

KraussMaffei exhibiting electric machines at Plast 2012 in Milan

Impressive all-electric machine technology from the AX and EX Series – High technology expertise for premium quality surfaces and lightweight construction solutions

(Munich, February 15, 2012) KraussMaffei will exhibit powerful all-electric machines from the AX and EX Series for all production requirements at Plast 2012 in Milan (Hall 24, Booth A/B 21/18) . During the exhibition, the company will carry out a live demonstration of LSR processing under cleanroom conditions and energy-efficient production of complex technical moldings.

High precision ensures top-quality products

An all-electric EX 80-380 SilcoSet containing CleanForm cleanroom modules for a clean mold area will produce teats made of liquid silicone rubber (LSR) during a live demonstration. "The all-electric EX is totally predestined for the production of complex moldings and offers maximum dynamics and precision", said Dr. Karlheinz Bourdon, Managing Director of the Injection Molding Machinery Business Unit of KraussMaffei. Since the liquid silicone rubber has a very low viscosity, processing of these materials calls for the smallest venting and separating gap in the mold. To prevent flash, the injection molding machine must maintain high platen parallelism. The EX Series scores here with precise platen control guaranteeing this exact parallelism of the mold fixing platens at all times. "Thanks to the metering accuracy of the all electric plasticizing unit, the mold cavities can be charged precisely without over-feeding", said Bourdon. "The outcome is improved product quality and minimized mold wear." The optimized length of the compact LSR plasticizing unit ensures an extremely compact machine solution.

EX CleanForm: Direct production of sterile parts

Uncompromisingly geared towards cleanliness, efficiency and precision, the machines can be used up to Cleanroom Class A according to GMP. "We offer customers excellent value-added through our CleanForm GMP solution. Production costs can therefore be reduced by up to 25 per cent by, for example, transferring the produced parts to sterile packaging directly after demolding. This means that subsequent sterilization is no longer required", explained Bourdon. A closed oil lubrication system supplies the pivot points of the Z-toggle and prevents lubricants from leaking. Fewer pivot points, all completely encapsulated, and tiebars that no longer act as guides for the moving platen eliminate potential sources of impurity. The production cell therefore operates virtually without particles or thermal emissions.

KraussMaffei Technologies GmbH
Corporate communication
Krauss-Maffei-Straße 2
80997 Munich/Germany

Phone +49 (0) 89 8899 4712
Press@kraussmaffei.com
www.kraussmaffei.com

Extensive portfolio for an ideal cleanroom machine

With the uncompromisingly compact hydraulic CX Series and the all-electric EX Series containing the attribute "uncompromisingly fast", KraussMaffei offers an extensive portfolio for configuring the ideal cleanroom machine for every customer. The CleanForm production cell is completed by linear robots with vertical or lateral entry and industrial robots in different designs.

Efficiency and precision for technical parts – the AX Series

The production of technical components in the electrical/electronics and automotive industries requires resource-efficient manufacturing with high repeatability. The injection molding machines in the AX Series are perfectly tailored to these requirements. One of the representative examples of the AX module comprising 21 models is the all-electric AX 280-750 which produces complex technical parts with maximum energy efficiency. The optimized double toggle, efficient servomotors and smooth-running mechanics ensure the machine's exemplary efficiency. By using an AX machine, the energy consumption can be reduced by up to 60 percent. Groundbreaking control technology and absolute positioning accuracy ensure precise shaping with high dynamics. The AX Series therefore offers optimum prerequisites for efficient and precise manufacturing. It lets the processor produce flexibly, reliably and, above all, at low unit costs – even for slow-running applications. The AX becomes an impressive production cell with robot types, for example an LRX 150, that are ideally adapted to the machines. When articles are demolded, the clamping unit and robot work together perfectly and enable the shortest demolding times with the utmost precision. Thus even demanding demolding tasks are performed reliably and quickly. The AX machines can be ideally adapted to the varied production requirements of different industries using a comprehensive catalog of options.

Reaction process machinery – from classic foaming systems through to innovative lightweight solutions

There is wide acceptance and great demand for KraussMaffei brand machines, systems and tooling systems for polyurethane foam applications - from design and prototyping through to the serial mold and complete foaming systems, for example for seat cushions, insulation applications or lightweight components. The focus is also on large-format, contoured parts as well as the production of high-strength CFK composites for structural components using the HP-RTM process (high pressure resin transfer molding) with all work steps over the entire process chain. This begins with the assembly of the fibers and production of the dry fiber preforms. They are then guided into a mold specially designed and manufactured by KraussMaffei. "Of particular interest in this regard is the design of the MX600 mold carrier with components from injection molding technology", explained Frank Peters, Managing Director of the Reaction Process Machinery Business Unit of KraussMaffei. "Its modular concept makes use of proven components and the advantages of injection molding machine series production to create user-specific solutions."

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Premium quality surfaces are increasingly becoming a success factor

The design of the surface during component design plays a major role in the success of a product in many industries. "Components with premium quality surfaces can be produced up to 30 per cent cheaper using our combined processes such as ColorForm or SkinForm", stressed Peters. KraussMaffei offers solutions for all surface requirements and a complete production cell from a single source. "Companies profit from the comparatively low investment and manufacturing costs compared with otherwise normal multi-stage processes", added Peters.

Photos:

Photo: PM_IMM_2012-007_EX_CleanForm.jpg:

Machines in the EX Series are characterized by excellent dynamics, uncompromising precision and cleanliness right up to Cleanroom Class A (GMP)

Photo: PM_IMM_2012-006_AX.jpg:

Machines from the AX Series enable precise and efficient manufacturing of widely varying moldings

Photo: PM_RPM_2012-001_HD_RTM.jpg:

Laboratory production system for the high pressure RTM process comprising a RimStar thermal metering unit, a high pressure RTM mixing head and an SFT-MX600 mold carrier.

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80997 Munich/Germany

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Press@kraussmaffei.com
www.kraussmaffei.com

Enclosure: Pictures and more information can be found at

www.kraussmaffei.com

Press contact:

Markus Betsche

Press Officer KraussMaffei brand

Injection Molding Machinery and Reaction Process Machinery

Phone: +49 (0) 89 8899 4712

Email: markus.betsche@kraussmaffei.com

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About KraussMaffei

The KraussMaffei product brand is internationally recognized for its groundbreaking, multitechnology system and process solutions for injection and reaction molding technology and factory automation. With its standalone, modular or standardized machinery and systems, and a wide, customizable service offering, KraussMaffei is a full-system partner for customers in many industry sectors. KraussMaffei bundles many decades of engineering expertise in plastics machinery and is headquartered in Munich, Germany. For more information: www.kraussmaffei.com

About KraussMaffei Group

The KraussMaffei Group is among the world's leading suppliers of machinery and systems for producing and processing plastics and rubber. Its products and services cover the whole spectrum of injection and reaction molding and extrusion technology, giving the company a unique position in the industry. The KraussMaffei Group is innovation-powered, supplying its products, processes and services as standard or custom solutions which deliver sustained added value along the customer's value-adding chain. The company markets its offering under the KraussMaffei, KraussMaffei Berstorff and Netstal brands to customers in the automotive, packaging, medical, construction, electrical, electronics and home appliance industries. Continuing a long tradition of engineering excellence, the international KraussMaffei Group currently employs around 4,000 people. With a global network of more than 30 subsidiaries and more than 10 production plants, supported by around 570 sales and service partners, the company is close to customers around the world. KraussMaffei has been headquartered in Munich since 1838.

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