.5 billion Euros (over 6.5 billion dollars). The core facilities of blast furnace and steel works will probably start operation in Fall 2009.

MAGNA PLANT FACTORIES IN RUSSIA

The largest Canadian supplier Magna International is intending to run a total of three factories in Russia. One factory is to be opened in 2010 in St. Petersburg. In addition to this, they are planning to purchase two existing Russian factories in Kaluga and in the region of Nizhny Novgorod.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH:

»We live in a world in which everyone knows the price of everything and the value of nothing.«

Oscar Wilde
Irish playwright, novelist, poet and author

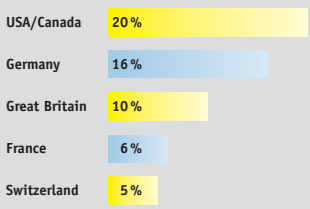
Nachrichten

AN AWARD FOR BMW

BMW has the best factory in Europe. The department for production, chassis and drive components at the Dingolfing factory won the industrial competition for „The Best Factory/Industrial Excellence Award 2008“. This makes BMW the first car manufacturer to receive the European award since its introduction in 2002. The prize honors outstanding production management that guarantees the company‘s ongoing competitive advantage.

FIGURES OF THE MONTH:

Top Five: The most attractive sites in the world for developing company head offices.



Source: Ernst & Young - Kennzeichen D

Germany has overtaken Great Britain as the most attractive country in Europe in the league table for the most favored sites for developing company head offices. Only North America is considered more attractive on a global scale. France has been knocked down to fourth place and Switzerland to fifth place.

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20th Anniversary

Tony Such: BRANKAMP Pioneer in the USA

BRANKAMP has been active in the USA since 1988. Qualified electrician Tony Such has been there from the start and in 2008 he is celebrating his 20th anniversary. Such has invested a lot of time and commitment in positively developing the Process Monitoring company in North America.

Now 42 years old, he graduated in electrical engineering in 1988 from Northern Michigan University and signed up right away at BRANKAMP USA. As an application engineer he makes sure that the BRANKAMP Process Monitoring systems function flawlessly at all customer premises. Each day holds its own challenges to be met and dealt with. „It goes without saying that my job also includes installation, training and servicing of systems,“ says Such. It is really important for him to maintain a good, personal relationship to his customers. This makes many challenges (whether technical or of a more personal nature) easier to deal with. „It‘s nice to talk to customers beyond just the purely professional side. It helps to bring the partnership onto another level.“ In his free-time, this long-servicing BRANKAMP employee relaxes by hunting and fishing.

Monitored by BRANKAMP

Swing, strike, putt

More than 500,000 people play golf in Germany. Although previously considered elitist, this sport is becoming more and more popular even with younger players. In 2006, the number of golfers between the ages of 22 and 49 grew to nearly 200,000.

Around half a million golfers play on 677 golf courses throughout the country. The courses usually have 18 holes made up of tee, fairway and green. Golf clubs comprise three main elements: the club head, shaft and grip. Different clubs are used depending on what‘s needed: for the furthest hits you use the longest clubs with the widest head, the so-called ‚wood‘; and for shorter distances you use an ‚iron‘. Wedges are used for short hits around the green, and golfers use a putter to putt the ball. In order to ensure the optimum performance of golf clubs, manufacturers rely on the quality assurance provided by Process Monitoring systems from BRANKAMP for their production.

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Comprehensive solutions from one source

costly damages. These systems make it possible for machines to achieve optimum quality and an improved level of use in production.

There are currently around 50,000 applications in use worldwide from technological pioneer and global market leader BRANKAMP. BRANKAMP is already way ahead of the competitors, especially in fitting out entire factories. Schneider: „We are the only suppliers working across all branches of industry. With over 30 years of experience in practical production, we can offer our customers a comprehensive solution from one source right up to networking of production processes.“ BRANKAMP will be introducing its innovative FactoryNet concept to a wider specialist public at the AMB in Stuttgart. In addition to technical services from one source, BRANKAMP also offers bespoke rental and leasing concepts that make fitting out a number of machines a much more attractive prospect.

The start of a trend: BRANKAMP Process Monitoring

„Our reject rate has dropped from eight to zero percent“

With virtually the entire automobile industry, ZF, MTU and Siemens, the BRANKAMP customer list reads like a ‚Who‘s Who‘ of trade and industry. Large industrial companies recognized the significance of Process Monitoring technology a long time ago. And now, more and more medium-sized companies are also equipping their factories around with globe with systems from BRANKAMP - the only supplier that covers all areas of production. The trend is clearly moving towards 100 percent outfitting of all machines with Process Monitoring systems.

Field-tested on extremely different machine types: BRANKAMP Process Monitoring Systems

More and more decision-makers are recognizing the advantages and are relying on the innovative production monitoring technology from first mover BRANKAMP. Its Control Machine Security (CMS for short) is, for example, an easy and very effective instrument for ensuring reliable and safe production. „Thanks to Process Monitoring, we have been able to shorten our application and set-up times and have considerably extended the tool‘s service life. The result convinced us once again that we‘d made the right choice. Our reject rate has dropped from eight to zero percent,“ says Manfred Nußer, subject specialist at the propshaft product center of the MTU Friedrichshafen in 2006. The CMS even detects minor changes to operating conditions on the machine by using force sensors. The systems responds immediately and transmits a stop signal to the control which switches off the machine as quickly as possible. Consequently, expensive repairs, long machine downtimes and the associated supply troubles are a thing of the past. „Introducing Process Monitoring proved to be the right step for us. In just one year we have completely recouped our investments,“ says Christian Grzegorzek, maintenance manager at Siemens AG in Mühlheim in 2003. Another advantage of the CMS system is that high production quality standards are reliably sustained.

All-round talent

The range of BRANKAMP CMS systems covers all relevant machines in the metal working industry, from NC machines, machining centers, boring and milling machines, grinding machines as well as robots and handling units. CMS systems can be easily retrofitted and offer numerous upgrade options.

FactoryM

The jam alert

Up-to-date traffic information by radio or internet, and navigation systems that directly field this information, all greatly increase the convenience of travel. The automobile driver not only reaches his destination faster but he also has less stress on route. Once you've seen the benefits of navigational help, you wouldn't want to do without it. And the same applies to the innovative Production Monitoring System FactoryM from BRANKAMP that safely and reliably guides its users through complex everyday production.

Module 4 of this innovative modular FactoryM system focuses entirely on the problem of machine standstills. The BRANKAMP system uses the „Stop code" and „Process code memory 1" screens to display why, how long and what the subsequent standstill time was for the machine when it experienced a stop. The operator can then access a more detailed view in the „Stop code memory 2" screen.

This is where the duration and subsequent standstill time are shown in detail.

In addition to information about the length of production stop, the system gives the reasons for a machine failure which is of decisive significance; this is the only way to prevent such down-times happening in future. The FactoryM Module 4 arranges the machine down-times in the „Diagnosis stop codes" screen by the number of reasons for the standstill.

The stop codes are also explained in a clear text window in order to make diagnosis even easier and clearer. Once the machine operator knows the codes, he can call up the „Diagnosis process codes" screen for this particular function. This screen likewise arranges machine stops by the number of reasons for the standstills, but without code explanations.

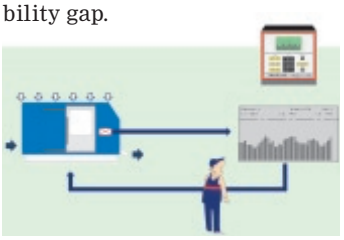
Just like all the other modules, Module 4 (Euro 299) can be flexibly combined with all other modules in the FactoryM series from BRANKAMP. This means that the workshop manager can decide which functions are of specific use to him.

FactoryM runs on any PC. It is operated easily via conventional internet browser. When making your decision for FactoryM from BRANKAMP, it's irrelevant whether you already have Process Monitoring systems or not. After all, FactoryM keeps running under any circumstances.

What is...

...Process Monitoring?

There are various things during a production process that influence the end product quality. Material, machine, tool, coolant, ambient conditions and of course the operator, all these parameters must be working to 100 percent capacity. However, every business knows that things tend to look different in reality. This is where Process Monitoring neatly fills the reliability gap.



Sensors are mounted to the machine in proximity to the process. They detect all relevant data and then pass it on to the monitoring device; process quality is given particular priority. By looking at the monitor, the operator can draw direct conclusions about the process progress and can also intervene directly if necessary. The system not only displays the current production progress but also the progress over a longer period of time. The advantages for the machine operator are obvious: quicker intervention, optimized tool settings, better tool use, shorter induction time. And Process Monitoring also greatly increases the level of machine protection. In addition to this, there is a higher rate of machine use from lower standstill and repair times, shorter changeover times as well as lower repair and tool costs.

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