

## Interactive catalogue is a blockbuster

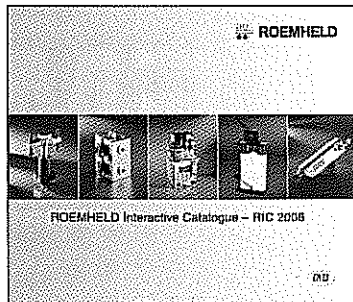
The 2008 Roemheld interactive catalogue (RIC) is now available on a single DVD and includes more CAD files and more new products than ever before.

The CAD component library has been extended to include more than 8,500 files, making it easier than ever for engineers to specify the correct clamping elements for any project. The CAD formats available within the component library contain 2D data in DXF (R12) format and 3D data in Step (AP 214), Parasolid, ACIS, CATIA Export and CATIA Model formats.

As well as incorporating the latest datasheets, RIC 2008 also includes a number of new products and a complete new module handling technique programme, which comes complete with CAD files.

MD Bill Neal says: "Rather than moving between three CDs as before, customers can now access all this information in a single DVD which should ensure that using this resource is even simpler."

RIC 2008 is an innovative design and cost planning tool developed for customers by Roemheld, which specialises in offering a total solution-based approach to workholding.

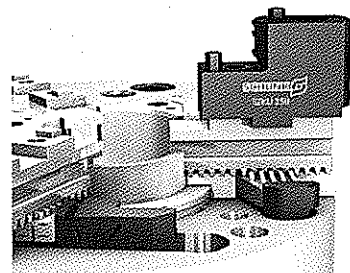


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## One size chuck jaw fits all

For small and medium-sized batches, SCHUNK's universal top jaw SZKU can make production significantly more efficient while substantially reducing the cost of workpiece clamping. This all-rounder from the clamping and gripping technology specialist in Lauffen, Germany, combines the major benefits of two jaw types: the SZKU is as versatile as a stepped jaw while transmitting high torques like a claw jaw.

The universal top jaw covers a wide spectrum of very large clamping ranges, enabling both I.D. and O.D. and bar clamping. Furthermore, workpiece bolts make it possible to vary the clamping depth, and the universal jaw is ideally suited to even minimal clamping depths. Users therefore need only one jaw set to reliably clamp a wide range of workpieces. This greatly reduces the need for different claw jaw types, reduces set-up times and minimises costs. The blade shaped, long and extremely stable clamping faces on three levels grasp the workpiece during the clamping procedure, creating a form-fit clamping that ensures a completely secure grip. The case-hardened universal top jaws are also significantly more robust than standard embossing systems.



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## The collective benefits of collet chucks

Birmingham-based Leader Chuck Systems is the new exclusive UK agent for Lexair collet workholding systems. Designed to reduce machine downtime and increase productivity, the Lexair collet range includes the Full Bore collet chucks and its advanced Prodyne Servo fixed length collet chucks.

As the name suggests, the Lexair Full Bore chuck range allows the full inner diameter of the lathe or turning centre's spindle to be used because it does not require a draw tube. The range features a self-contained construction, with mechanical grip and an air release front actuated collet chuck. As such the chuck does not require an external actuator. This makes the chuck failsafe as air is only used to open it; spring force holds the workpiece while it is being machined. Higher spindle speeds are achievable since a collet chuck does not have heavy jaws that lose grip force as the spindle speed of the lathe increases.

Clamping force is adjustable by tightening or loosening the collet using the spanner holes in the front of the collet. For fragile materials or

thin walled parts the clamping force can also be reduced by removing pairs of springs inside the chuck. Leader Chuck's MD Mark Jones says: "Compared to normal collet chucks the Lexair Full Bore range provides an increased capacity of 25 to 30 percent. This will provide significant cost savings for engineering companies carrying out bar fed turning operations because it means that they no longer have to over-specify their machine tools just to be able to pass the necessary bar stock diameter through the collet chuck."

Also designed to maximise productivity for bar fed applications is the Prodyne Servo collet chuck range. These chucks have been designed for use in programmable bar feeder applications where accurate positioning of the stock is required. Featuring a patented 'pull-to-close' design that maintains the position of the bar stock against the bar feed pusher as the chuck closes, it eliminates the need to have a turret stop for positioning.

Other features of the Prodyne range include concentricity adjustment to further increase



accuracy, fixed length collet design, a wedge design that provides high grip force regardless of the spindle speed and a tapered nose for maximum tool clearance.

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