

enable simultaneous high-speed five-axis machining with A- and B-axis rotational speeds ranging to 100 and 75 rpm, respectively. A high-performance spindle provides power and torque for machining a wide range of metal alloys while minimizing thermal distortion for optimal tool performance and surface finishes.

The machine's rigid structure includes roller-type guideways with a retainer on the X, Y and Z axes for high-speed operations and high acceleration. A Z-axis ballscrew positioned at the center of the guideways enables fast, accurate feed. The

ribbed cast iron bed damps vibration, while three-point mounting helps to maintain static accuracy. The machining center is equipped with a FANUC 31i-A5 control. Multiple configurations are available, including a 24-pallet version that includes a workpiece preloading station, A- and B-axis direct-drive motors, and a tool capacity of 240.

Methods Machine Tools Inc., call 877-668-4262 or visit methodsmachine.com.

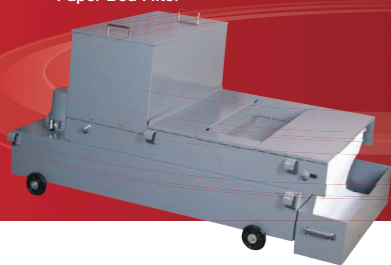
GEAR HOBBING CENTER FOR MICROMECHANICAL APPLICATIONS

Affolter Technologies' Gear AF110 hobbing center is designed for micromechanical industries such as automotive, aerospace, dental, medical and watchmaking. The machine accommodates larger workpieces with diameters ranging to 40 mm and pitch diameter ranging to 1.0 mm. Maximum machining length is 90 mm. Spindle speeds range to 12,000 rpm and clamping force is 1,000 N.



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The compact gear-hobbing center features the same base and volume as the company's AF100 model and is designed for rigidity and minimal vibrations. The machine's 12 axes are controlled by the Leste CNC, said to reduce cycle times. The Unit 90 add-on enables the machine to perform worm milling operations after a quick change-over.

Affolter Technologies SA, call 41 32 491 70 00 or visit affelec.ch.

VERTICAL TURNING AND BORING CENTER ACCOMMODATES ASYMMETRICAL WORKPIECES

Republic Lagun's VTBC-R series vertical turning and boring center provides cutting flexibility for large or asymmetrical workpieces. The machine accommodates loads as heavy as 46,297 lbs (21,000 kg) and offers a maximum turning diameter of 98.43" (2,500 mm). The one-piece, cast iron Meehanite column features a squared structure and ribbing for stiffness and stability. The VTBC-R63 and VTBC-R78 models both feature a 15-degree slant bed design for increased surface area and rigidity. The machine's steel alloy ram with a high-torque octagonal structure enables tight tolerances, improves vibration damping, enhances thermal expansion control and increases rigidity. It can be equipped with an optional C axis and live tooling to enable vertical lathe cutting operations such as milling, drilling and grinding.

The turning and boring center is driven by a ballscrew coupling with a direct-drive FANUC

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